

**DECEMBER 24, 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

## **ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**



### **Parish Staff**

**Rev. Manuel Pérez, Pastor**

[pastor@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:pastor@ststephenchatt.org)

423-892-1261 X2

**Rev. Christopher Manning,**

**Associate Pastor**

[frmanning@myndhs.com](mailto:frmanning@myndhs.com)

423-892-1261 X9

**Gary Brinkworth, Deacon**

[deacon@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:deacon@ststephenchatt.org)

423-892-1261 X7

**David Waguespack, Deacon**

[deacondavewags@gmail.com](mailto:deacondavewags@gmail.com)

423-486-9913

**Sherry Ferguson, Church Secretary**

[secretary@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:secretary@ststephenchatt.org)

423-892-1261 X4

**Mark Vallée, Bookkeeper**

[bookkeeper@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:bookkeeper@ststephenchatt.org)

423-486-9909

**Karen Underwood,**

**Christian Formation Coordinator**

[cre@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:cre@ststephenchatt.org)

423-892-2957

**Emily Hardy, Christian Formation**

423-892-2957

**Robert M. Sullivan, Contract Administrator**

[sullivanrobertm@gmail.com](mailto:sullivanrobertm@gmail.com)

423-718-8308

**Russ Ferguson, Facilities Manager**

[facmgr@ststephenchatt.org](mailto:facmgr@ststephenchatt.org)

423-486-9914

**Steve Underwood, Maintenance**

### **Parish Goal:**

**To Establish An Assembly Of  
Believers Who Remain In The Word.**

### **Mission Statement:**

**To Live And Proclaim The Good News Of Jesus  
Every Day.**

**Church Office: 423-892-1261**

**Church Fax: 423-892-3242**

**Church Website: [www.ststephenchatt.org](http://www.ststephenchatt.org)**

**Church Office Hours:**

**Mon. - Thurs., 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Friday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Address:**

**7111 Lee Hwy., Chattanooga, TN 37421**

# DECEMBER 24, 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

## What's Happening This Week

### Saturday, Dec. 23

**\*ST. JOHN OF KANTY**

**\*CONFESSION: 4 - 4:50 P.M.**

**\*MASS: 5:00 P.M.**

### Sunday, Dec. 24

**\*MASSES 8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. &  
ESPAÑOL 1:00 P.M.**

**\*CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES**

**\* 5:00 P.M. CHILDREN'S**

**\*8:00 P.M. ESPAÑOL**

**\*10:00 P.M. MIDNIGHT**

### Monday, Dec. 25

**\*THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**\*CHRISTMAS DAY MASS - 10:00 A.M.**

**\*OFFICE CLOSED**

**\*NO DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET**

### Tuesday, Dec. 26

**\*DAILY MASS: 8:30 A.M.**

**\*ADULT ED: 9:30 A.M. & 1 & 6:30 P.M.**

**\*CHOIR PRACTICE: 7:00 P.M.**

### Wednesday, Dec. 27

**\*DAILY MASS: 6:00 P.M.**

### Thursday, Dec. 28

**\*DAILY MASS: 8:30 A.M.**

**\*ADORATION: 9 - 10 A.M.**

### Friday, Dec. 29

**\*COMMUNION SERVICE: 8:30 A.M.**

**\*OFFICE CLOSED**

### Saturday, Dec. 30

**\*CONFESSIONS: 4:00 - 4:50 P.M.**

**\*MASS: 5:00 P.M.**

**\*NO BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS**

### Sunday, Dec. 31

**\*MASSES: 8:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M. &  
ESPAÑOL 1:00 P.M.**

**\*NO BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS**

### *Mass Intentions this week*

#### Saturday, Dec. 23 - 5:00 P.M.

*For The Protection & Preservation of All Life  
By The St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry*

*+Louise McAvoy By Don McAvoy*

*+Jerry Nawojski By Gary & Mary Swanger*

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 8:30 A.M.

