

February 18, 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

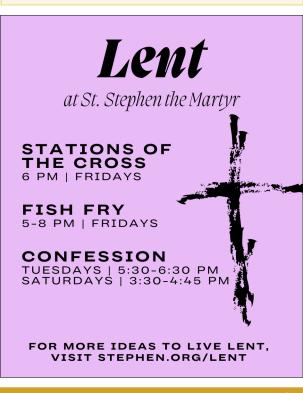
Mondays from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

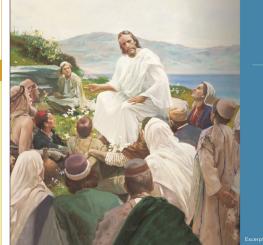
Contact Us

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>.





1^{s⊤} SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him."

With these words, proclaimed in our Gospel this weekend, we begin the Season of Lent. Jesus Christ, the King of heaven and earth, descended into flesh and knew human weakness and suffering. Because He was fully human, Jesus still had to contend with Satan's temptations. The difference in Jesus' life was that the sume temptations and remain



that He was able to overcome temptation and remain sinless.

The revelation that Jesus was tempted in every way that we are is a great comfort for us. We too are tempted by Satan to turn our backs upon God and His people. We are tempted many times throughout the course of a day to be selfish and self-centered. But what we must do is meet Satan head-on, just like Jesus did in the desert. Through the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and alms-giving, we confront the sin and evil in our lives and we seek the grace to overcome temptation. We also find consolation in knowing that in our trials, suffering, and temptations, we are united with Christ because he endured unimaginable suffering in His passion, crucifixion, and death.

This Lent, we pray that all of us may truly enter this penitential season with the intention of stripping away the sin that burdens us. Instead of just going through the motions of Lent, let us truly take advantage of this holy season, and allow God's grace to heal our weaknesses. It is in the "wilderness" of Lent, when we take on sacrifice and a life of deeper prayer, that we will come to know ourselves—and God—more intimately.

"Self-discipline never means giving up anything, for giving up is a loss. Our Lord did not ask us to give up the things of the earth, but to exchange them for better things." -Fulton J. Sheen

> God Bless, Father Dave

Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Della Mae Buehler, daughter of Thomas and Jackie Dustin Joseph Edwards, son of Isaac and Felicity Elle Jeanette Georges, daughter of Brian and Tori

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: <u>stephen.org/sacraments</u>.

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 2/6-2/12, 2024:

Actual:	\$53,700
Budget:	\$47,576
FYTD Actual:	\$1,611,364
FYTD Budget:	\$1,602,170

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 <u>stephen.org/give</u>.

Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.



Second Collection this weekend

Mandated by the III Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1884, the 134 year old National Collection for Black and Indian people continues as the embodiment of the Church's concern for the evangelizing of the Black and Indian people of the United States.

The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease. Scan the QR code to donate to this fund.

IRA CHARITABLE

ROLLOVER



IRA Charitable Rollover

If you are 70 ½ or older and own an IRA, you can transfer funds directly to St. Stephen the Martyr Church as a qualified non-profit to potentially fulfill your required

minimum distribution this year and avoid paying excess income taxes. This is a great way to continue the mission of St. Stephen the Martyr!

For assistance, please contact Catiana Urrutia, Development Associate, at 402-861-4541 or <u>c.urrutia@stephen.org</u>.

School News

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

⇒ Enrollment for 2024/2025 School Year: We are now accepting new student applications for the 24/25 school year and re-enrollment is open for our current families. Acceptance letters and enrollment packets for new families will be sent out at the end of February. To apply, visit school.stephen.org/admissions.

