



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

November 15, 2020

## Pray & Worship

### Mass Schedule

Daily: Monday-Friday at 6:30 AM & 8:15 AM\*;  
Saturday at 8:15 AM\*

Weekend: Saturday at 5:00 PM\*; Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM\* & 11:30 AM

\*These Masses will be live-streamed on our Facebook page and website.

- Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha/>
- Our website page: [stephen.org/live-stream](http://stephen.org/live-stream)

### Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday-Friday and from 10:00 AM to 6 PM on Saturday-Sunday. The Adoration Chapel is open 24/7; door access code: 9675\*

### Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hours

- ⇒ Sundays with Solemn Vespers from 4 to 5 PM
- ⇒ First Friday of the Month from 9 AM to Noon
- ⇒ First Monday of the Month at 7 PM (*please note: there is no First Monday Adoration in November because of All Souls / Memorial Cross Mass*)

No sign up required. Come as you are to spend time with Jesus. In the Worship Space or Facebook Live.

## Contact Us

### Parish Office:

Phone: 402-896-9675  
Emergency: 402-896-9675 ext 2  
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, M-F

**Pastor:** Fr. David Belt

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Padraic Stack

### Deacons:

Dcn. Ernie Abbott, (402) 506-2239  
Dcn. Chuck Botdorf, (402) 681-4701  
Dcn. Denny Dethlefs, (402) 861-4538  
Dcn. Jerry Kozney, (402) 659-9219  
Dcn. Marty Warwick, (402) 926-1253

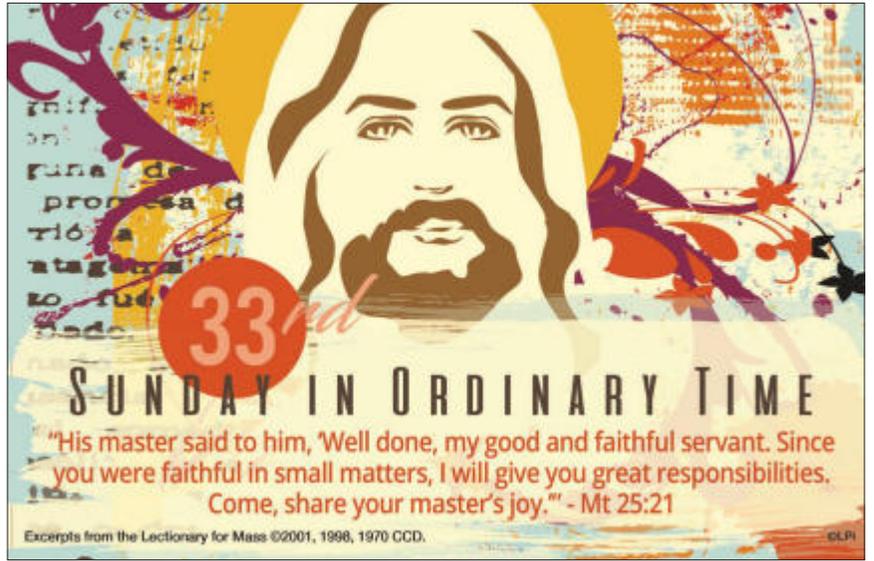
**Staff Contact Info:** [stephen.org/staff](http://stephen.org/staff)

### Bulletin Deadline:

Submit requests to [a.hartwig@stephen.org](mailto:a.hartwig@stephen.org).

## Not yet a Parishioner?

Register as a Parishioner on our website [stephen.org](http://stephen.org). Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the footer or call the Parish office for more information. We're here to accompany you on your faith journey! We offer many opportunities to help you and your family to learn, grow and form your faith. Learn more! Contact Adam Ybarra, Director of Evangelization and Catechesis at 402-861-4507 or [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org).



