



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

November 5, 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 are live-streamed on our Facebook
page ([https://www.facebook.com/
StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha](https://www.facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha)) and our website.

Private Prayer

Daily Mass Chapel and Worship Space are open
6 AM-9 PM Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM-6:30 PM
Saturday & 6:30 AM-7:30 PM Sunday. Church doors
are locked during school Mass from 8:20-9:15 AM
on Tues/Wed/Fri. The Adoration Chapel is available
24/7 via 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.



31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

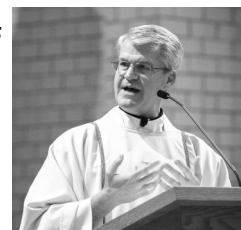
"As for you, do not be called
'Rabbi.' You have but one
teacher, and you are all
brothers. Call no one on earth
your father; you have but one
Father in heaven. Do not be
called 'Master'; you have but
one master, the Christ. The
greatest among you must be
your servant." - Mt 23:8-11

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

©LPH

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"My brothers and sisters, we believe that all the ties of friendship and affection which knit us as one throughout our lives do not unravel with death. Confident that God always remembers the good we have done and forgives our sins, let us pray..."



These comforting words, taken from the *Order of Christian Funerals*, are spoken at the beginning of the Church's Vigil Service for the Deceased. It speaks of the reality that we celebrate in the Funeral rites of the Church. We believe that, even after death, we are still bound together with those who have gone before us into eternal life. We are supported by their prayers, as they are supported by ours. As we face the stark reality of death, the Church confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, by His death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death. When a person dies, we mourn our loss, but we also celebrate and give thanks to God for the gift of a life which has been returned to the Father.

In this month of November, we remember all those who have gone before us in death, especially our family members, friends, and members of our parish family. In a special way, we remember those who have died in the past year. This month of remembrance gives us a chance to recognize that we have been touched by the love of many people, and we give thanks for those who are now in heaven, preparing a place for us.

As we gather for the celebration of the Eucharist, let us be especially mindful that we are united in prayer and in love with the saints and all who have gone before us in death. The Eucharist is the foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and it is there, in the kingdom of God, that we will all be reunited one day with those whom we loved in this life.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

*God bless you,
Father Dave*



Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

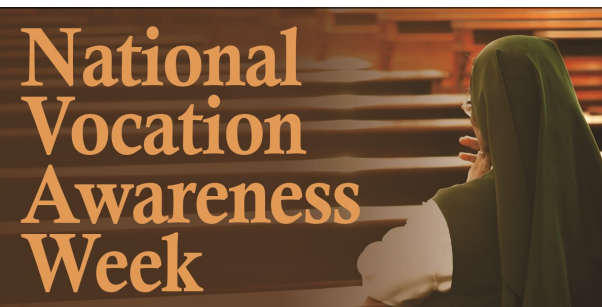
Callum Cort Hoban,
son of Brandon & Hope
Elijah Anthony Elman,
son of Taylor & Brenna



Congratulations!

Megan Manly and Justin Syring

*Our faith community wishes
you many blessings!*



National Vocation Awareness Week is an annual week-long celebration dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. Please pray for many people to answer God's call.

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Amen.

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 10/24-10/30/23:

Actual:	\$57,800
Budget:	\$44,077
FYTD Actual:	\$804,611
FYTD Budget:	\$790,928

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.



Help us "lick family violence"!

Second Collection for Safe Homes at all Masses on November 11th & 12th



Safe Homes, a ministry of the Notre Dame Sisters, serves local women and children in the Omaha Metro area who have broken free of the domestic violence cycle. Tootsie Pops will be distributed after Mass to show our gratitude to help us "Lick Family Violence". Thank you for your generosity.

IN MEMORIAM

Book of Remembrance

Remember your loved ones this November

The month of November is the traditional month in our Liturgical Year to remember the faithful departed in a special way. During the month of November, a Book of Remembrance will be placed on the welcome table in the Gathering Space. We invite parishioners to inscribe the names of their loved ones in the Book of Remembrance as a reminder to us of the importance of our prayers for these Holy Souls throughout the year.

Religious Education

Family Mass

November 14 or 15

5:30 PM

Pizza & Potluck Reception

Following Mass in Dining Room

Please check off your family name at the attendance table in the Gathering Space before entering for Mass.

Potluck items may be dropped off in the Dining Room before Mass.