*+Frank Overmeer By Laura Overmeer*

*+Jim Scally By Kit Scally*

*+John Turner & +Jerry Jenkins By Ursula Jenkins-Turner*

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 11:00 A.M.

*+Dr. Daniel P. Labrador By Dr. Irene Labrador*

*+Carolyn Bart By Vince & Kathy Hotton*

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 1:00 P.M.

*St. Stephen Church*

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 5:00 P.M.

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 8:00 P.M.

#### Sunday, Dec. 24 - 10:00 P.M.

*+Dean Curtis James Larson By Vince & Kathy Hotton*

#### Monday, Dec. 25 - 10:00 A.M.

*+Ferguson's, Sullivan's & Runge's Family By The Ferguson's*

#### Tuesday, Dec. 26 - 8:30 A.M.

*Mr. & Mrs. Bob Petrone By Joe & Cathy Burriesci*

*Joe Burriesci By Cathy Burriesci*

#### Wednesday, Dec. 27 - 6:00 P.M.

*+Mrs. Cuca Alvarez By Fr. Manuel Pérez*

#### Thursday, Dec. 28 - 8:30 A.M.

*Mr. & Mrs. John Goode By Joe & Cathy Burriesci*

#### Friday, Dec. 29 - 8:30 A.M.

*Communion Service*

#### Saturday, Dec. 30 - 5:00 P.M.

*+Frank Overmeer By Laura Overmeer*

*+Louise McAvoy By Don*

#### Sunday, Dec. 31 - 8:30 A.M.

*Mr. & Mrs. Steve Petrone By Joe & Cathy Burriesci*

#### Sunday, Dec. 31 - 11:00 A.M.

*+Michael Love & Miranda Godena By Pam Love*

*+Carmen Gomez By Angelo Gomez*

#### Sunday, Dec. 31 - 1:00 P.M.

*St. Stephen Church Members*

## DECEMBER 24, 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

### Praying for the Sick List

If you would like St. Stephen Catholic Church to pray for you or your family member, please call the office at 423-892-1261 X4 & we will gladly put them on our prayer list. If you see someone on the list that needs to come off the prayer list, please call the office and let us know. Prayers are a powerful thing. They really work and we as Catholics believe in "The Power of Prayer."

*Please pray for our sick parishioners, relatives and friends:*

*Asher Baker, Ronnie Barnes, James Bevil, Frank Bradley, Debbie Brown, John Joseph Bruno, Veronica Cabrera, Lisa Calkins, Rob Chaousy, Ryan Clark, Theresa Cole, Peggy Conway, Mia Corte, Jeanette Craig, Mia Crownover, Rita Dalton, Whitten & Brenda Davis, Nancy Diwan, Clare Donahue, MacKenna Duke, Douglas Fontenot, Laterria Green, Darlene Goins, Pat Halenar, Lorrie Levitt-Haufe, Rick Hirko, Joanne Hotchkiss, Nancy Humberger, Peggy Humphreys, Herb Katzman, Don Krupp, Elizabeth Levine, Carmen Lopez, Mike Milewski, Kelly Nast, Sam Nechvatal, Emily Powell, Carmelita Ordonez, Sr. Mary Raphael, Reed Rawlings, Danielle Riecke, Jan Reynolds, Mary Lou Riddle, Alan Robinson, Jan Rodriguez, Mary Alice Ruhman, Richard Runyon, Sylvia Scaruffi, Ron Schleifer, Sandy Schnur, Laura Sherrick, Chuck & Suzi Sodowski, Maverick Soracco, Peggy Ann Sorrells, Pat Strebeck, Sarah Lyons Sturm, Ryan Sawyers, Bob & Pat Smelas, Katie Smith, Kenn & Mary Stroop, Jeff Terrell, John Turner, Michael Thompson, Roger Trudell, Dee Vaughan, Arlene Webb, Audrey Wiemer, Jerry Williams, Lynn Williams, Maggie Williams, Doreen Wirchansky, Brad and Patricia Wood.*



*Congratulations to the following on their Wedding Anniversary:*

*Robert & Cathy Quick - 11th*

*Zane & Lori Fox - 39th*

*Jack & Mary Malek - 43rd*

*Edwin & Patricia Bowmer - 50th*

### FLOCKNOTE FOR PARISHIONERS ONLY

We will be sending information to our parishioners by Flocknote. If you are not signed up for Flocknote, please call 423-892-1261 x4 and let us know that you would like to receive information this way. We will need your name, email address and your cell number to set you up.

