



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

August 20, 2023

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
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 AM
to 6 PM on Saturday-Sunday. The Adoration Chapel
is open 24/7; door access code: 9675*

Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hours

Mondays from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

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. Zach Tucker

Staff Contact Info: stephen.org/staff

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Leslie at l.schulte@stephen.org.



PARISH CENSUS

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT!

Complete the Parish Census today!

Your participation will help us to:



keep you up to date on parish
happenings



keep track of your sacraments



connect you with opportunities
& better serve you

Scan the code to complete
the census today!

Questions? Contact Catiana Urrutia
402-861-4541/c.urrutia@stephen.org



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Then Jesus said to her in
reply, "O woman, great is
your faith! Let it be done
for you as you wish."
And the woman's daughter
was healed from that hour.
- Mt 15:28

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

68/18

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

Jesus replied, "It is not right to take the food of
the children and throw it to the dogs." She said,
"Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps
that fall from the table of their masters." Then
Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is
your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."



According to Jewish law, the conversation that Jesus
is having with the Canaanite woman should not be
happening. Because this person is a foreigner
(Canaanites were the people that the Israelites defeated when they entered
the Promised Land) and a woman, Jesus should be ignoring her. Yet in this
interaction between the Master and this woman in need, Jesus finds that
this "foreigner" is actually a person of faith. And because of her faith, Jesus
heals the woman's daughter. In this brief moment, the one who was
considered an outsider was welcomed by Jesus into His life and into His
family of believers.

How often do we make judgments about people based on where they are
from, or on the color of their skin, or on their behavior or values? How
willing are we to welcome people into our lives and into our parish
community? After all, the word "catholic" means "universal" and "inclusive."
If we call ourselves "Catholic," that means that there must be a desire to
open ourselves and our parish to welcome all of God's people. When we
live as Catholics, we follow the example of acceptance, forgiveness, and
inclusion that Jesus gave us in His ministry here on earth. How well have we
done this in the past? What are the obstacles in our lives and in our family
of faith that must be removed in order for us to be truly Catholic?

When I was in the seminary, I was introduced to a hymn that we sang once
a week at evening prayer. It is entitled, "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy."
The words of the first verse have always been a powerful message for me:

**"There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood."**

*God Bless you,
Father Dave*



Congratulations Newly Baptized!

Karsyn Louise Schueth, daughter of Cord and Kyra
Cameron Dean Gilsdorf, son of Jeffery and Kelli
Maisyn Patricia Martin, daughter of Justin and Michaela

16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | 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/sacraments.

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 Fr. Zach Tucker at (402) 896-9675 ext. 2

Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.
Parish office phone number: (402) 896-9675

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 8/8-8/14/2023:

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Actual: | \$42,530 |
| Budget: | \$47,414 |
| FYTD Actual: | \$282,448 |
| FYTD Budget: | \$291,077 |

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 simply scan the QR code or go to stephen.org/give. Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

What does God have planned?

"Woman, you have great faith." It takes faith to hear God's call in our lives. And His call takes us on unexpected paths of deeper trust and love. Is God calling you to life as sister, brother, deacon or priest? Contact Fr. Scott Schilmoeller, Vocations Director, at (402) 558-3100 or email: vocations@archomaha.org.

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." Romans 11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has a part in God's salvation plan.

#StewardshipReflection

School News

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

- ⇒ **Spirit Wear Fundraiser:** Our 8th grade students, who will travel to Washington DC next spring, are hosting a spirit wear fundraiser! Stock up on some new gear to show your St. Stephen spirit! Spirit Wear can be worn on Martyr Mondays and other designated spirit days. The order deadline is September 1st. Get more info and order online at school.stephen.org/spirit-wear.
- ⇒ **Fasting Wednesdays:** Throughout the school year, a group of parents and family members commit to fasting and praying for our school on Wednesdays. Individuals are encouraged to fast in the form that works best for them. For example, Food fasting (2 smaller meals, 1 regular meal), no eating between meals, fasting from social media, music, etc. If you are interested, you can join the Flocknote Fasting group at stephen.flocknote.com/Fasting. You'll receive a weekly text on Wednesday mornings as a reminder. Questions? Contact Jamie Harr at jamieharr@fastmail.com.
- ⇒ **Teacher Wish List:** Help our teachers have a great start to their school year by donating an item from their wish list! Your support of our teachers and school are greatly appreciated! View the lists here: school.stephen.org/teacher-wish-lists.
- ⇒ **We still have room for your student!** We still have space in most classes for the 23-24 school year, including our preschool, Pre-K and Kindergarten classes! Request a tour or apply at school.stephen.org/admissions.

