



St. Stephen the Martyr
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Encounter, Know, Proclaim

The Family Connection

St. Stephen the Martyr Religious Education
Mary Maguire, Director
www.stephen.org/faith-formation/religious-education/

November 11, 2018

Parish Second Collection for Refugee Families

- Nov. 13/14: Rel. Ed. Family Masses
- Nov. 20/21: No R. E.; Thanksgiving
- Nov. 25: No Sunday School
- Dec. 3/4: First Reconciliation; 7 p.m.
- Dec. 16: Christmas Program; Gym 3:00 pm
- Dec. 18/19: Last R.E. and Advent Prayer Services

If your child/children will be absent, please contact the Religious Education Office at 402-896-5683 or email us at RE.attendance@stephen.org.

Office Hours:

Monday: 9 AM –3 PM
Tuesday: 9 AM - 6:30 PM
Wednesday: 10 AM - 8 PM
Thursday: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sunday: 9 AM - Noon

You can also call us at 402-896-5683
Fax number: 402-861-4590

- Director: Mary Maguire at 896-5683 m.maguire@stephen.org,
- Admin. Asst.: Eileen Smith at 861-4513 e.smith@stephen.org
- Confirmation: Betsy Carroll at 861-4510 b.carroll@stephen.org
- Sunday School/WBS: Rhonda Richeson at 861-4511 r.richeson@stephen.org
- Youth Ministry: Laura Bogue at 861-4509 l.bogue@stephen.org

Want to add something to the newsletter?
Contact Eileen at: 402-861-4513, e.smith@stephen.org

For Christmas
this year, the Parish will be doing a
Second Collection
on
NOVEMBER 10-11

Your donations will be used
for several refugee families
who were evicted
from their homes in Omaha.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

Rel. Ed. Mass/Blessing Baskets



Nov. 13/14th R.E. Family Masses- Parents, please join us as we come together to worship in gratitude for our families and all the gifts that God has given us! *Donations from below may be brought to the Rel. Ed. Masses.*

St. Stephen the Martyr Youth Service Ministry, Hearts Open Wide, is working with our parish to provide Blessings Baskets for local families this Thanksgiving. These baskets will be filled with food for the families to prepare delicious Thanksgiving meals. On Saturday, November 17th we will be collecting donations in our dining room from 1-3 PM, and will then assemble the baskets from 3-4 PM. If you would like to contribute to this special cause by donating items for our Blessings Baskets, or would like to help assemble or deliver baskets, please visit the Sign-Up Genius links below or contact Laura at l.bogue@stephen.org with questions.



SignUp to donate items for Blessings Baskets:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e44a4af2ca0f85-blessing>

SignUp to help with assembling or delivering Blessings Baskets:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4da4a82eab9-blessings>

FALL SCAVENGER HUNT

Enjoy searching for seasonal aspects of God's creation!



What you need:

- Family members and friends, divided into groups if desired
- Maps of local areas
- Lists of fall-related items (one per person or group)
- Digital cameras or smartphones
- Prizes

What you do:

1. Hand out maps and lists of items (scarecrow, pumpkin, red leaf, squirrel, apple tree, pine cone, acorn, bug, bird, sunflower, etc.)
2. Instruct participants to walk through their assigned area, find and take photos of the items, and report back at a specific time.
3. When everyone returns, share your photos. Award prizes for the most items found, the most unusual item and so on.

Youth Group

Laura Bogue at 402-861-4509 or at l.bogue@stephen.org



Edge: Join us November 13 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the dining room for some Captain America. Discussion will be on Modesty and Chastity. Bring your friends!

Life Teen: Let's talk about what's REAL, High School Teens! Let's face it; We

shouldn't find ourselves accepting substitutions for the best things in life. Join us in the Parish Center this Sunday, November 11th from 7-9 PM to find out more!

T3 Bible Study: Let the adventure begin! Open to all 8th-12th grade teens, T3 (The Teen Timeline) Bible Study follows in the footsteps of The Great Adventure Bible Study System. So what does that mean? It means it's a great way for teens to not only read the Bible, but to understand it, appreciate it, and enjoy it. Mark "The Bible Geek" Hart is featured in the series of engaging, dynamic videos, and participants are not required to do any homework in between sessions. Beginning Wednesday, November 7th, T3 will meet on Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 PM in the School Library. A suggested donation of \$15 covers the cost of materials, including a student workbook/study kit. Contact Laura Bogue for more information or to sign-up.

Hearts Open Wide: Youth Service Squad: If you enjoy opportunities to give back to the community both inside and outside of our parish, visit our Forms & Events page to find out what's to come! We have several upcoming opportunities to get involved (and earn a stewardship hour or two), from our monthly Sundaes Sunday events at the Country House Residence, to serving dinner at the Stephen Center and setting-up for our Angel Tree Project. Family participation is always welcome and encouraged! On-line volunteer registration is required to participate in each of these events. Please contact Laura at l.bogue@stephen.org with questions.

Yarn Needed! Do you have extra yarn around your house? We are currently out and could put it to good use. We don't care what color, texture or amount. We use yarn from everything from making name tags for our students, games and crafts, to hanging the Advent Angel tags on the tress in the Gathering Space. If you are interested in donating some of your extra yarn, please drop it off at the R.E. Office and we will put it to good use! Thank you!!



There is a teacher who would love your help and a class that needs you to share your faith with them!

We have an immediate need for a catechist in our Kindergarten class; Wed. at 5:30.

Several of our classes need a co-catechist to teach with a catechist who is already in place, especially on Tuesdays at 4:15 and 5:30 pm and Wed. at 4 pm. We have many grade levels to choose from.



