

March 13th, 2022

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, 9:00 AM*, 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM

*These Masses will be live-streamed on our Facebook Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/ StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha) and our website (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 2:30 PM
 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. Ben Boyd

Staff Contact Info: stephen.org/staff

Bulletin Deadline:

Submit requests to a.hartwig@stephen.org.





Congratulations Newly Baptized!

Guy Gary Bennett, son of Paul and Allison

Peyton Ella Sullivan, daughter of Robert and Amanda

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

TRANSFORM

While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. - Lk 9:29

Excepts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,1998, 1970 CCD.



Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"As Moses and Elijah were about to part from Him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' But he did not know what he was saying."



Moses and Elijah wouldn't be staying with Jesus on the mountaintop. They were there only to consult with Jesus, as He was preparing to make His own Exodus to Jerusalem and to the painful, humiliating death that awaited Him there. In that moment, Elijah represented all the Prophets who foretold of the coming of the Messiah and of His suffering, death, and resurrection. Moses represented the Law under which Jesus would be condemned and put to death. But they would leave Jesus and the three disciples alone as they journeyed back to the trials and struggles of everyday life.

The people around Jesus wanted Him to change the world. They had hoped that His coming would bring an easier life, and that He would take away all of their pain and suffering. That's why the people brought those who were sick, disabled, those struggling with mental illness, and their worries. They wanted Him to transform their dreary lives. That's why Peter wanted to stay on the top of the mountain, to experience the transforming power of God's grace, as it shone on Jesus. But the reality of the situation was that Jesus and His followers had to go back down the mountain to confront the evil and the drudgery of the world. Even though they had been changed by that moment on the mountain, the world was the same as when they left it. It was going to be up to them to make the change happen. The world and its salvation was going to be put into their hands.

We want the world to be changed too, but we must realize that we are the ones who must make that happen. Jesus wants to use us to be His instruments of forgiveness and compassion in the world today. But first, we must be transformed by His love and grace. In this season of Lent, let us make time to be with the Lord in prayer and worship. Let us make the time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to let go of the darkness of sin in our lives. Now is the time to change the world. Jesus has called us all to make a difference.

"If we stand in the openings of the present moment, with all the length and breadth of our faculties unselfishly adjusted to what it reveals, we are in the best condition to receive what God is always ready to communicate." -T.C. Upham

May God bless you! Father Dave

Welcome New Parishioners!

Ethan & Alyssa Cave Terry & Cindy Diederich Tyler & Michala Gleason Ashley Hammond Josh & Kaitlyn Jansen Devin & Olivia Jensen Jonathan Maturan Marcus & Jessie Odorisio Ryan & Abby Rezac R.J. & Marianne Toledo Chris & Jazli Vacek Gary & Bernice Vogelsberg Jeremy & Jessica Wiggins Yegnon Daniel & Sarah Liassidi

Sacraments

Reconciliation

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

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.

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.

Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 3/1—3/7/2022:

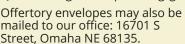
Actual: \$51,098 Budget: \$45,186

\$1,815,833 FYTD Actual: \$1,795,074 FYTD Budget:

St. Stephen the Martyr operates on a Fiscal Year from July 1—June 30

Thank you for your generous giving!

Your financial support is vital to the well-being of our church and school. To make a gift or complete a pledge for 2022, simply scan the QR code or go to stephen.org/give.





"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." (Genesis 15:7)

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, He has also given each of us a home. Whether your home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do you show your gratitude to God for the home He has given you? Do you make a sacrifice of any kind? Do you return any of your finances to God, investing equally in your eternal home just as you invest in your earthly home?

#stewardshipreflection

From the Knights of Columbus

We would like to thank everyone for supporting our recent breakfasts. We look forward to holding these again this fall! The amount for each cause is based on the percentage of meals sold for each month.

Here is the breakdown of the contributions:

October - Food Pantry - \$613 November - Religious ED - \$763 December – Youth Groups - \$651 January – SSM School Teachers - \$591 February – FR Dave's' Intentions - \$586

Thanks and God bless! See you at the Fish Frys!