***"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."***



How do you feel about taking risks in living your faith? Are you bold in living and in making decisions about your future? People who are afraid of taking risks would not be happy with the first 2 servants in our Gospel this weekend. Jesus tells the parable of a master who gives his possessions to 3 of his servants before he leaves on a journey. The rest of the parable is about how each servant used the master's gift. The first 2 servants took a risk and invested the "talents" that were entrusted to them; the third servant, acting out of fear, went off and buried the money. When the master returns, he wants to know how each of the servants cared for his money. He is very pleased to hear that the first 2 invested the money and came back with double the amount. When he hears that the third servant was afraid and buried the money, he gets upset with the servant, and he takes his gift away from him.

This parable is about the invitation that we all receive to use the gifts and talents that God gave to us to multiply good in the world. I believe that this is the basic teaching of stewardship, that we are all called to leave this world in better shape than when we first entered it. As pastor, this is my philosophy about being a steward of Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish. It is my primary goal to leave this parish in better shape than when I came here in 2017. I hope that this is your goal too, and that you have this desire to leave your family, neighborhood, parish, community, and world in better shape through your generosity and your bold decision to "invest" the gifts and talents that God has entrusted to you.

Do not be driven by fear. Be bold in sharing the good things that God has entrusted to you!

***"Talent is God-given; be thankful. Conceit is self-given; be careful."*** – Thomas LaMance

God bless you!  
Father Dave Belt

## Congratulations Newly Baptized!

Kane Iver Hytrek-Pankievicz, son of Shane Pankievicz and Allison Hytrek

## Welcome New Parishioners!

Brandon Bruggeman  
Peter Hunt  
Chad & Kendall Magill  
Mike & Micaela Sharp  
Kristin Swolley



16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | [stephen.org](http://stephen.org)

*St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Christ.*

## Sacraments

### Reconciliation

Tuesday: 5:30-6:30 PM & Saturday: 3:30-4:45 PM

### Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays. Parents are required to attend a preparation class. Contact the parish office for information or visit: [stephen.org/baptism-class](http://stephen.org/baptism-class).

### Matrimony

Preparation for Marriage begins at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Contact parish office for more information.

### Anointing of the Sick

Contact Deacon Denny at (402) 861-4538 or [d.dethlefs@stephen.org](mailto:d.dethlefs@stephen.org).

### Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

## Stay in Communication with Us!

Our primary communication tool is email using Flocknote. If you are not receiving our emails please follow the steps at [stephen.org/flocknote](http://stephen.org/flocknote) or call the parish office to give us your email.

We ♥ love  
having you as part of our flock

## Financial Stewardship

11/3/2020—11/9/2020

Offertory & Online Giving:	\$35,306
Fiscal* Year-to-Date (FYTD) Actual:	\$819,963
Budget:	\$802,668
FY Total Budget:	\$2,240,000
FYTD to Total Budget Percentage:	36.61%

\*SSM Parish operates on a Fiscal Year from July 1 - June 30.

**Thank you for continuing to support us through your Sunday Offerings and Financial Stewardship. Conveniently give through OSV Online Giving or envelopes may be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha NE 68135.**

Give online at [stephen.org/give](http://stephen.org/give)

## Stewardship is a Way of Life

***"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities."*** - MATTHEW 25:21

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.

## School News

***United in Christ to ignite the joy of faith, community, and learning.***

- ⇒ We are thankful for all Veterans! Students celebrated their service through prayer, classroom activities, and a patriotic dress down day.
- ⇒ We are pleased to share First Quarter Honor Roll of our sixth, seventh & eighth graders—find the names at [school.stephen.org](http://school.stephen.org)
- ⇒ Thinking ahead for Kindergarten and Early Childhood? Come tour and check us out! Give Dr. Greco a call 402-896-0754 or email at [j.greco@stephen.org](mailto:j.greco@stephen.org).



## Religious Education News

- ⇒ All of our sacrament dates have been set for the year and emailed to parents—we're excited! If you have any questions or need to request to reschedule, please email or call our office.
- ⇒ Looking ahead: Please note that there will be no RE on November 24/25 and no Sunday School on November 29.
- ⇒ We've been finalizing our backup plans in case we ever need to go remote. Parents, please fill out the form we emailed to you so that your child will be able to join us if the need to switch to remote learning arises in the coming months. Thank you so much!

## Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **Life Teen (High School)** — Nov. 15: 6-8 PM, GPC— We're continuing our new series of Life Nights, Dead;! Where do we end up when we die, and what is it like? Join us this week as we talk about Heaven and Hell.
- ⇒ **Edge (Middle School)** — Nov. 17: 6:30-8 PM, Dining Room — If God exists, then why is there evil and suffering in the world? You asked the question, so be sure to join us at Edge to explore the answer!

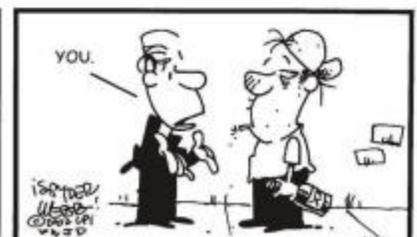
There is no cost to attend our weekly gatherings. Dinner is included. Come when and as often as you can! Annual parent waiver is required. Complete today at: [www.smartwaiver.com/v/ssmym2020](http://www.smartwaiver.com/v/ssmym2020).

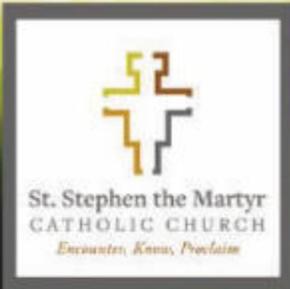
For more information contact Laura Bogue, Youth Ministry Director, at [l.bogue@stephen.org](mailto:l.bogue@stephen.org) or (402) 861-4509.

- ⇒ **Hearts Open Wide: Youth Service Squad** — Come be the hands and feet of Christ! We have a wide variety of family-friendly opportunities coming up, which can be done from the comfort of your own home or out in our community in a safe, socially distanced way. These events may also be great options for our high schoolers or Confirmation candidates in need of service hours. Be sure to check our Hearts Open Wide page often for new opportunities as we continue to add sign-ups and additional information! [www.stephen.org/youth-service](http://www.stephen.org/youth-service)



33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





## Stewards of St. Stephen the Martyr Annual Appeal

Thank you for your generosity and faithful commitment to our Annual Stewardship Appeal. Your gifts and support play a critical role in sustaining our operations. With your help, we are able to provide a Catholic education to more than 650 students in our K-8 school and more than 700 students in our Religious Education Programs, and cover expenses for our many ministries and daily operations.

### A Convenient Way to Give

Many parishioners elect to present their stewardship gifts by using traditional offertory envelopes. If using these envelopes is no longer convenient, we encourage you to utilize our Online Giving program that allows you to make financial gifts without writing checks, worrying about cash, or delivering your weekly support envelope. Our Online Giving program allows you to set up automatic contributions and change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. Whether it is your desire to make a regular pledged gift or a one-time donation, Online Giving presents many convenient options, all under your full control.

To learn more, please visit [stephen.org/give](http://stephen.org/give) or call (402) 861.4543.

## Responding to the Call

*An important piece of our mission is our people: our people who we serve and our people who help us to serve! We cannot do the work without volunteers who give so generously of their time, talent and treasure to our operations, liturgy, school and ministries.*

Rob Meraz gives generously of his time to St. Stephen the Martyr as a catechist in our Religious Education program. He has also volunteered as PAL volleyball coordinator and volleyball coach. Rob enjoys being able to share his faith with the students but never anticipated the learning and enjoyment he would receive back; it's a large part of why he continues to volunteer. Rob and his wife Lynnelle have been parishioners since 2012. They have four daughters: MaKenna (15), twins Ayla and Kaydence (13), and Kinley (8); and two pug rescues who they love so much. We thank Rob for letting us share his story!