### FORMED.ORG

FORMED provides amazing content 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. Our parish has invested in FORMED, so each of us might grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and in our desire to share our Faith with others, especially those closest to us. It's FREE and EASY to Register! Go online to [formed.org](http://formed.org) Look for St. Stephen Catholic Church 7111 Lee Hwy. Chattanooga, TN Next Put their name and email address in, then search for what they want to watch.

### **Reminder:**

**Due to the Privacy (HIPAA) Laws hospitals will not notify us if you or your loved one is admitted. A family member must notify us if you wish for one of the Priests to visit the hospital.**



# DECEMBER 24, 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Sharon Vannucci, Chair Person.....280-6043  
 Priscilla McLean, Secretary.....503-3665  
 John Vannucci, Parish Life.....309-5133  
 Nancy Powell, Communication.....770-363-6952  
 Myrtle Englert, Family Life.....812-449-6104  
 Karen Underwood, Education.....400-4075  
 Donna Snuggs, Adult Education.....678-772-3833

## PARISH FINANCE BOARD

Trina Hicks, Chair.....899-3755  
 John DiPrima.....344-8211  
 Lorrie Levitt-Haufe.....815-409-0717  
 Ron Schleifer.....499-0249  
 Robert Sullivan.....718-8308  
 Tom Smith.....315-1737  
 Al Henry.....667-3822

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Sharon Vannucci.....280-6043

## LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & ALTAR SERVERS

Deacon Gary Brinkworth.....EMHC  
 Deacon Dave Waguespack.....Lectors...Altar Servers

## Ministers List for Next Week

### Saturday, Dec. 30 at 5:00 p.m.

Lector: Andy Simms, Linda Schneider  
 EMHC: Trish Burk, Karen Steely, Larry Skelly,  
 Marylynn Casula

Altar Servers: Diane Sullivan, Open

### Sunday, Dec. 31 at 8:30 a.m.

Lector: Christine Roque, Tim Runyon  
 EMHC: Steve Horten, Matt Lubaway, Betty Mane,  
 Priscilla McLean

Altar Servers:

### Sunday, Dec. 31 at 11 a.m.

Lector: Dana Adams, Emily Hardy  
 EMHC: Katie Clark, Jerry Nunley, Donna Snuggs,  
 Victor Williams

Altar Servers: Andrew Adams, Hope & Faith  
 Daan, Open

### Sunday, Dec. 31 at 1:00 p.m.

Lector: Francisco Gallardo  
 EMHC: Manuel Colmenares, Cindy Chestaro  
 Altar Servers: Isidro, Trinidad, Keyli, Samara

Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8:30 AM  
 Wednesday: 6:00 PM & 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at 8:30 AM  
 Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM  
 Sunday: 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM (Spanish)



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
 IN SERVICE TO ONE, IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Weds., Jan. 3 - Director's & Officer's Meeting @ Hall 6 p.m.  
 Mon., Jan. 8 - 6099 Membership Meeting @ Hall 6:30 p.m., Ro-  
 sary @ 6 p.m.  
 SAVE THE DATE! Tickets for the Valentine's Dinner Dance  
 (Beater Band) on Saturday, February 10th at St. Stephen's go on  
 sale January 13th. A limited number of tickets will be available.  
 Knights come from every stage of life, in countless corners of the  
 world. To join the Knights call 423-899-9989, enter kofc.org/  
 joinus.



Ladies Auxiliary

Thank you so very much for supporting the Annual Cookie  
 Bake Sale. We greatly appreciate who made it all happen!  
 Call Dot Durr to get information about the Ladies Auxiliary  
 @ 315-657-7484. Come and join us!

