



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 4, 2018

- **Nov. 13/14: 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

Second Grade 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. Please send, FAX or drop it off in the Religious Education Office. Our FAX number is 402-861-4590.
- Reconciliation Parent/Child packet due December 4, 2018.

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 3

Olivia Goedeker

Grade 4

Luke Loring
Jadyn Pokorny
Nixon Thelen
Jacquelyn Baker
Noah Thelen
Tanner Nguyen



Vocation Talks with Seminarian Kyle

Parents and family members are welcome to join us in the Worship Space to the following events:

During classes on Nov. 6/7, Kyle Loecker, our awesome seminarian, will be speaking to the students this week about his calling to the vocation of priesthood and what it is like to follow that call. Fr. Dave and Fr. Padraic may also come to share their stories. At the end of the talk, Kyle will lead us all in prayer for more vocations and for support for those living vocations to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life.



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 give us! See page two for information on Mass donations.

Fair Trade Sale

**NEXT SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 11, 2018**

**The sale will be held from
8:30 AM – 2:00 PM.
in the Dining Room**

WE WILL HAVE COFFEE, CRAFTS,
TEA, SPICES, AND EVERYBODY'S
FAVORITE – CHOCOLATE.
GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Come shop with us
and help others at
the same time.



Youth Group

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



Edge: Who's ready to Hulk Out, Middle School Youth? Now now, just control yourselves. Join us for another heroic Edge night this Tuesday, November 6th from 6:30-8 PM!

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 4th from 7-9 PM to find out more!

Life Teen Retreat: Hey, High School Teens! Don't miss our overnight weekend Fall Retreat, In Reverse, held at Camp Carol Joy Holling. You will gain a whole new perspective of the Lord's Prayer, and are guaranteed to strengthen your relationship with Jesus in the process. So drop your nets and come join us for 3 days full of friendship, faith-sharing, Nerf-gun battles, pancakes, time with the Blessed Sacrament, and more. Registration is now open on our Forms & Events page. Cost is \$85 per participant and includes lodging, meals, a t-shirt, and a special retreat keepsake. Contact Laura at l.bogue@stephen.org with questions.

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 Sundae 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.

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

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

Mass of Reparation - November 6; 7 p.m.

November begins with the celebrations of All Saints Day and All Souls Day; thus it has traditionally been a month set aside to remember in a particular way those who have gone before us in the faith. This helps us to consider what we are called to—namely, everlasting life in union with God—and where we currently find ourselves—namely, imperfect members of the Mystical Body of Christ still living in a fallen world. Sometimes these imperfections manifest in really ugly ways as we have been made aware in recent decades and especially in recent months with the revelation of clergy abuses and cover-ups. Every sin, but especially these egregious ones, inflict deep wounds in the Body of Christ and cause great pain in the victims. Fortunately, we have a God of love and mercy who hears the cry of the poor, those in need of healing and comfort. We are invited to lend our voices and to cry out with and for those in need of healing; we are invited to seek atonement and reparation for the wounds and division wrought by sin.

Reparation is made possible only by Christ's self-offering on the Cross and true healing comes by uniting oneself to Christ in this offering and thus receiving the grace won for us in that selfless act of love, His Sacrifice. Therefore, there is no greater way to ask our Lord for the grace of reparation and healing than by offering this same Sacrifice in the Mass. As such, we will be offering a **Mass of Reparation on Tuesday, November 6th at 7:00 pm; please join us as we pray for healing and the grace to become Saints.**

Martyr Moms



Martyr Moms is officially up and running! We have several circles that have formed and more on the way. Sign up at www.ssmartyrmoms.com to stay up to date with events and happenings. Don't forget to follow us on facebook!

BIBLE STUDY AM - Friday, 9:00-10:30am

BIBLE STUDY PM -Wednesday, 6:30pm-8:00pm

PLAY DATE CIRCLE - First and Third Fridays, 9:30am-11:30am

BOARD GAME CIRCLE - November 15th, 7pm

**Membership dues will be \$20 and can be paid to your circle leader or brought to the next Martyr Mom meeting. **

Blessing Baskets-R.E. Mass Donations

St. Stephen the Martyr Youth and Hearts Open Wide will be providing Blessing Baskets for local families this Thanksgiving on November 17th. These baskets will be filled with food for the families to prepare delicious Thanksgiving meals.

For our offerings at our masses on November 13/14, please bring an item on the list. You can see the list at the following website;

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e44a4af2ca0f85-blessing>

Please sign up if you would like to contribute
Thank you for helping us
bring Thanksgiving Blessings to these families.