### How did you get started volunteering at St. Stephen the Martyr?

My girls were enrolled in RE classes and the parish was looking for catechists at the time. After inquiring about what was involved in volunteering, I felt like this was a great way to give back to our community.

### What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

Seeing the faith in our students provides great hope in me. It brightens my day. The faith and hope they have provides a bright light as to what our world can be and the importance of helping our students grow in their faith. The curriculum today is so different than when I was their age. I feel like I can help evangelize and not just sacramentalize our young people.

### What does St. Stephen the Martyr mean to you?

St. Stephens feels like home to me. It is encouraging to gather and celebrate mass with such a large community. I've encountered such great grace and mercy from all of our priests and deacons and volunteers that I know this is where I belong. I feel like the community as a whole is constantly working towards the mission Jesus Christ gave us.

**Do you have any advice to other parishioners?** Don't worry about what you think you have or don't have to offer. Jesus always finds a way and will handle the rest. All you have to do is say "yes, I will serve!" Let Him work through you, and you will be amazed at what He does for you and those you are helping. Start anywhere you can. The people here are so good to be around and will support and help you. Before you know it, you'll be producing good fruit and have deep roots in our parish community.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, November 14

8:15 am SI Shane & Jamie Martin (PS)  
5:00 pm † Ben, Mark & Bob Mannino (DB)

### Sunday, November 15

7:30 am SI Our Parishioners (DB)  
9:30 am † Lewis Storm (PS)  
11:30am † Juanita Mutuc (PS)

### Monday, November 16

6:30 am SI Ann Wooland & Children (PS)  
8:15 pm † Judy Casey (PS)

### Tuesday, November 17

6:30 am SI Diran Missak (DB)  
8:15 am SI Logan Hepp (PS)

### Wednesday, November 18

6:30 am SI Brittany & Owen Schmiede (DB)  
8:15 am † Warren Wills (PS)

### Thursday, November 19

6:30 am † James & JoAnn Stachura (DB)  
8:15 am † Rob Hauptman (DB)

### Friday, November 20

6:30 am † Cecilia Heimann (DB)  
8:15 am † Charles & Ann Feld (PS)

### Saturday, November 21

8:15 am † Johnny Minton (DB)  
5:00 pm † Erin Doll (PS)

### Sunday, November 22

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (PS)  
9:30 am SI Our Parishioners (DB)  
11:30am † Ron Ingram (DB)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul  
DB = Fr. Dave Belt; PS = Fr. Padraic Stack;

Note: Priest schedule subject to changes



## Pray For...

### Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

**Ellen Schoenborn-Ruloffs**, sister of Jeane Harbert  
**Jan Anderson**  
**Marilee Waggoner**  
**Elmer Jerome Promes**, Father of Janice Pick, Joyce Bernard, Joanie Fuchtman  
**Patricia Schicker**  
**Dorothy Schnieders**, mother of Carol Caster

### Deceased souls of our parish-family:

**Lucilla "Lu" (Caniglia) Orr**  
**Joan Pearson**, mother of Ben Pearson

## How Can We Pray for YOU?

You are not alone! St. Stephen the Martyr has prayer warriors who are ready to pray for YOUR intention! God has given us this incredible gift to intercede on behalf of others through prayer and thanksgiving! Submit your prayer request to be shared with our Prayer Line Ministry and/or with our Parish Family at: [stephen.org/prayer-line](http://stephen.org/prayer-line) or call Beth Wetgen at (402) 669-4793.

## Christmas Giving Projects

Thank you for supporting our Christmas Giving projects!



**St. Stephen the Martyr Family CHRISTmas Project: October 31 – December 13**

We are adopting "Closet Door" at Holy Family Ministries (now run by Society of St. Vincent de Paul) for our Family CHRISTmas Project. The "Closet Door" provides clothing to homeless people. Other programs at Holy Family are the Sack Lunch program and Street Ministries. You may recall that we have provided gift cards & backpacks in the past. This opportunity focuses on "Clothing the Naked" – one of the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy and it models how we should treat others, as if they are Christ in disguise.