School News

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

- **Attention New Students** We are accepting applications for the 2022/2023 school year! New students can apply at school.stephen.org/ admissions. We will begin reaching out to applicants this month to begin the enrollment process. Please contact our office with any questions at (402) 896-0754.
- **Grow closer to Christ as a family this Lent** St. Stephen the Martyr Home & School Association's Be The Light committee compiled reflections and activities for Lent in a guide, including several links to online resources. We hope this guide helps your family truly enter into the Lenten season and grow in relationship with the Lord. View the guide at: school.stephen.org/family-lent-activities.
- **Stations of the Cross** Pray the Stations of the Cross with our students & teachers every Friday at 2:30 PM in the Worship Space or via live stream at stephen.org/live-stream.

Religious Education News

- ⇒ **Registration Coming Soon!** Religious Education registration for the 2022-2023 school year will open on Sunday, April 3rd. We are very excited to share that registration will be 100% online. Stay tuned for more information coming in the next few weeks.
- ⇒ **Hiring a Sacrament & Event Assistant** We have an immediate parttime opening for a Sacrament and Event Assistant in the Religious Education Department. This position will assist logistics of Youth Sacraments, summer programs (VBS and Totus Tuus), and RE Events. This person must be a practicing Catholic with strong communication and organization skills. We are looking for a team-player who wants to help children come to know Jesus Christ and His Church. Interested applicants should contact Chelsey Young at c.young@stephen.org or call (402) 861-4512. For more information, please visit stephen.org/careers.
- ⇒ Save the Date for Totus Tuus! It will be June 26th July 1st, 2022. More information coming soon.
- **Volunteers Needed for VBS** We are making plans for VBS at Stephen from June 13-17! Will you consider being a Station Leader? If you are enthusiastic about working with children, patient and kind, Safe Environment Trained, and 19 years or older, we encourage you to volunteer! Sign up at stephen.org/vbs2022

Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **Life Teen (High School)** Sunday, March 6th, 7-9 PM in GPC We've spent the past several weeks learning how we can build healthier relationships in our lives. Now it is time to explore how we can build a healthy relationship with Christ!
- Edge (Middle School) Tuesday, March 9th, 6:30-8 PM in Dining Room – The goal of this Edge Night is for the youth to begin to foster the virtue of fortitude, using Black Widow as an example, so that they can stay constant in their efforts to do the right thing even when it is difficult.
- **Steubenville Youth Conference** You won't want your teen to miss this incredible opportunity on July 15th -17th in Rochester, MN. Visit stephen.org/steubenville for more information and to register.



The Pastoral Council is seeking an engaged parishioner to join the team. In support of Fr. Dave, this Council strives to be consultative

in nature, a medium for communication, and a model of cooperation and collaboration.

Applications are due by Friday, March 18th More info and apply at

stephen.org/support-our-pastor

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Other

Jeffery and Lisa Dougherty Bret and Emily Hollingsworth Mike and Linda Verzal Anonymous x 2 Thank you to these sponsors, thus far, for supporting this year's Martyr Mission celebration that will be held on June 11th.

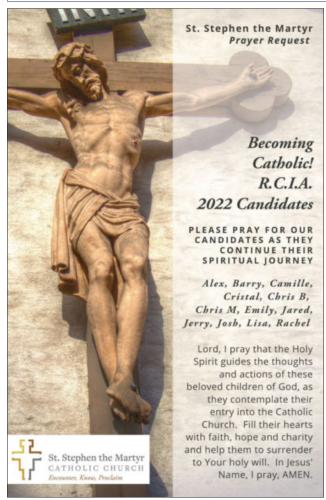
Add your name or company to this list! Make a donation now by scanning this QR Code or contact Catiana Urrutia at 402-861-4541 or c.urrutia@stephen.org.



Will you consider donating an item(s) for our Silent and Live Auctions? Scan the QR code to take a look at some of the items we are looking for! If you have any questions, please contact Catiana.



Visit <u>stephen.org/martyr-mission</u> for more information.







The season of Lent is a time of sacrifice and repentance as we strive to turn our hearts to Jesus. Traditionally, there are three pillars of Lent to help us in our journey closer to the Lord: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. By making sacrifices and practicing these three things, we can deepen our love for Jesus this Lent.