For Christmas

this year we will be doing a

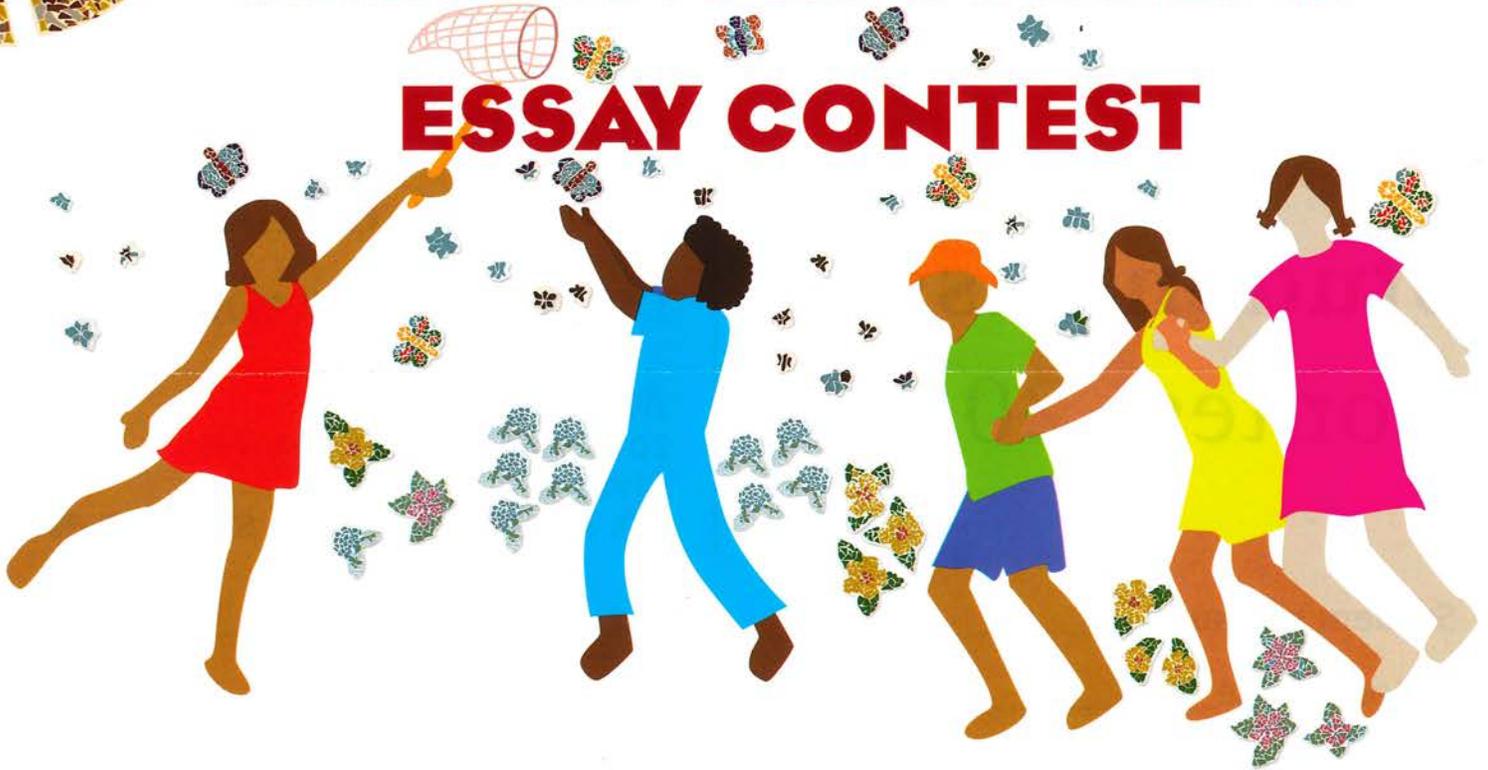
Second Collection
NOVEMBER 10-11

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY.



2018 MARYKNOLL STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST



Love in Action

In his most recent letter, *Rejoice and Be Glad*, Pope Francis reminds us, “We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love.” That, he says, does not require extraordinary deeds but everyday acts of kindness.

ASSIGNMENT

Tell a true story of when you saw someone sharing God’s love through an act of kindness and how that inspired you to act in a similar way.

1st Place Prize:
\$1,000 per division

2nd Place Prize:
\$300 per division

3rd Place Prize:
\$150 per division



ENTRY FORM

DUPLICATE FOR EACH STUDENT

MARYKNOLL

Student Essay

Contest 2018

DEADLINE: NOV. 16, 2018

DIVISION I: GRADES 6-8

DIVISION II: GRADES 9-12

MAIL TO:

2018 Student Essay Contest

Division _____

P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302

Student's Name _____ Grade _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Telephone (____) _____