**Merry Christmas &  
 A Blessed Happy New  
 Year 2024**  
**On Behalf of  
 Fr. Manuel &  
 Fr. Christopher &  
 The Staff of  
 St. Stephen Catholic**

## MINISTRY LIST

**ADORATION** - First Friday of the month at 9 - 10 a.m., 2nd Thursday at 9 - 10 a.m., 3rd Thursday of the month at 6 - 7 p.m., 4th & if there is a 5th Thursday 9 - 10 a.m.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Call Joan Roueché at 423-635-0857.

**ADULT EDUCATION** - Please call Donna Snuggs at 678-772-3833 for more information about our Adult Education.

**AHG** - American Heritage Girls NEW here at St. Stephen, For more information, please contact Kristen Connell 615-483-3944.

**ANOIDTING OF THE SICK** - Please call Fr. Manuel Pérez at 423-892-1261 x2 or Fr. Christopher Manning at 892-1261 x9. Please have a family member call the office and request a visit from one of the Priests.

**BAPTISM** - Parents & Godparents who wish to have their child baptized are asked to register for the class by contacting the parish office at 423-892-1261 x4. Class is held on a Saturday from 2 - 4:30 p.m. and then Mass. Our Next scheduled class is on January 13th.

**BOOK CLUB** - Last Monday of the month 6:30 p.m. in the Primetimer's Room. Contact Laurene Hirko at 508-446-4529. **Primetimer's Event**

**BUNCO** - 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the small hall. Contact Dot Durr at 315-657-7484. **Primetimer's Event**

**CARING HEARTS & HANDS** - To comfort families of our parish in their time of need by providing a luncheon for their guests after a funeral or memorial Mass. Contact Elaine Williams at 899-3811.

**CASUAL COCKTAILS** - Contact Daniel & Jeannie Hixon at 423-280-9516 or Art & Dena Vonwerssowetz at 423-667-5550. **Primetimer's Event**

**CHOIR PRACTICE** - Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION** - For K through 12th grade. Classes meet during the school year. Families must be registered parishioners of St. Stephen Catholic Church. Contact Karen Underwood at 423-892-2957.

**CHURCH CLEANING MINISTRY** - Contact Sue Buske 423-593-4356.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN BREAD** - The 2nd Sunday of each month St. Stephen's helps the Community Kitchen serve lunch to their guests. We arrive at 11 a.m. & slice & butter the homemade bread baked by parishioners for this occasion. We also assist in other duties and serve lunch at 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Call Lori Fox at 314-2887.

**DINING OUT EXPERIENCE**- Contact Cliff & Patti Crownover at 423-344-3575. **Primetimer's Event**

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** - Meets every Monday at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel to pray The Divine Mercy Chaplet. Contact: Joe & Cathy Burriesci at 865-567-1822

**GAME DAY** - Contact Mary Hess at 423-255-4995. Meets Mondays at 1 - 3 p.m. in the Small Hall. **Primetimer's Event**

**HEALING HEARTS** - Meets on the 3rd Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Primetimer's Room. Please call Priscilla McLean at 423-503-3665 or Liz Huntenburg 954-464-7372. **Primetimer's Event**

**HEALTH MINISTRY** - We will be taking Monthly Blood Pressure Checks the last weekend of the month after all masses. For more information contact Allison Runyon at 678-371-0677.

**LUNCH BUNCH** - Meets at 11 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at a different restaurant. Contact Priscilla McLean at 423-503-3665. RSVP **Primetimer's Event**

**MATRIMONY** - Four months notice required. You must be registered parishioners. Contact the Church Office.

**R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)** Explore for yourself what Catholicism is about! R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Join us in between the two Sunday Masses starting around 9:40 A.M. in the Library in the Administrative Building. For more information contact Tom Cain 423-751-6828 or Deacon Dave Waguespack.

