

January 14, 2024

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 (<u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha</u>) 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: <u>stephen.org/staff</u> Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM Submit requests to Leslie at <u>l.schulte@stephen.org</u>.

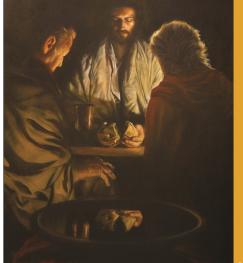
Reserve Your Tour! School Open House Sunday, January 28th





- Meet students, parents, teachers & staff
- Tour our school
- Complete your child's application

Reserve your tour at: school.stephen.org/openhouse or use the QR Code



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher— "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." -Jn 1:38-39a

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"They said to Him, 'Rabbi'—which translated means Teacher—'where are you staying?' And He said to them, 'Come, and you will see.""

Andrew and the mysterious "other disciple" approach Jesus and ask to spend some time with Him. As the two men spend the day with our Lord, they come to



believe in Him and then go out to share the news with others. When Andrew leaves the house where Jesus is staying, he goes to his brother Peter and brings him back to Jesus.

I really believe that this is the best way for people to come to know the love that Jésus has for them. When we have a life-changing encounter with the Lord in prayer, worship, or serving our family of faith, we are then called to share that new life with the people around us. Just as Jesus invited Andrew and the "other disciple" to spend time with him; just as Andrew invited his brother to come to the Lord, we must invite others to share in the same life that we have received. This can be a little frightening because there is always the risk that we will be rejected or criticized by people. But we all know people who have been hurt or alienated by the Church. We all know people who aren't involved in the parish because of a decision that was made or a misunderstanding that may have taken place. We all know people who are searching for meaning and peace in their lives. Can we help those who are searching or hungry or in need of reconciliation? Absolutely! If we strive to be people of faith, spending time with Jesus in prayer, Sacrament, and service, we can be His ambassadors in the world, helping others to know the deep love and healing power that can only come from lesus, the Rabbi.

"The vocation of each person merges, up to a certain point, with his very being: it can be said that vocation and person become just one thing. This means that in God's creative initiative there enters a particular act of love for those called not only to salvation, but also to the ministry of salvation." – Saint John Paul II

> God bless you, Father Dave

Baptismo

Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Malachi S. Gill, son of Daniel and Emily Tripp David Moreland, son of Alexander and Ashley Augie James Knowlton, son of Daniel and LaRissa Alaina K Arlt, daughter of Nicholas and Paige

16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | stephen.org It. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Chri

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 1/3-1/8/2024:

Actual:	\$50,346
Budget:	\$45,427
FYTD Actual:	\$1,342,105
FYTD Budget:	\$1,346,475
Seminarian Fund:	\$4,191.78

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.



Second Collection

Next weekend, the Knights of Columbus will host a One Rose, One Life second collection for the annual fundraising

campaign, 'One Rose, One Life'. This campaign is conducted by the Nebraska Knights of Columbus, for the Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska and supports various pro-life causes, events and organizations.

To contribute, place your donation in the second collection basket on Jan. 20th or 21st at Mass or mail a check donation to: Knights of Columbus, Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska, 4770 Jean Marie Lane, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023. Please notate "KOC-10160" in the Memo Line. Thank you for your support!

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, What are you looking for?'" - John 1:38

When we recognize who we are, it's easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.

#stewardshipreflection

School News

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

- ⇒ **2024 Musical—Finding Nemo. Ir:** Registration for our 2024 musical is open! Get all of the details and register by Jan. 21st online at school.stephen.org/musical.
- ⇒ **Catholic Schools Week:** Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner. We will kick off the week with our school's Open House on Sunday, January 28th. We hope you will join us! Tour reservations are required. Please visit school.stephen.org/openhouse to register.