In our Family Activities for Lent email series, we asked the question "What are you giving up for Lent?" and here are some of the responses:

- Giving up: junk food. Prayer: Online PrayMoreRetreat.
- Gave up bread and also deleted Facebook and made a commitment to avoid social media sites, except for LinkedIn.
- For Lent, I am doing some fasting. No food until noon. One day a weekcomplete fast. Giving up all forms of alcoholic beverages. The drinking makes me lose sight of who I am and want to be for others, myself, and Christ.
- In our family, one person is giving up ramen & doing a Lenten Small Group, another is giving up the snooze button & doing a daily rosary, another is giving up their pillow and the littlest one is learning the Hail Mary.

"Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God." Joel 2:12-13

Find the *Family Activities for Lent* email series and more ideas to grow closer to Christ this Lent at <u>stephen.org/lent</u>.

Join the SSM Girl Scouts for Ties & Tiaras: Daddy-Daughter Dance



Saturday, March 26th, from 7-9:30 PM in the SSM Dining Room

\$25 per couple – Bring Dad, Uncle or Grandpa! It will be an evening filled with memories: DJ, photo opportunity and a dessert bar hosted by the 2nd & 3rd Grade SSM Girl Scouts.

Reserve your tickets today! Vemno: @Anna-Lad-1 Please include name of daughter(s) in the memo.

For more information or to order tickets contact, Anna Lad at 702-927-2265 or annalacylad@gmail.com.



SERVERS WANTED! Starting on March 19th, we will return our servers to their full capacity of serving the altar at Mass. That means we need more servers to step up to help! We will have a series of training sessions for new and returning servers. These sessions are open to children in 4th grade through high school. No need to register/RSVP, just come for the time that works for you:

- Tuesday, March 15, 4 5 PM
- Friday, March 18, 4 5 PM

Serving at Mass is a great way for your children to learn about giving back to their community. It also provides a deeper engagement in the Mass! If you have any questions, please reach out to Logan Hepp, l.hepp@stephen.org.

Fish Fry Fridays

Dine In & Carry Out





Come enjoy a delicious meal and fellowship every Friday during Lent.

MENU: Baked Salmon (\$13), Shrimp (\$13), Shrimp and Fish Combo (\$13), Fried Fish (\$12), Mac & Cheese (\$8)

KIDS AGED 5-10: Fried Fish (\$7), Mac & Cheese (\$6), Cheese Pizza (\$6)

KIDS AGED 4 AND UNDER: Free!

- Desserts provided by the Council of Catholic Women (cash only)
- Beer (provided by Upstream) and wine offered for a free-will donation
- · Credit cards accepted
- Includes French fries, coleslaw, and roll

Pineliners fellowship

- Join every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 1 PM for Cards & Games in the GPC. Bring a friend or partner as we play Pitch, Pinochle or Bridge. Don't play cards? How about Mexican Train Dominoes, Tripoley, or bring a favorite game of your own to share with others. Bring a snack to share and an item for the food pantry.
- Mark your calendar for the White Elephant Party on Thursday, April 21st at 6 PM in the Parish Center. Begin the search now for the perfect "white elephant" gift to exchange! Be funny! Be creative! BE THERE! Save the date and watch for further details...

This Men's and Women's group (age 55+) gathers for fun social events, special projects, and support. More information at stephen.org/primetimers. Email questions to Stephens.PrimeTimers@gmail.com

TEACHING DISCERNMENT

A 3-day seminar to prepare individuals

The Teaching of Ignatian Discernment

with Fr. Timothy Gallagher

Thursday, May 19th - Saturday, May 21st

7 AM to 5 PM each day

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church In-person: \$250 per person, includes breakfast and lunch each day plus the content material Virtual: \$75 per person

Register at stephen.org/teaching-discernment

Brought to you by St. Stephen the Martyr and Discerning Hearts Ministries

Register Early Space is Limited



Help us find our next Director of Parish Operations! Saint Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is seeking a Director of Parish Operations.

Saint Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is seeking a Director of Parish Operations. The Director serves as a key member of the pastor's Leadership Team and oversees and directs a broad range of responsibilities to provide the necessary support and infrastructure for the mission of the parish to thrive. This person is responsible for overall leadership and direction of the parish operations team, including staff and volunteers, engaged in administration, development, communications, maintenance, and care of buildings and grounds, and information technology

The ideal candidate is a practicing Catholic with a servant mentality and the ability to engage all parishioners, staff, and those seeking Christ with a spirit of faith, hope, and charity; organized and able to manage and prioritize multiple projects; and has working knowledge of human resources practices, facilities management, development, communications, and information technology. For more information, please visit stephen.org/careers

To apply, please send a cover letter stating your interest and qualifications for the position, a current resume, and 2 or 3 references including names and contact information to Father David Belt at d.belt@stephen.org.