**RESPECT LIFE** - For more information contact Theresa Cole 423-432-7007 or Pat Bodnar 423-855-4717.

**ROSARY** - Prayed daily after 8:30 a.m. Mass by The Rosary Group following Mass in the Chapel.

**SACRED HEART OF JESUS PRAYER GROUP** - Meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Call Jill Walsh at 423-899-6148.

**SEWING GROUP** - The Sewing Group meets on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to make items needed by Ladies of Charity, Hospice, and the homeless. Call Mary Hess at 423-255-4995. **Primetimer's Event**

**SPANISH WEDDING & BAPTISM PREPARATION** - Meets on Sunday's in the Primetimer's Room when needed. Call Manuel & Elizabeth Colmenares at 305-342-4741 for more information. Next Baptism Class is on January 7th at 11 a.m. in the Administration building.

**SPORTING EVENTS** - **Primetimer's Event** -open at this time.

**SUNSHINE BASKET MINISTRY** - Contact Myrtle Englert at 812-449-6104.

## DECEMBER 24, 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

### MY GRATITUDE

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone here at St. Stephen Catholic Church for being part of all of our Ministries. There are so many people behind the scenes that plan, schedule, develop, and coordinate to make all of these wonderful ministries happen. I am so grateful for so many people who have said "YES" to this calling. We recently had a Children's Christmas Party, where we had over 150 children attend. We also had a Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe at our New Grotto, where over 500 parishioners attended this wonderful feast and Breakfast on F.I.R.E. that our people had attended & socialized with each other, Ladies' Auxiliary Selling of cookies, Women Retreat, newcomers, and Angel Tree, etc. Our Christian Formation is Bigger & Better than any year's in our past. How wonderful it is to see St. Stephen Catholic Church growing and really being the Church with a "Heart".*

*God Bless and Thank you to everyone of you from the bottom of my heart!*

*Fr. Manuel Pérez, Pastor*

### Christmas Flower Offering

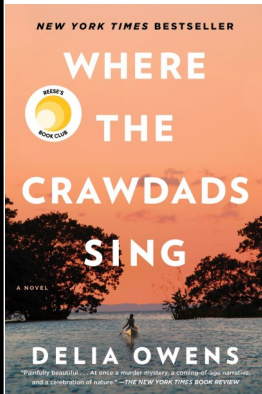
#### In Honor of:

*Ron Schleifer, John, Jessica & Michael Ferguson, Fr. Manuel Pérez & Fr. Christopher Manning, Deacon Dave Waguespack & Wendy & Family, Deacon Gary Brinkworth & Kathy & Family, John & Sharon Vannucci & Family, Clarence & Pat Bodnar & Family, Linda Lee & Family, Mike & Maura Doyle & Family, Rob & Phyllis Chaousy, Cliff & Patti Crownover, Jim & Sandy Mullin & Family, Mike Hunter & Family and St. Stephen Church Family.*

#### In Memory of:

*Robert & Sherry Slater, Charles Schleifer, Louis Rodgers, Chuck & Carol Schleifer, Elizabeth McCabe, Robert A. McCabe, Ormand Lorentz, Dorothy Lorentz, Patrick A. McCabe, Michael Love, Miranda Godena, Michele Pish, Nicole Berros, Saverio & Theresa Fiore, Morgan & Vera Holt, Don Bucci, Sr. Robert & Cecelia Ferguson, Samuel Hays, Carol Hays, Francis Saunders, The Roman's, The Boyd's and The Hays' Families.*

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Msgr. Al's next Book Study on Where the Crawdads Sing will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. at Holy Spirit Parish Hall. For those who would like we will stop at 1:15 p.m. to share a covered dish lunch and continue the discussion. Please call the office (423) 332-5300 to register to make sure we have enough handouts prepared.

**Church Bulletin Advertising**

Mark Mazza, representing our Bulletin Publisher, Diocesan, is currently seeking new advertisements. Support our parish while you promote your business in print and digitally through social media. If interested, please contact Mark directly or call the parish office. Only a third down payment is required to reserve an ad.

**Contact**  
**Mark Mazza**  
mmazza@diocesan.com  
513-392-6768

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