Religious Education

- ⇒ **Reconciliation**: Religious Education classes in Grades 2-8 will have the opportunity to receive The Sacrament of Reconciliation on January 16th & January 17th. In gratitude, we thank all the priests who will be present to hear confessions those days.
- EPS Baby Bottle Drive: On January 23rd & January 24th, families are \Rightarrow invited to join in supporting mothers and babies in unexpected and under supported pregnancies by participating in the EPS Baby Bottles' Change for Life. A baby bottle will be sent home with the students for families to add coins, cash or checks in the baby bottles provided. Please return the bottles by February 7th with your donations.
- **First Communion Parent Meeting:** Please plan for at least one parent \Rightarrow of each child preparing to receive First Communion this April to attend a meeting in the Dining Room on February 11th at 4 PM. Children are not required to attend the parent meeting. First Communion packets, which should be completed at home with your child, will be distributed at that time.



- Open to SSM parishioners in 5-8th grade
- Register before February 26, 2024



Register & more info at: stephen.org/sports-club-track or scan this OR Code:





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.



Forty Hours Devotion Spend Time with Jesus January 22 - 24

All parishioners and friends of St. Stephen the Martyr are welcome to attend as much of the forty hours as their schedule permits.

A sign-up has been created to ensure the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone. Scan the below QR Code to sign up.

In addition to being the first evening of our 40 Hours Devotion, Jan. 22nd is recognized by all Dioceses of the United States as the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.



or visit stephen.org/adoration.

Schedule Monday, Jan. 22nd, 7 PM to Wednesday, Jan. 24th, 5 PM

Please note that the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed on Tuesday and Wednesday from 6 - 9 AM to allow for Daily Masses.

Why Sign Up for 40 Hours Devotion? A Message from Fr. Zach Tucker

As you consider signing up for our upcoming 40 Hours Devotion, the question may arise in your mind and heart, why? Why is it that we, as Catholics, pray before the Lord in the monstrance in Adoration? These are valid questions which have been asked many times over the history of the Church. Our recent Popes have offered their own insights into the practice, in an attempt to offer their own answers to these questions. In the words of Pope Benedict XVI in his Apostolic Exhortataion entitled *Sacramentum Caritatis*, "In the Eucharist, the Son of God comes to meet us and desires to become one with us; eucharistic adoration is simply the natural consequence of the eucharistic celebration (the Mass), which is itself the Church's supreme act of adoration," (No. 66).

Pope Benedict goes on to say, "The personal relationship which the individual believer establishes with Jesus present in the Eucharist constantly points beyond itself to the whole communion of the Church and nourishes a fuller sense of membership in the Body of Christ. For this reason, besides encouraging individual believers to make time for personal prayer before the Sacrament of the Altar, I feel obliged to urge parishes and other church groups to set aside times for collective adoration," (No. 68).

Pope Francis echoed this same enduring truth of the Church, saying "It is good to adore in silence before the Most Blessed Sacrament, to be in the consoling presence of Jesus and there to draw the apostolic impetus to be instruments of goodness, tenderness and welcome in the community, the Church, and the world. ... Adore, immerse yourself in divine love and give it with full hands to those you meet on your path."

Eucharistic Adoration, whether personal or parish-wide through the 40 Hours Devotion, is never a solo endeavor. It is an outpouring of the Church's efforts for the salvation of souls, and an invitation for us to enter into that effort. We rest with Jesus, spending time with him, and we are individually consoled and nourished. From Him we receive the grace and strength to go out and seek to bring about renewal in our families, our workplaces, our parishes, and our world, so that others may come to encounter Christ as well!

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Why do we make changes in the Mass? Some seem so small and unimportant. Are they really necessary?

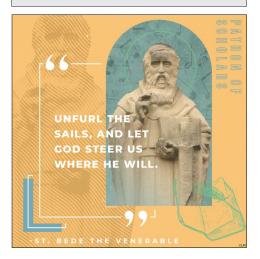
Answer: The celebration of the Eucharist is at the heart of our identity as Catholics. Our purpose as a Church community revolves around the Eucharist. Everything we are and everything we do is measured not only by how well we celebrate, but also by how well we live the sacrament. If that is so, then we as a community will always strive to celebrate the Mass as best we can. The reasons for some changes might seem more obvious than others, but there is a reason behind each one.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal is the introduction to the Missal that contains all the prayers for the celebration of the Mass. The Order of Mass we use now was issued in 1975 and, as often happens over the course of years, some questions have come up about the proper way of doing some things and whether or not other practices are acceptable. These changes clarify some things and make the celebration of the Mass more meaningful for everyone.