Religious Education News

- ⇒ **RE Parent/Student Welcome!** All RE Parents & students will meet in the church worship space at the beginning of all RE classes August 29/30th! This is the SECOND week of classes. Join us for a Welcome Blessing from Father and important information from our DRE about the RE school year. After the welcome in the church, parents will accompany students to their classrooms to meet the catechists. Parents are then invited to the GPC for refreshments and fellowship while their children complete their class time. NOTE: This replaces the "Parent Meeting" which was held in years past during the first week of RE classes! The first night of all classes on August 22/23 will be drop off only. We look forward to seeing you!
- ⇒ **Classes need catechists!** If you are looking for a way to serve the children of your Church, please prayerfully consider volunteering to teach an after-school Religious Education class! We supply everything you need to present PREPARED LESSONS with K-8th grade students for one hour a week on Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon/evening. Call 402-896-5683 for more information! The following classes are still in need of Catechists:
 - ⇒ Tuesday at 5:30pm: 7th Grade
 - ⇒ Wednesday at 4:00pm: 5th Grade
 - ⇒ Wednesday at 5:30pm: Kindergarten, 3rd Grade, or 6th Grade
- ⇒ **Religious Education 2023-2024 Registration: Classes start August 22/23!** We offer classes for students in grades K-8 on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We also offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for our PreK children on Tuesday evenings. If you have not registered your child/children for classes yet, it is not too late. Register online at stephen.org/re-registration or call our office if you have any questions at 402-896-5683. Please include a second time choice in the "Note" section on the registration, since many classes are full.

Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **September Events for Middle Schoolers:** Join us at "Better Together Tuesdays" on September 5th and 19th at St. Stephen the Martyr. Find more information at stephen.org/youth-ministry.
- ⇒ **Summer Events for High Schoolers:** Join us Wednesday, August 30th from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space for prayer and praise. Go to stephen.org/youth-ministry for future Witness Wednesday dates.

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock." - Rev 3:20

Jesus Christ invites each of us into a more perfect union with Him. All we must do is **allow** His grace to transform us.



- Are you seeking full communion with the Catholic Church?
- Are you a baptized Catholic needing First Communion or Confirmation?
- Do you have loved ones falling into any of these descriptions?

The Becoming Catholic! Program at St. Stephen the Martyr will help you **deepen** your **relationship** with Jesus Christ through a more intimate knowledge of **His Church** and **Holy Scripture**.

For more information, please contact Scott and Julie Tylski at tylskjsj@cox.net, (402) 861-2209; or Adam Ybarra at a.ybarra@stephen.org, (402) 861-4507. Are **you** ready to open the door?



ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



Eucharistic Adoration

Weekly Adoration

Mondays, 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

Pray THE ROSARY



First Saturday Devotions

Join the Knights of Columbus on September 2nd for First Saturday Devotions to Mother Mary. We will pray the Rosary prior to the 8:15 AM Mass in the Worship Space.



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

Adult Faith Formation Bible & Book Studies

Seeking Truth Bible Study at St. Stephen the Martyr: Join us Tuesday mornings to study the Gospel of John. We will meet from 9:15 to 10:45 AM starting September 5th—March 2024 in the Parish Center. Class materials are free and will be handed out at the first class. We will watch presentations from Sharon Doran's Seeking Truth Bible Study and discuss group questions together. Please register by emailing Diane Burton Burdj561@gmail.com so we can prepare materials.

Scripture Study on the Gospel of John: Beginning October 4th & 5th through May 15th & 16, 2024 in the Parish Center, Deacon Marty Warwick will lead participants through a study of the Gospel of John on either Wednesdays from 9-11 AM or Thursdays 6:30-9 PM. More information to come.

Women's Bible Study – 2nd Saturday Mornings

Join other women of St. Stephen the Martyr parish once per month as we journey together through, "Psalms An Invitation to Prayer" & "Psalms II Praying With Jesus" both by Kevin Perrotta. The group meets in the Parish Center on the 2nd Saturday of the Month from 8 – 10 AM, beginning September 9th. All materials, including books, are provided. To register & reserve your book call Janice Dethlefs at 402-651-0153.