You and your family can participate by donating new items:

- socks (adult sizes)
- men's briefs (M, L, XL)
- men's jeans/khakis (32-34) new or gently used
- Sweat pants or fleece pants (L, XL, XXL)
- Hoodies (any size, especially XL and XXL)

Please place your unwrapped donation(s) in the baskets in the gathering space or the GPC by December 13. Note – they have adequate supplies of clothing for women.

Questions: Contact Teresa Ziska 402-960-8618, Linda Hendricks 402-699-1911 or Loni Burger 402-896-4446



We are again collecting donated items for several area organizations. Each organization has a designated tree in the Gathering Space adorned with ornaments of items requested. Items can also be found on our website at [stephen.org](http://stephen.org).

Over the years our parish has been overwhelmingly generous with this project, and for that we thank you!

**Please return unwrapped donations to its designated tree by Noon on Sunday, December 6th.**

Listed below are the different charities we are supporting, as well as a little bit about them:

- **Essential Pregnancy Services** (Tree with Pink Mitten Ornaments) 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** (Tree with Yellow Star Ornaments) 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** (Tree with Purple Stocking Ornaments) 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 Food Pantry** (Tree with Blue Angel Ornaments) Provides food and essential items to families in need

If you are interested in helping to sort, pack, and/or deliver donations to the various locations, please visit [stephen.org/youth-service](http://stephen.org/youth-service) to sign-up.



Questions? Contact: Laura Bogue, Youth Ministry Director at 402-861-4509 or [l.bogue@stephen.org](mailto:l.bogue@stephen.org)

*How could I  
bear a crown  
of gold when  
the Lord bears  
a crown of  
thorns? And  
bears it for me!*

—St. Elizabeth of Hungary



### Adult Volleyball

All parishioners & friends (18 and older) are invited to play Volleyball, Saturday's from 6:30 PM until 9:30 PM in the gym. This time is for community fun and a chance to meet new people. Skill levels vary from brand new to many years of experience. Come anytime.

Contact Adam at [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org) or 402.861.4507 with questions or for more info.

### Become Catholic!



Do you desire to deepen your relationship with Jesus? Is your spouse Catholic and you are not, but you are curious to know more? *Becoming Catholic! Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults* (RCIA) might be just what you need! Open to non-Catholics and Catholics looking to grow in faith.

More information at: [stephen.org/becoming-catholic](http://stephen.org/becoming-catholic) or contact Adam Ybarra at 402.861.4507 or [a.ybarra@stephen.org](mailto:a.ybarra@stephen.org).

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2020

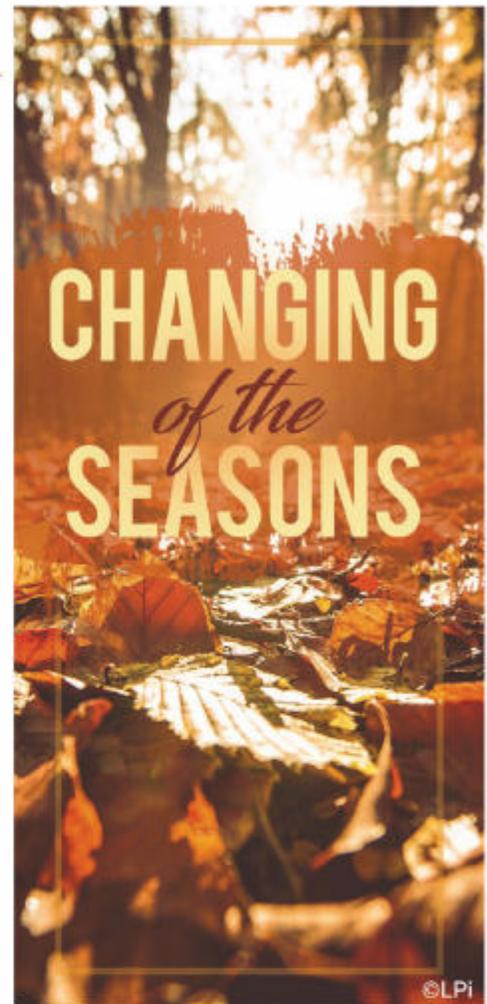
- SUN 11/15** Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
- MON 11/16** Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Rev 2:17]/Lk 18:35-43
- TUE 11/17** Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [Rev 3:21]/Lk 19:1-10
- WED 11/18** Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Lk 19:11-28
- THR 11/19** Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [Rev 5:10]/Lk 19:41-44
- FRI 11/20** Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Lk 19:45-48
- SAT 11/21** Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 20:27-40
- SUN 11/22** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 [1]/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2020