Scan this QR code to bring a side dish, dessert and sign up for clean-up duty



School News

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

- ⇒ **Veteran's Day Assembly on November 10th:** Our Veteran's Day Assembly will be Nov. 10th at 9 AM in the gym. We would like to invite all veterans in our school family to attend. This includes parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc. If you, or someone from your family, plans to attend and would like to be honored at the assembly, please scan the QR code and complete the form. Thank you for your service!
- ⇒ **School Reconciliation:** 3rd-8th grade students will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week on either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon. Thank you for continuing to pray for the young souls in our care at St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School.



Religious Education News

- ⇒ **Religious Education Family Mass:** All RE students are expected to meet at 5:30 PM in the Worship Space with a parent/family for Mass on Nov. 14th or 15th. Families are invited to stay for a pizza party following Mass! Please RSVP in the RE Family Connection emailed Sunday.
- ⇒ **Religious Education Volunteers Needed:** Due to some changes in schedules, we need a few more volunteers. Please contact Eileen at e.smith@stephen.org if you can volunteer. Classes are one hour long, and all materials and lesson plans are provided. We need assistance in the following classes: 2nd Grade Wednesday at 5:30 PM and 1st grade Wednesday at 4 PM (assist as a co-catechist).

Youth Ministry News

- ⇒ **Witness Wednesdays for High Schoolers:** Join us this Wednesday night for Testimony Night. Hear from a witness of the faith to learn how to align your life with God's will. 8—9:30 PM at St. Wenceslaus.
- ⇒ **Better Together Tuesdays:** Our Middle School Youth Ministry programming is on pause until we hire our new youth minister.

Safe Environment Certification

Thursday, November 9

6:30 - 8:30 PM

St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Center

Training is free of charge, but registration is required.
Register online at: omaha.cmgconnect.org
Questions? Contact Melissa Kane at m.kane@stephen.org or at (402) 896-9675.



Angel Tree Project

Nov. 4th - Dec. 3rd



Hosted By: St. Stephen the Martyr Social Justice Ministry

This holiday season, help us provide gifts for the elderly served by the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging (ENOA).

There are Three Ways to Participate:

1. **Sign up to "adopt" a specific person(s).** Our goal is to adopt 100 individuals. Sign-up sheets & wish lists will be available in the Gathering Space after all Masses on Saturday, November 4th, and Sunday, November 5th. Wish lists contain up to three items. Wrapped/tagged gifts can be returned under the tree in the Gathering Space through December 3rd.
2. **Take an ornament from one of the trees** and return the item(s) under the trees. These items should not be wrapped. ENOA will give them to clients as needed.
3. **Give Stamps, Gift Cards, Cash/Checks:** You can donate books of stamps, \$10 or \$25 gift cards (Walmart or Target), cash or checks by placing them in the wooden drop box labeled "Angel Tree Project" in the Gathering Space. Checks should be made out to St. Stephen the Martyr Church. To give online, visit stephen.org/angel-tree-project.

Questions? Visit stephen.org/angel-tree-project or contact or Teresa Ziska at 402-960-8618.

A Community *for All*

Thank you to everyone for completing and submitting your Commitment Card!

For those who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a final letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. We invite all faithful parishioners to complete a card as our parish goal is 100% participation!



You may return your card by:

- mailing it to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included with the letter.
- bringing it to Mass on Sunday.
- scanning the QR code below to complete it electronically

All cards need to be returned to the parish by Sunday, November 26th.

As a friendly reminder, electronic giving is an easy, safe and secure way to support St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church. To set up a recurring weekly or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit our website and follow the instructions. We are grateful for your support!



Thank you for supporting the Knights of Columbus Golf Outing!

Our Knights of Columbus Council and a number of wives supported a 9-hole golf outing on Sept. 10th. A check of **\$8,840** was presented to the Holy Family Ranch at the October 10th Knights meeting.

Their mission is: "To provide a Catholic camp in the Omaha Archdiocese where youth and families can experience beauty, deepen relationships, and grow in holiness."

For more information, visit HolyFamilyRanch.org. Thank you for your support and participation.

Knights of Columbus Seeking Honor Guard Donations



Our own 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Assembly 3860 here at St. Stephen the Martyr is working to form an Honor Guard. As part of those efforts, we are asking any parishioners who may still have swords and scabbards from past Honor Guards, to consider donating these to our Assembly so that they can be re-purposed for their intended use. In addition, the ceremonial regalia has been updated to a more modern look. We will also accept donations of the previous regalia so that it can be properly and respectfully disposed of. If you have any of these items, please contact our Faithful Navigator Jeff Winkelbauer at 402-214-2385 or contact any Knight for assistance.