The opportunity is presented to us to better learn and understand each part of the Mass, which in turn should help us deepen our appreciation for its beauty and meaning. We will be a better Church if we have a clearer understanding and knowledge of Who and what we celebrate. ©LPi



Mondays, 7-8 PM, Worship Space 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*.



TRIVIA NIGHT JANUARY 20, 2024

FLIGHT 1

1st place: Entry fee for 2025 Trivia Night & \$50 gift card 2nd place: \$120 3rd place: \$60

FLIGHT 2

YEAR'S TRIVIA NIGHT!

25th place: Half-priced entry fee for 2025 Trivia Night
26th place: \$40
Last place: Two, \$20 gift cards

BEST THEMED TABLE \$50 gift card & half-priced entry fee for 2025 Trivia Night



THERE ARE ONLY 20 TABLES LEFT
 SCAN TO REGISTER OR
 VISIT STEPHEN.ORG/TRIVIA-NIGHT

QUESTIONS? CONTACT CATIANA URRUTIA 402-861-4541/C.URRUTIA@STEPHEN.ORG



Small Group Leaders Needed!

Jesus started with a small group of 12 men and they changed the world! Today, you are called to step into the same mission given to the apostles. Please join others in our parish to gather in small groups this Lent. These small groups, like that first small group, will build community, and true friendship around the Word of God. Register for a Live Lent Together training for small group leaders. We will give you the tools and the confidence to take this small but bold step because small groups can still change the world! Scan the QR Code to register.

Join PrimeTimers in 2024!

CARDS & GAMES EVERY SECOND AND FOURTH THURSDAY: Stop by and see what's happening on Cards and Games Thursdays!

Mappening on Cards and Games Thursdays: Meet some new friends and have a fun afternoon. We play Pitch, Manipulation (REALLY EASY to learn), and Bridge players are often looking for a fourth! Don't play cards? How about a game of Mexican Train Dominoes or Tripoley. Or why not introduce us to **your** favorite game! You will feel welcomed! Bring a friend and a snack to share as we meet at the Parish Center! It's also a great time to donate an item to the SSM Food Pantry. Questions? Contact us at <u>stephens.primetimers@gmail.com</u>.



Thank You for your Food Pantry donations!



Thank you, parishioners and Knights of Columbus, for your generous support of the SSM Food Pantry through the First Saturday drop off and continuous donations throughout the month. "Give thanks to the Lord for he is endures forever". 1 Chronicles 16:34

good; his love endures forever". 1 Chronicles 16:34

To donate to the Food Pantry, drop off items to the Food Pantry cart in the foyer of the Parish Center anytime. There is also a curbside drop-off event every first Saturday of the month thanks to our Knights of Columbus. Our Food Pantry provides aid to area families in need.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." (1 Sm 3:10)

Psalm:

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. (Ps 40)

Second Reading:

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. (1 Cor 6:15, 17)

Gospel:

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. (Jn 1:39)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Come and see," Jesus said to the disciples who were curious to know about him. Today, he whispers this invitation into the deepest place of our heart. Have courage — go, and see what Christ has to show you.

Observances for the week of January 14, 2024

Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday:	Martin Luther King Day

Wednesday: St. Anthony, Abbot

Thursday: January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Saturday: Martyr

Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 13 8:15 am SI Esther Gninefou & James Gninefo (ZT) 5:00 pm † Leonard & Adele Hassenstab (DB)

Sunday, January 14

7:30 am SI St. Stephen Parishioners (DB) 9:00 am SI Deacon Scott & Julie Tylski (DB) 10:30 am † Tom Sautter (ZT) 6:00 pm † Angelo Felici (ZT)

Monday, January 15 6:30 am † Jane Dellere (ZT) 8:15 am SI Joyce Murphy (ZT)

Tuesday, January 16 6:30 am † Judy Klein (ZT) 8:15 am † Elizabeth Gulizia (DB)