- Sunday:** 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, Virgin
- Tuesday:** St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
- Wednesday:** The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles;  
St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin
- Saturday:** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Next Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

God has entrusted his possessions to us. God's possessions are not earthly, physical things like ours: a home, bank account, personal items, and so forth. God's possessions are far greater and deeper. God's greatest possession is His very Self and it is precisely this pearl of great price that He bestows freely upon us. What are we going to do with it? Nourishing the fruits of wisdom is of the first order in determining how we are going to use what God has given. Understanding that His gift has not been given purely for our self-benefit is another. Wisdom asks us to broaden our horizons to embrace all avenues of human life, including the needs of the poor, the marginalized, and the needy. Manifested primarily in the virtues of faith, hope, and love, what God has entrusted to us can multiply exponentially if we invest His gift wisely and reap the greatest benefits. While it requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work, we will experience tremendous joy when we realize just how much confidence God has in us. Not acting on something out of fear or lack of trust serves no purpose and is of no use to either God or ourselves.



Where  
*charity*  
is not found,  
God cannot dwell.

— ST. ALBERT THE GREAT —

## News from the Greater Community:

### YOU'RE INVITED! SPECIAL MASS FOR VOCATIONS AT ST. PATRICK IN ELKHORN.

The Serra Club of West Omaha invites you to join us for a special Holy Mass for Vocations on Monday, November 16 at 5:30 PM at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 20500 W. Maple Road in Elkhorn. Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Frank Baumert and Rev. Patrick Moser. Attend our brief Meeting & Mixer after Mass and learn how you can engage in helping to build the Church locally. Meet our dedicated Serra members and enjoy light refreshments with us. For questions, contact John Lingo, Serra VP, 402-290-4670 or John@JLingoLaw.com.

### Invitation from Catholic Cemeteries

Catholic Cemeteries are inviting you to come and pray this Advent Season December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 2020 at 6:00 PM in Holy Angels Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery. We know this time of year can be so empty, desolate and sad for many as they experience the Coming of Christmas without their loved one. Come hear the Scriptures and beautiful music as we remember our loved ones who have journeyed forth from this life to be with the God on High. For further information, please contact our cemetery office at (402) 391-3711 or jtardy@catholiccem.com.

## Message from BACK 2 WORK Ministry

Are you needing some extra money for the up-coming holidays? Would some extra work hours be helpful? DILLARDS is recruiting for SEASON HELP for the following areas: Sales Associate, Customer Service and Receiving. If you are interested to learn more contact Dillard's / Gary @ 402-208-7436.

## Are you feeling stress, anxiety or even some depression?

As we continue this journey in uncertain times, we feel a great deal of stress, anxiety and even some depression. From time to time, we all need to call upon clergy and health professionals to listen, pray and talk through our feeling and emotions. Always know that Fr. Dave, Fr. Padraic and myself are here when you need us. To "even more" support our parish family, we want to share with you, Kylie Keisling, a mental health professional who would assist you and your family as needed. We asked Kylie to provide us with some coping ideas and suggestions to reduce our stress. We asked Kylie for her professional insights on several topics and we want to share them in our parish communications. Know that your parish clergy and staff pray for our faith family. God is ALWAYS there when you need HIM.