VETERANS DAY

WE HONOR YOUR SACRIFICE

Veterans Day is November 11

Veterans Day honors America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

The Fourth Degree Assembly 3860 of the Knights of Columbus would like to acknowledge **all veterans** who are members of our parish families for their military service, now or in the past.

Thank you to all military veterans for your service.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: What does it mean to discern a vocation?

Answer: The word vocation comes from the Latin word vocare, meaning "to call." A vocation is a calling or invitation from God to serve in a particular way. For Catholics, that calling might be as a priest, sister, or married person. Vocation is the way we respond to the invitation to share in God's grace and witness to God's love in the world.

Discerning a vocation is the process in which we pray for God's guidance. We listen for God's message that is often quiet and unassuming in a world filled with noise and distractions. We look at our gifts and talents, seek the advice of others, examine our motives, and listen to see what God is asking of us. The goal of discernment is to follow what the Lord wills, not what we think is the best idea. Many men enter a seminary to discern if that is their vocation, only to discover that their calling is to marriage. Others have resisted the idea for long periods of time, until finally they could resist no more. Some great saints have described that dilemma. Vocation is a human process of divine origin, and each of us must strive constantly to hear the call of God in our lives. ©LPi



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Nov. 8th at 9:15 AM

Gather, pray and make Prayer Shawls/Blankets to be given to persons experiencing a crisis in their life. The group meets the second Wednesday of each month from 9:15 to 11 AM in the Parish Center.

Questions? Contact: Kathy Stodola at (402) 981-1592. If you would like to help but can't knit, tie or crochet—this group is seeking donations of yarn, fleece, or JoAnns or Walmart gift cards. Donations can be dropped off to Colleen Eustermiann in the Parish Center.



Mondays, 7-8 PM, Worship Space
Weekly Adoration

Please join us in the quiet to adore Our Lord every Monday evening, or join us in our Adoration Chapel 24/7.
The code for access is 9675*.



Upcoming Events

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Thursday, Nov. 30th 6PM

Choose a country: plan representative attire and side dish traditional to that country. Don't know what to bring? Choose any side dish and give it a festive name to match that cultural tradition. Don't miss the fun! Main dish and dessert provided. **\$6** (make checks out to Pat Miller). Please RSVP EARLY to a committee member (Pat Miller, Moe Muhlbauer, Jan Savoie, Rosemary Napierala). We will gather in the Parish Center.

CARDS & GAMES

Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 1 PM in the Parish Center. Everyone is welcome! Sign up for our emails at stephen.org/primetimers.



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.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

You have turned aside from the way,
and have caused many to falter by your instruction.
(Mal 2:8)

Psalm:

In you, Lord, I have found my peace. (Ps 131)

Second Reading:

With such affection for you, we were determined to
share with you
not only the gospel of God, but our very selves as
well,
so dearly beloved had you become to us. (1Thes 2:8)

Gospel:

"Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they
tell you,
but do not follow their example.
For they preach but they do not practice." (Mt 23:3)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of
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

Christ turns the way of the world upside down:
the great become the small and the honored
ones become humble. Be small, and you will feel
his greatness. Be humble, and you will know the
honor of Heaven.

Observances for the week of November 5, 2023

- Sunday:** 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time; Daylight
Saving Time Ends; National Vocation
Awareness Week
- Tuesday:** Election Day
- Thursday:** The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
- Friday:** St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of
the Church
- Saturday:** St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; Veterans Day
- Next Sunday:** 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Join our Parish Family!

Welcome visitors and newcomers! Scan the QR Code if you
would like to register as a parishioner.

To learn more about ways you can get involved & grow closer
to Christ, contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or
a.ybarra@stephen.org.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 4

8:15 am SI Marty Elwer (DB)
5:00 pm † Erin Doll (ZT)

Sunday, November 5

7:30 am † Mike Dallan (ZT)
9:00 am † Rosemarie Prystai (ZT)
10:30 am SI St. Stephen Parishioners (DB)
6:00 pm SI Tammy Hill (DB)

Monday, November 6

6:30 am SI Randy Jespersen (ZT)
8:15 am † Blanca Luis Hernandez (ZT)

Tuesday, November 7

6:30 am SI Terry & Marie Zrust (DB)
8:15 am † Ricardo Salvador Romero (ZT)