Friday Faith & Fellowship: This group follows the SSM school calendar and meets on Fridays in the Parish Center from 9:30—11 AM beginning in September. This fall the group will do a 6-week study from formed.org called "Lectio: Philippians". They will then move into a 4-week study during Advent called "An Advent Retreat with Mary" by Dr. Brant Pitre. In January, they will begin a study called "Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life" from Ascension Press. All materials are provided. Join at any time!

Beloved Women's Group: Beloved is a faith & fellowship group for women of all ages and meets weekly during the school year. More information coming soon.

Friday Men's Group: Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Group meets Friday mornings from 6-7 AM beginning in September. Through shared experience and small group discussion, we build a brotherhood strengthening us in our mission as disciples.

Look for many more opportunities to encounter Christ through our study groups, bible studies and faith-sharing groups coming soon!



CCW
Council of Catholic Women

Join the Council of Catholic Women

This Women's Council supports, empowers, and educates Catholic Women through spirituality, leadership, and service. Meets the first Tuesday of every month September—May from 7-8 p.m. in the Parish Center. Also, enjoy Bunco nights on the second Thursday of every month from 7-9 p.m. in the Parish Center (\$10 entry at the door with cash prizes).

PrimeTimers Upcoming Events



CARDS & GAMES: Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 1 PM in the Parish Center: Everyone is welcome! Bring your favorite board game or join a group for pitch, pinochle, bridge, dominos, or tripoli. Bring a snack to share, an item for the St. Stephen food pantry & a friend or partner. Look for more PrimeTimers events coming soon! Sign up for our emails at stephen.org/primetimers.

Thank you for your donations to our Food Pantry!



Thank you for all the donations and funds made at the Knights of Columbus Monthly GPC Pantry Curbside Drop off! Your generosity has provided 980 Lbs. of food to the Juan Diego Center since 7/23; our pantry re-opened on 8/2/23, and so far, 9 families - a total of 62 individuals, have been provided food and household necessities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Word is out in the community and request are coming in daily. **While we are in need of food items, the pantry is especially low on household and hygiene products such as laundry detergent, deodorant & bar soap.** We love seeing the surprise drop offs at the Parish Center!

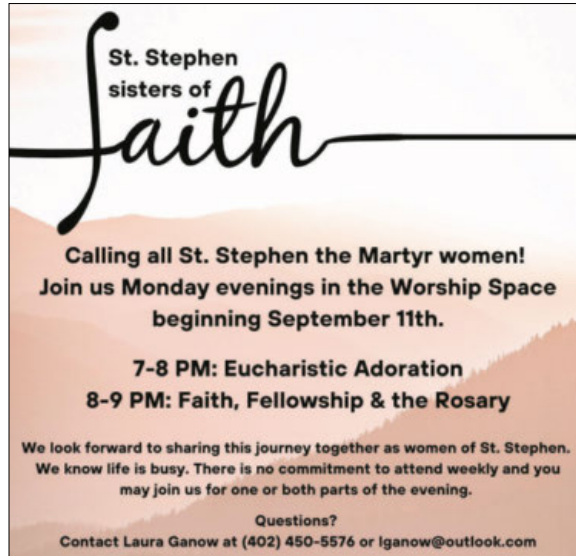
"The generous will themselves be blessed for they share their food with the poor" —Proverbs 22:9.



Altar Server Training Aug. 26

We will hold training for any youth interested in being an Altar Server at St. Stephen the Martyr on Saturday, August 26th, from 9:00am to 10:00am in the St. Stephen the Martyr Worship Space. Current Altar Servers are also welcome to join and receive a refresher course!

Currently a server? Scan the QR code to fill out a form and our Liturgy Coordinator will follow up with you about upcoming opportunities to serve.



Save the Date: Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation with Q&A September 20th, 7-8 PM, Parish Center

Hosted by St. Stephen the Martyr Respect Life Ministry



Join us September 20th as Sister Jeanne Christensen, RSM, with the Sisters of Mercy, presents a riveting presentation and discussion on Human Trafficking right here in Omaha. Sister Jeanne is engaged with education and advocacy in this evil industry and will provide tips, awareness and guidance on how we can pray and support the cause that impacts our own community. Invite a friend to join you! Snacks will be provided and there will be a free will donation collection. We hope to see you there!