Teacher's/Catechist's Name _____

Teacher's/Catechist's e-mail _____

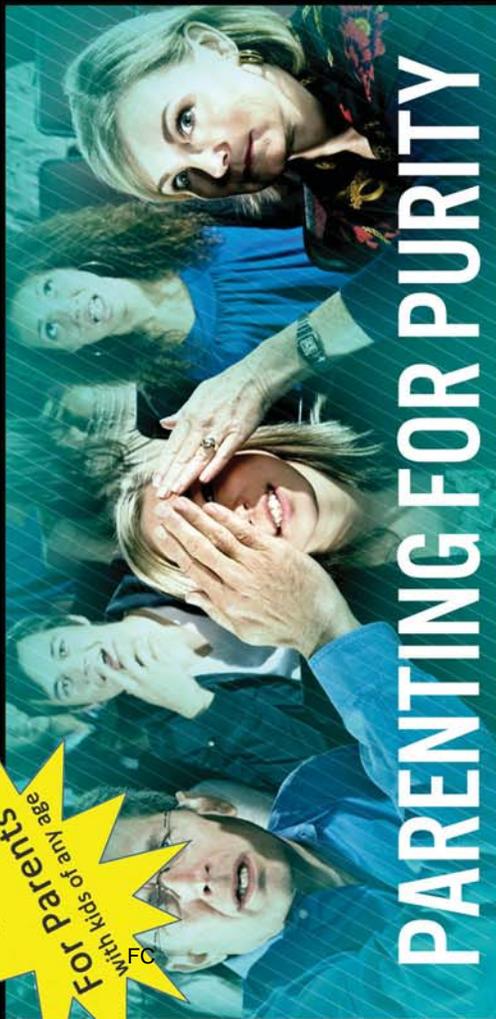
ELIGIBILITY: Students in grades 6–8 (Division I) and grades 9–12 (Division II) are eligible. See MaryknollSociety.org/Essay for official rules.

ENTRY: Entries should be 500–750 words. Students may 1) submit essays online at MaryknollSociety.org/Essay (if 13 or older) OR 2) mail essays to the address above. Mailed essays should be typed or neatly handwritten in ink and stapled. *Spelling and grammar count.*

DEADLINE: Entries must be submitted online or postmarked by **FRIDAY, NOV. 16, 2018**. First-place essays will appear in the May/June 2019 MARYKNOLL magazine. All winning entries will be published online at MaryknollSociety.org/Winners by April 1, 2019.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

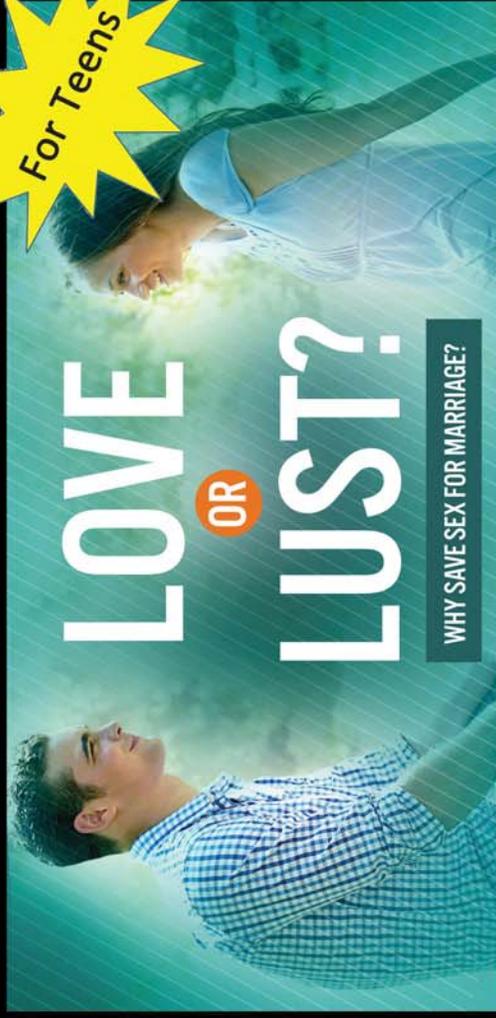
Call 1-888-627-9566, ext. 2490, or visit MaryknollSociety.org/Essay



PARENTING FOR PURITY

DO YOU WANT TO BE THE NUMBER ONE INFLUENCE ON YOUR TEEN'S SEXUAL BEHAVIOR?

You already are. Come and learn ten strategies to guard the innocence of your family and how to communicate the message of chastity to them.



LOVE OR LUST?

WHY SAVE SEX FOR MARRIAGE?

SCARE TACTICS, GUILT TRIPS, AND TEEN PREGNANCY RATES DON'T INSPIRE ANYONE TO LOVE.

Discover the difference between love and lust while getting straight answers about dating, relationships, and sexual purity.



JASON EVERT

is a bestselling author of more than ten books, and has brought the message of chastity to more than one million people on six continents. He and his wife Crystalina run chastityproject.com

Parenting for Purity is for adults only, and is appropriate for parents with children of any age - it is never too early to learn these strategies!

Love or Lust? is appropriate for 7th grade and up.

Parents are welcome to attend *Love or Lust*, but due to limited space parents will watch the presentation on a live feed in the social hall so that the teens may see Jason in person.

For more information, call Jeff Krohn at 402-658-0778 or visit stwenceslaus.org

Monday, November 26th

Parenting for Purity - 6:00pm

Love or Lust - 7:15pm

St. Wenceslaus Church
15353 Pacific St.
Omaha, NE 68154