Please consider joining us in this very important teaching ministry. All lesson plans and materials are provided for you and tuition is waived for your children. We even have child care for your younger children. Please call or stop by the Religious Education Office for more information.



St Stephen the Martyr
Religious Education

First Reconciliation

All second graders and those receiving First Communion in the Spring will celebrate First Reconciliation during the Reconciliation services in Advent on December 3 & 4. Family and friends are encouraged to celebrate the sacrament together. A reception will follow in the Dining Room. The second grade classes have been assigned to the following evenings:

Monday, December 3: 7 p.m.

2AT4 N. Shoemaker/J. Lozier
2BT4 R. Turner/B. Skartvedt
2AT5 A. Havranek/C. Meraz
2AW4 A. Rachow
2BW4 L. Baker/K. Hraban
2A Mary Gill

Tuesday, December 4: 7 p.m.

2AW5 D. Timmerman/C. Busskohl
2BW5 Jason & Sherri Castor
2AW7 K. Cameron/S. Parks
2BW7 Carissa & Tim Nath
RCIC Mary Maguire
2B Marlene Roduner
2C Angie Lowry

Reminders:

- If your son/daughter was not baptized at St. Stephen the Martyr, we need a copy of their Catholic Baptism certificate. This was due October 31. Please send, FAX or drop it off in the Religious Education Office ASAP. Our FAX number is 402-861-4590.
- Reconciliation Parent/Child packet due December 4, 2018.

Angel Trees in Gathering Space

From November 3rd-December 2nd, we will again be collecting donated items for several area organizations. Listed below are the different charities and some information about them.

• Essential Pregnancy Services All of their services are free and confidential. Every day, their programs provide pregnant women and mothers with the *medical, educational, material, financial and emotional support* they need to become healthy, knowledgeable, and caring parents

• St. Augustine Indian Mission of Winnebago St. Augustine Indian Mission has served the Native American people of the Winnebago and Omaha Tribes since 1909. Through the years it has touched the lives of thousands of Native American children and impacted the lives of their families

• Open Door Mission The Open Door Mission is a Gospel Rescue Mission providing basic needs and life-changing programs for the homeless and needy

• St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Pantry Provides food and essential items to families in need

Help Needed to Deliver Donations-Over the years our parish has been overwhelmingly generous with this project, and for that we thank you! If you are interested in helping to sort, pack, and/or deliver donations to the various locations, contact Laura at 402-861-4509 or

l.bogue@stephen.org.



Disciples of Christ

This is an award given to a student when they are caught showing an example of following Jesus's teachings.

The following students earned the Disciple of Christ Award from their Catechist:

Grade 1

Sophia Bader
Justin McMahon
Clementine Smith

Kindergarten

Harper Korus
Stella Knust
Alex Otto
Kyler Hartle
Aubrey Chadwick
Rylan Coyne
Emmersyn Guenther
Adam Vincik
Brooklyn Baumbach

Grade 2

Kolar Neal
Nora Milow
Colin Joslin
Millie Wentling
Ethan Fehrman

Grade 3

Evalee Johnsen

Grade 4

Hendrix Ward
Jacob Nice














PUZZLE

HARVEST OF GOODNESS

God always provides, no matter the season.

Directions: Match the shapes in order to write the words in the correct places below.

“The  will  
 what is , and 
 will  its .”
  : , NIV

Vocations! Many, many thanks to Seminarian Kyle Loecker and Fr. Padraic Stack for sharing their personal stories of their calling to a life in the priesthood, and teaching our youth how important it is to open your heart to wherever God is calling you! Do you have a future priest, deacon or religious in your home? If so, it is incredibly important that they have the support of Mom and Dad as they discern a possible vocation.



The talks ended in a game of Dodgeball!

HELP US TO FILL BLESSINGS BASKETS FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

HEARTS OPEN WIDE, ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR'S YOUTH SERVICE MINISTRY, IS WORKING WITH OUR PARISH TO PROVIDE BLESSINGS BASKETS FOR LOCAL FAMILIES THIS THANKSGIVING. THESE BASKETS WILL BE FILLED WITH FOOD AND DELIVERED TO THE FAMILIES SO THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO PREPARE FOR THEMSELVES A DELICIOUS THANKSGIVING MEAL.

Items We Are Collecting for Blessings Baskets:

- Boxes of Mashed Potatoes
- Jars of Turkey Gravy
- Cans of Fruit
- Cans of Corn
- Cans of Carrots
- Cans of Green Beans
- Cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Cans of French Fried Onions
- Cans of Yams
- Large Cans of Chicken Broth
- Boxes of Stuffing Mix
- Boxes of Cornbread
- Boxes of Dessert Mix
- Pack of Pudding
- Can of Cranberries
- Jar of Chicken Bouillon cubes
- Large Foil Roasting Pans
- Rolls of Foil
- Box of Hot Cocoa
- Apple Cider or Apple Juice
- Pack of Paper Cups
- Thanksgiving Paper Plates
- Thanksgiving Napkins
- Box of Plastic Cutlery
- Turkey and a Ham
- *Buy a Turkey, Get a Ham promotion at Hy-Vee*
- Laundry Baskets
- Packs of Egg Noodles

Donations will be collected in the Dining Room from 1-3 PM on Saturday, November 17th, or may be turned in to the RE Office prior to that. Please contact Laura at l.bogue@stephen.org with questions or if your family would like to volunteer to help assemble or deliver the Blessings Baskets. 11/11