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3



Question: What is the meaning of the letters that professed religious have after their names?

Answer: The Catholic Church includes hundreds of religious communities. The priests, religious brothers, religious sisters, and nuns of these communities (which are often referred to as "religious orders") are committed to particular spiritual traditions and often to a particular charism (such as teaching, healthcare, social work, or pastoral care).

To help identify a person as a member of a particular religious community, the custom developed of including post-nominal letters that provide a sort of shorthand for the name of the community that the priest, brother, sister or nun is part of. So, for example OSB after a person's name would indicate that they are a member of the Order of St. Benedict (the Benedictines), just as SJ would indicate that a priest or brother is a member of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) or RSM would show that a woman is a Sister of Mercy.

Other common examples include:

DC = Daughters of Charity

FSC = The Brothers of the Christian Schools/Christian Brothers

OCist = The Order of Cistercians

OCD = Order of Discalced Carmelites

OFM = The Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscans)

OFM Cap = The Capuchin Franciscans

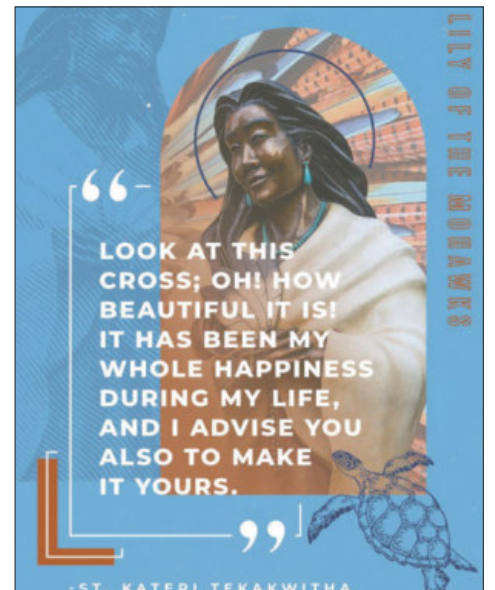
OP = The Order of Preachers

(Dominicans)

OSF=Franciscan Sisters

SC = Sisters of Charity

©LPi



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

All who keep the sabbath free from profanation
and hold to my covenant,
them I will bring to my holy mountain
and make joyful in my house of prayer (Is 56:6-7)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

For God delivered all to disobedience,
that he might have mercy upon all. (Rom 11:32)

Gospel:

Then Jesus said to her in reply,
"O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15:28)

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Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on
English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"O woman, great is your faith!" The Canaanite woman stood firm in her belief that God would answer her — even when those closest to him tried to send her away, and even when Christ himself challenged her. She never wavered.

Observances for the week of August 20, 2023

- Sunday:** 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Pius X, Pope
Tuesday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin
Thursday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Friday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Next Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Join our Parish Family!

Welcome visitors and newcomers! If you would like to register as a parishioner, please visit stephen.org. Click on "Become a Parishioner" in the footer of our website.

Contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or a.ybarra@stephen.org with any questions and to chat about ways we can help you grow closer to Christ!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 19

8:15 am † Patty Greving (ZT)
5:00 pm SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)

Sunday, August 20

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (DB)
9:00 am † Jerry Goldsberry (ZT)
10:30 am † Jean Heidbrink (ZT)
6:00 pm † Josephine Caliendo (DH)

Monday, August 21

6:30 am † Arlene Anstett (ZT)
8:15 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (ZT)

Tuesday, August 22

6:30 am † Lyle Samuelson (ZT)
8:15 am † Mike Hupka (ZT)

Wednesday, August 23

6:30 am † Ed Mathine (ZT)
8:15 am † Dave Ryan (DB)

Thursday, August 24

6:30 am † David Lange (DB)
8:15 am † Bob Mathine (DB)

Friday, August 25

6:30 am † Arlene Anstett (ZT)
8:15 am SI SSM Students, Teachers & Staff (DB)

Saturday, August 26

8:15 am † Michael Wais (DB)
5:00 pm † Ricardo Salvador Romero (ZT)

Sunday, August 27

7:30 am † Ron Ingram (ZT)
9:00 am † Tina Szalewski (ZT)
10:30 am SI St. Stephen parishioners (DB)
6:00 pm † Beth Devitt (DB)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker;

DH = Fr. Denny Hanneman

Please note: Priest schedule subject to change

*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.*



Pray For...

Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Chuck Skoumal, husband of Jane

Kim Wells

Dan Liles, husband of Lori, father of Cash and Jerzy

John Secora, husband of Barb, father of Andy, Jeff,
Joel, Trevor, and Mike

Gene Zywiec, Husband of Dee, father of Sherri

Ryan Huebner, son of Cheryl & Marty

Matt Kelly, son of Billie Watsabaugh

Ann Rush, wife of Jim, mother of Amy, Julie & Jason

Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim

How can we pray for YOU?

You are not alone! St. Stephen 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 at stephen.org/prayer-line or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

News from the Community

CHRISTIANS ENCOUNTER CHRIST FALL RETREATS



Experience a Christians Encounter Christ (CEC) FALL 2023 weekend – Men's, OCT 6-8 or Women's, OCT 13-15. A life-changing weekend, talks, new friends, conversation, reflection, worship, and a faith-filled community. Catholic based yet open to all faiths. Held at Columban Father's Retreat Center, Bellevue, NE. Cost, \$100 for food, lodging & materials. Pre-registration required. You owe it to yourself! More information at www.cecomaha.org.

SEEKING TRUTH BIBLE STUDY AT ST. LEOS THIS FALL



All are invited to the city-wide Seeking Truth Catholic Bible Study class with Deacon Steve and Sharon Doran. Join us for this special '15th Anniversary Year' as we study several books from the 'Apostles and Prophets.' This 15-week course begins on September 14th. Live classes meet on Thursdays at 1 P.M. and 7 P.M. at St. Leo's Church. Go to SeekingTRUTH.net for more information and to register.

NEW SHOW HOSTED BY PASTOR OF ST. CHARLES BORROMEO, FR. JEFF LOSEKE & DAMIAN MONTEZ ON SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO



Tune into Spirit Catholic Radio to hear the brand new show, Cat in the Cradle! Many of us who grew up cradle Catholics need a refresher course from time to time in regards to the teachings of our Faith, why we believe what we believe, and just how much God really loves us. Join Damian Montez and Fr. Jeffrey Loseke as they dive into everyday Catholic topics. Heard every Wednesday, with replay of the episode each Sunday, both at 11 a.m. For more information go to spiritcatholicradio.com/new-programs-2/.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS IN INDIANAPOLIS



Fr. Owen Korte, a priest of the Archdiocese, is organizing a bus trip to attend the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis July 16-22nd, 2024. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience! It's part retreat, part rally, part party, part big church experience, part faith formation. We will arrive at the National Eucharistic Congress on the 17th in time for the 6 PM Opening Event and leave July 21st at 2 PM. The cost of six nights of lodging (including breakfast) and transportation is \$799 per person based on double occupancy. We will stay two nights on the road to make it in time for the Congress. The bus will pick up and drop off in Hartington and Omaha. Registration at the Congress is \$200 per person with the group discount. For more information on the particulars of the trip or to register, contact Fr. Owen Korte at 402-719-4134 or owkorte@archomaha.org. For more information on the congress itself and to receive weekly emails, visit eucharisticcongress.org.

West Omaha Family of Catholic Parishes

Immaculate Conception

13943 Dowd Drive | Boys Town, Nebraska | (531) 355-1030

Mass Times

Sun: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Daily: 11:40 a.m.

Confession

Tue and Thu: 11 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Stephen the Martyr

16701 S St, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675

Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Confession

Tue: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Sat: 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.

or by appointment

St. Vincent de Paul

14330 Eagle Run Dr, Omaha, NE 68164 | (402) 496-7988

Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Confession

Sat: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.; Sun: 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.

anytime by appointment

St. Wenceslaus

15353 Pacific St. Omaha, NE 68154 | (402) 330-0305

Mass Times

Mon - Thu: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Fri: 6:45 a.m., 8:30 a.m.

Sat: 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sun: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon and 5:30 p.m.

Confession

Mon - Thu: 5 PM until line ends

Sat: 9 AM until line ends; 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

anytime by appointment

Register Today For the 3rd Annual...



Wednesday,
September
13th



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