Wednesday, November 8

6:30 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB)
8:15 am † Zach Fochek (ZT)

Thursday, November 9

6:30 am † Roger Pribnow (DB)
8:15 am SI Alfred Drake (DB)

Friday, November 10

6:30 am † John Cronland, Sr. (DB)
8:15 am † Arthur D Houston (ZT)

Saturday, November 11

8:15 am † Michael Wais (ZT)
5:00 pm † Matthew J Stoll (DB)

Sunday, November 12

7:30 am SI St. Stephen Parishioners (DB)
9:00 am † Virgine Irlbeck & Rita Venner (DB)
10:30 am † Justin Chamberlain (ZT)
6:00 pm † Julie Anciaux (ZT)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

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

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...

Deceased souls of our parish family:

Lucille Windels, mother of Troy, John, Michael & Kerry

Richard Johns, husband of Mary

Margaret Klein, mother of David Klein

Ken Hamik, brother of Dan Hamik

Virginia Micke, sister of Mary Ann Caez

Gene Zywiec, husband of Dee

Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Richard Guthmann, grandfather of Sophia, Eva,
Joey, Millie, Noah & Luke

Yvonne Kamphaus, wife of Mike

Molly Koehler, sister of Melissa Kane

Jon Evans

Lawrence Boettcher, husband of Judith

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

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

News from the Community

"THE WAY THROUGH GRIEF" AN ADVENT REFLECTION WITH DEACON JIM TARDY

Grieving families are invited to join Deacon Jim Tardy November 11-16, at 6 PM at Resurrection Cemetery, 7800 W. Center Rd., Omaha, NE 68124, for "The Way Through Grief" an Advent Reflection. For more information, please contact Deacon Jim Tardy at (402) 391-3711 or JTardy@CatholicCem.com.

HOLY HOUR FOR PRIESTS & VOCATIONS—NOV. 9 AT 7 PM

Please come to the Holy Hour for Priests and Vocations at 7 pm on November 9 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Fr. John Berg will share his vocation story and lead prayers, including adoration and benediction. It also includes communal and silent prayer and music ministry. Priests are called to fight evil, but they cannot fight it alone. Be a Simon to them through your prayers, which help them carry their crosses as they battle for the souls entrusted to them.

IXIM: SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY - JOIN US ON MISSION



Thank you for supporting the Archdiocese of Omaha's mission to Guatemala! Since 2004, parishioners from across the Archdiocese of Omaha have gone to our sister diocese in Huehuetenango, Guatemala to work alongside our sisters and brothers in Christ. Our 19th trip will be June 13 - June 23, 2024. Learn more about how to join us on mission at an upcoming information meeting:

- **Monday, November 6 at 7 PM at St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Center**
- Thursday, November 16 at 7 PM on Zoom
- Sunday, December 3 at Noon at St. Frances Cabrini Parish Center
- Thursday, December 14 at 2 PM at St. Margaret Mary West Campus
- Tuesday, January 9 at 7 PM on Zoom

Blessed Stanley Rother Event

Presentations Offered By:



Archbishop Paul
Coakley



Maria Ruiz
Scaperlanda

Blessed Stanley Rother photo provided by the
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Learn About the 1st U.S. Born Priest Martyr



Wednesday, November 8th,
6:30 p.m. at St. Robert
Bellarmine Parish

Tickets are \$35



INSTITUTE for
PRIESTLY FORMATION
Hearts on Fire for Christ

"Wonderfully Made"

Psalm 139:14

Sunday, November 12
7-8:30 p.m., Kampschneider Hall
St. Vincent de Paul • 14330 Eagle Run Drive

For all mothers and daughters in
7th grade - young adulthood
Dessert provided by the Respect Life Committee



Presented by
Teresa Kenney, APRN

learn more and
RSVP HERE



Empowering Women to Realize the
Beauty of the Feminine Design

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

Now Hiring



Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

View details online at: stephen.org/careers

We're hiring a Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. Are you or someone you know interested? Visit stephen.org/careers for the job description.

Contact Adam Ybarra, Director of Mission, at 402-861-4507 or a.ybarra@stephen.org for more information or to apply.

SAVE THE DATE

OMAHA VA STAND DOWN

Milo Bail Student Center • UNO
Friday November 17th 2023 • 10am-2pm

We hope you'll join us in serving our homeless Veterans at this year's resource fair! Be on the lookout for more information in the following weeks.