MARCH Month of St. Joseph

ROSARY DEVOTION—MARCH 19TH
The church traditionally dedicates the
Month of March to the special
veneration of Saint Joseph, whose Feast
Day is March 19. Come join the Knights
of Columbus with a Rosary devotion

Day is March 19. Come join the Knights of Columbus with a Rosary devotion before the 8:15 AM Mass in the Worship Space on March 19

Space on March 19.



KOC Prayer Hour—March 29th

To heighten your Lenten Journey come join us to help celebrate *Knights of Columbus Founder's Day* with a prayer hour on Tuesday March 29, 2022 at 7 PM in the Worship Space.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 2022

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17-4:1 or

3:20-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38 Monday:

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt

21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13,

16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 [8a]/1 Cor 10:1-6,

10-12/Lk 13:1-9

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 2022

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins

Thursday: St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day

St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Friday:

Saturday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

While we have to be cognizant of our societal and personal responsibilities in this world, we can never lose sight of where our true citizenship lies heaven. When we become too immersed in earthly things and too preoccupied with our temporal responsibilities, we can actually become numb to our faith. Becoming ambivalent about our faith, our belief in Jesus Christ and the promises of heaven become more a source of agitation rather than a source of promise and hope. It is easy to become an enemy of Christ without even knowing it is happening. God has given us a very clear destiny. We are definitely not meant to conform ourselves to this world but to the transfiguration and glorification of our bodies to come. It is here where we can see clearly not only who God is but who we are. The way many conduct the daily business of their lives suggests that such a promise or hope is of little importance. What does the way you live your daily life say about you?

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 at stephen.org/prayerline or call Beth Wetgen at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 12

8:15 am † Mick Beacom (BE) 5:00 pm † Stephen Hatz **(**DB)

Sunday, March 13

7:30 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB) 9:00 am † Marie Sempek (DB)

10:30 am † Larry Schlecht (BB) 6:00 pm SI Sara Baumert (BB)

Monday, March 14

6:30 am † Bill Wills BB) 8:15 am SI Isabel Souba (BB)

Tuesday, March 15

6:30 am SI Molly Koehler (DB) 8:15 am † Byron Barber (BB)

Wednesday, March 16 6:30 am SI Jason D. (DB) 8:15 am † Warren Wills (BB)

Thursday, March 17

6:30 am † Gladys Mandel (DB) 8:15 am † Judy Klein (DB)

Friday, March 18

6:30 am † Jerome, Sally & Cy Promes (DB)

8:15 am † loe Tiesi (BB)

Saturday, March 19

8:15 am † Bill Wills (BB) 5:00 pm † Erin Doll (DB)

Sunday, March 20

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (BB) 9:00 am † Harold & Dorothe Harold & Dorothea Johns (BB) 10:30 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB) 6:00 pm SI Jumoke Omojola (DH)

SI = Special Intention t = Repose of the Soul DB=Fr.Dave Belt; BB=Fr.Ben Boyd; DH=Fr.Dennis Hanneman;

BE=Fr.Bob English

Pease note: Priest schedule subject to changes

*If you'd like to reserve a Mass Intention, please contact Melissa in the parish office at m.kane@stephen.org or 402-896-9675.



Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Cynthia Hornback Jeff Hatfield Juli Peatrowsky

Kenny Hupka, son of Anne & Mike

Deceased souls of our parish-family

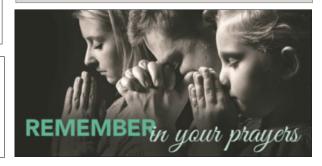
Linda DeHart

Valentina Quintana, daughter of Francisco &

Norma

Robert Kuchta

Mark Krzemien, brother of Siri Letak and Leann



News from the Community:

SUMMER CAMP OPENINGS NOW for Young Men 6th to 9th grades full of Fun, Leadership, and Catholic Faith! Join the adventure at 2022 V2 Camp presented by Virtus et Veritas Ministries. Join us for a week: July 17th-23rd OR July 24th-30th. Early bird pricing through April 3rd. Scholarships available! Leadership opportunities for young men 10th to 12th grades. Volunteer opportunities for adults. Visit www.v2ministries.org for more info and register NOW!



HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS AND SEMINARIANS MONDAY, MARCH 21ST AT ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE IN OMAHA

The Serra Club of West Omaha invites all the faithful to join us for a special Holy Hour for Priests and Seminarians on Monday, March 21, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 11802 Pacific Street in Omaha. Join us in the Narthex at 6:00 PM for a Welcome Reception and at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary for the Holy Hour. The Presider will be Father Frank Baumert, Sr. Associate Pastor of St. Thomas More and St. Joan of Arc, and Chaplain of the Serra Club of West Omaha. During the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, together we will pray a Rosary for Priests and Seminarians, followed by the Litany for Priests. We will spend time in silent adoration as we pray for all our Priests and Seminarians who are part of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

As our Archdiocese faces a shortage of priests amid a challenging time for our Catholic Church and our culture at-large, now more than ever, we need to support our Priests and Seminarians with fervent and ongoing prayer. Please show your support and invite your family, children, youth, friends, and neighbors to join us. Let's fill the church! For questions, contact us at westomaha@serrainternational.org. All are welcome!

LENTEN HOLY HOUR - RESPECT LIFE

All families are invited to a Holy Hour every Sunday during Lent from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Church. This hour will include exposition, prayers, and rosary. Please join us on Sunday March 6 for our first Holy Hour to pray for Respect Life. Questions call Lindsay Harm at 402-208-3812.

From our Back to Work Ministry:

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR—LAW FIRM Growing, dynamic West Omaha law firm is seeking an Office Administrator! Ideal candidate is organized, detail-oriented, proficient in Microsoft Office (365, Word, Excel, Outlook), and has strong communication skills. Bookkeeping background preferred, but not required. Part-time or full-time hours considered. Hourly rate or salary commensurate with experience. Please send resume

to: andy@burnettwilsonlaw.com

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR—SPIRIT CATHOLIC **RADIO**

We are praying an individual with outstanding communication skills, a strong work ethic, and a deep love for the Catholic faith can join our team as a Community Engagement Coordinator. This position is full-time and based in our Ómaha studios.

Visit <u>spiritcatholicradio.com/careers</u> for job details and requirements.



SPECIAL ROMAN FORUM ST PATRICK MEETING ON WED MARCH 16, 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Come visit the next Roman Forum Toastmasters group for an interesting and exciting special St Patrick day celebration. For information please call Tom Johnson at 402-895-3974.

A LENTEN JOURNEY: EXPLORE ANTI-RACISM AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE AT COLLEGE OF ST. MARY

On Wednesday, March 23rd, at 7 PM, Fr. Patrick Saint-Jean will be our guest. This is a hybrid event being held in person at the College of St. Mary's in Omaha, NE and live streamed via Zoom. Pre-registration is required. This event is free and open to the public. Register online at CSM.edu/events or contact Dr. Andrea Stapleton at astapleton@csm.edu

About the Book: Patrick Saint-Jean has taken to heart Ignatius of Loyola's words regarding adaptation of the four-week Spiritual Exercises—the ultimate goal of which is to deepen one's relationship with God—to one's own circumstances. He begins his book by asking, "Why would this book be helpful to anyone desiring to reflect and pray about racial justice?" He responds by quoting Ibram X. Kendi in How To Be an Antiracist: "Being antiracist requires persistent self-awareness, constant selfcriticism, and regular self-examination." The structure of Saint-Jean's book encourages the pray-er to read, reflect, journal and then to act each day.

Not yet a Parishioner?

Register on our website <u>stephen.org</u>. Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the footer. Or call Adam at 402-861-4507 or email him at a.ybarra@stephen.org to learn more about how we can help you in your faith journey!



An IPF Morning of Reflection

St. Joseph: Father of the Interior Life



8:15 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Presentation, Prayer and Reflection 9:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m. Conclusion

For more information call Tina at 402-280-3901. ww.priestlyformation.org





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