Wednesday, January 17 6:30 am † Mary Ann Thurman (ZT) 8:15 am † Rich Johns (DB)

Thursday, January 18 6:30 am SI Michael Casillas (DB) 8:15 am † Dave Ryan (DB)

Friday, January 19 6:30 am † Ken Hamik (ZT) 8:15 am † Julie Anciaux (DB)

Saturday, January 20 8:15 am † Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB) 5:00 pm † Leonard & Adele Hassenstab (ZT)

Sunday, January 21

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (ZT) 9:00 am SI Deacon Denny Dethlefs (ZT) 10:30 am † Kim Lestina (DB) 6:00 pm SI St. Stephen Parishioners (DB) 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 <u>m.kane@stephen.org</u> or 402-896-9675.

Pray For ...

Deceased souls of our parish family: Judy Bruns, mother of Cathy Harrington Dr. Gary Vogelsberg, husband of Bernice Carol Harris, mother of David, Julie & Sharon

Parishioners who are sicklinjured/healing:

John Lewandowski, husband of Suzie Max Rocha, husband of Kelly, father of Jayden, KK, Trinity and Xander **Molly Felker**, daughter of Mike and Stacy Michael Bazant, husband of Patricia **Kim Weeks** Yvonne Kamphaus, wife of Mike Dan Liles, husband of Lori, father of Cash and Jerzy Ryan Huebner, son of Cheryl & Marty Matt Kelly, son of Billie Watsabaugh Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim

Advocate for the Vulnerable this January Opportunities to support human life at all stages

St. Stephen the Martyr Respect Life Ministry Meeting

Join the St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry for their monthly meeting on Jan 16th, from 7-8:30 PM in the Parish Center. Come and learn how you can help promote a culture of life at St. Stephen and in our community!

9 Days for Life Novena

Join in praying during the 9 Days for Life, a novena for the protection of human life held Jan. 16th-24th. Each morning at 7:30 AM (8:30 AM on Sunday), the Knights of Columbus will lead the prayer in the Worship Space. Can't attend in person? Visit <u>respectlife.org/9-days-signup</u> and sign up to receive daily texts or emails and pray the Novena at home.

One Rose, One Life Second Collection

Support the 'One Rose, One Life' annual fund-raising campaign conducted by the Nebraska Knights of Columbus, for the Knights of Columbus Culture of Life Foundation of Nebraska. A second collection will be taken up at all Masses on Jan. 20th & 21st. Over 96% of funds raised by the Foundation support various pro-life causes, events and organizations. A portion of these funds were also used to help purchase and install sixteen ultrasound machines throughout Nebraska, through the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Ultrasound Initiative.

EPS Baby Bottle Campaign

EPS Baby Bottles is a community-wide fundraiser, and its proceeds help inspire women to choose life for their babies and a bright future for themselves! While filling baby bottles with coins, cash, or checks to benefit women who are experiencing unexpected and under-supported pregnancies, the fundraiser can also serve as an opportunity to teach your children about the value of all human life (born and unborn). Pick up your bottle after Masses in the Gathering Space on Jan. 20th or 21st and return them the weekend of Feb. 3rd and 4th.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Join Catholics throughout the country on Monday, Jan. 22nd as the Church in the United States observes the annual "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." This day is set aside to pray for the legal protection of human life and to do penance for the violations to human dignity through abortion. We are called to observe this day through prayer and penance. Learn more at: respectlife.org/january-22.

MORNING OF





The St. Vincent de Paul Guild Presents: Simple & Sanctified

"Living simply isn't just a trend, but a divine call to set and maintain our souls on the things that matter over things material."

Light breakfast followed by speaker, music by Hannah Keisling, and reflection time



with katie sciba

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 <mark>Run Dr, Omaha, N</mark>E 68164 | (402) 496-7988

Mass Times

Mon - Fri: 6:<mark>45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m</mark>.; Sat: 8:15 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sun: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11a.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

Katie Sciba is an internationally sought speaker, retreat writer, and nine-time Catholic Press Award-winning columnist



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