Blessings.... Deacon Denny | 402-861-4538 | [d.dethlefs@stephen.org](mailto:d.dethlefs@stephen.org)

### Coping with Stress

We are living through stressful times. Thankfully, God made us knowing we would experience stress and gave us the tools for how to cope. We all have built-in stress warning signs that tell us when we need to take a break and reset. Without an intentional release, stress shows itself in destructive ways which can affect our work, home, and relationships. As God tends to each of our needs, we are made to model that intentionality with our self-care. Here are some stress relief techniques to help you thrive in your everyday life.

- ⇒ **Name It:** Acknowledging our stress by name is the first step towards taking action. After naming it, I encourage you to check in with where you carry stress in your body. Understanding where we carry our stress can help us identify and take care of it in the future. Many of us carry stress in our shoulders, as a knot in our stomach, as a headache, or other areas of tension throughout our body.
- ⇒ **Breathe and Pray:** Stress physically manifests itself in our body. When we take short shallow breaths, our brains think we're in danger because we aren't getting the oxygen we need. This triggers our fight, flight, or freeze response. I encourage you to take a prayer breath as a way to release your stress. Spend a moment in prayer bringing God into your stress and ask Him for what you need. Bringing our attention away from our anxious thoughts and focusing on our breathing can reduce our stress response and bring us mental clarity.

These techniques are a way for you to acknowledge and release your stress. Stress can be overwhelming, but God gives us tools for living in the abundance of life He has planned for us.

If you would like to learn more about stress reduction or have other mental health concerns please feel free to reach out to me at [kyliek@kingofkings.org](mailto:kyliek@kingofkings.org).

Kylie Keisling is a licensed Mental Health Counselor and works at The Core in Omaha.



## WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

### Question:

The Bible says that Jesus condemned gambling, but I notice that so many parishes have them at festivals and other events. What's correct?

### Answer:

Although Jesus speaks of our relationship with material wealth and the very human struggle with greed, the gospels do not include any specific instructions related to gambling. At the same time, the Church is very sensitive to the needs of those who might struggle with an addiction to gambling, and pastoral care should always be offered to those who struggle with this reality in their life.

While it is true that many parish or school communities include gambling or games of chance in festivals and fundraisers (e.g. bingo, roulette, ring tossing, dunking booths, etc.), there is nothing inherently wrong these sorts of events, given they are played fairly and within the limits of reason are not morally objectionable. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us: "Games of chance (card games, etc.) or wagers are not in themselves contrary to justice. They become morally unacceptable when they deprive someone of what is necessary to provide for his needs and those of others" (no. 2413).

As in all things, moderation and a sense of healthy limits should be applied to gambling and games of chance. For those who find themselves living with addiction to gambling, help is available in various 12-step and addiction recovery programs.

family and friends the opportunity to honor the remains of the one they have lost with dignity, reverence, and care.

## Vocations Corner

"For we are God's co-workers...." How are you being called to build the kingdom of God as His co-worker? Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life. Contact the Vocation Office at (402) 558-3100 or email: [vocations@archomaha.org](mailto:vocations@archomaha.org).

**Tax Help**  
Est. 1969  
O'Malley Financial Services  
-Tax Preparation -Insurance  
-Estate Planning -Investments  
402-334-6708 11422 Miracle Hills Dr.

**WEST GATE BANK**  
Our interest is you  
Member FDIC  
402-758-8701 • WESTGATE.BANK

**Braman Mortuary & Cremation Services**  
72nd Street Chapel 1702 N. 72nd St. 391-2171  
Southwest Chapel 6505 S. 144th St. 895-3400  
Both Chapels Offering Caring Services at Affordable Costs for Omaha Families

**Patera Landscaping**  
402-706-5679

**Mission Village Animal Clinic**  
KATHERINE KNAKE, DVM  
BETH SOULLIERE, DVM  
894-5550  
16843 "Q" St.

Free Medicare Review & Quotes  
Virtual or In Person  
**UnitedHealthcare**  
CALL KRISTIN EHLERS  
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