Religious Education

- ⇒ Upcoming Confirmation Retreat: Our Confirmation Candidates will attend a Confirmation Retreat hosted by One Heart ~ One Fire Ministries this Spring! Our Religious Education Students will attend on Saturday March 2nd and St. Stephen's school eighth graders will attend on Friday, April 5th. The Retreat will start with Mass at St. Stephen's at 8:15 AM, following which students will be bussed to the Pro-Sanctity Center in Elkhorn. All will return by bus around 2:30 PM. This is sure to be a powerful experience for our candidates as they prepare to be confirmed! For questions please reach out to Sam at <u>s.jizba@stephen.org</u>.
- ⇒ Seeking Station Leaders for VBS this summer: Station Leaders are our volunteers who present the material in the stations to the children. Each station leader will have a manual that is easy to follow with the day's activities and a few middle or high school volunteers assigned to assist them. Adult volunteers may waive the tuition of one child participating in VBS. Scan the QR code below to volunteer.



SCUBA Vacation Bible School June 10-14, 2024 | 9 AM to Noon |



Volunteer to be a station leader today

Youth Ministry

⇒ Witness Wednesdays: High Schoolers are invited to join us for Witness Wednesdays every week from 8–9:30 PM. Join us Feb. 21st at St. Wenceslaus. Don't miss this opportunity to get to know friends and grow in your friendship with Jesus! Find all information and future dates at stephen.org/witness-wednesdays.









Our exclusive raffle is your ticket to winning big. Three fantastic prizes await, grab your tickets now for a shot at the jackpot! Don't miss out on the thrill – get in the game today!



MICRO SOCCER REGISTRATION **NOW OPEN**

Micro Soccer is for SSM Parishioners, ages 3-6

• Games will start April 7th and play for 7 weeks, every Sunday



Register & more information at: stephen.org/sports-club or scan the QR code.



Knights of Scholarship **Columbus** Opportunity

The Saint Stephens Knights of Columbus are accepting applications for the 2024 Deacon Wesley Kreun Memorial Scholarship. This is not an academic scholarship. We award based upon the applicant's service to our parish family and involvement in other charitable activities which align with our Catholic faith. We will award four \$500 dollar 1-year scholarships to individuals attending a local Catholic High Schools and four \$1,000 1-year scholarships to individuals attending an accredited college or university.

Additionally, new this year, we will award one \$1,000 scholarship to an individual attending a trade school. Applications are available either from the kiosk in the Gathering Space or from our website kofc10160.org until April 30, 2024. Completed applications must be submitted to the Saint Stephen the Martyr Parish Office by May 1st. If you have any questions, please reach out to Hank Hardy at <u>hhardy@janome-america.com</u>. Thank you very much and God Bless!

CCW Seeking Nominations for Woman of the Year

We are now accepting nominations for our Council of Catholic Women's "Woman of the Year" Award. The Council of Catholic Women supports, empowers, and educates the Catholic women in the Archdiocese of Omaha, specifically in the areas of spirituality, service and leadership. Written submissions for considerations for this year's honoree must include the reason for you nominating her with a brief bio sent to gigistamp@cox.net by midnight on March 12. Thank you!

Track & Field Registration

AST CALL!

- Open to SSM parishioners in 5-8th grade
- Multi-sport athletes welcome
- Registration Deadline: February 26th

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

OR Code:





RUNZA **FUNDRAISER**

Join us at the 168th & Harrison Runza^{*} Monday, February 19th

> 15% of sales from 4 - 8 pm will be donated to St. Stephen the Martyr.

We invite you to join us in any manner you feel comfortable. All sales through the drive-thru, dine-in or carry-out will support St. Stephen the Martyr Church.



Experience Lent at St. Stephen the Martyr



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Pray with us every Friday during Lent 6 PM

Worship Space

KOC Fish Fry Fast Pass Available for Stations Attendees

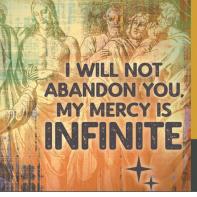
The Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis, commemorate Jesus' passion and death on the cross. There are 14 stations that each depict a moment on his journey to Calvary. Please join us!



Feb. 16 - March 22 5 - 8 PM Dine In or Carry Out

Menu: Fried Fish (\$12), Baked Salmon (\$13), Shrimp (\$13), Combo (\$13), Mac & Cheese (\$8), Pizza (\$6) Kids Meal (age 5-10): Fried Fish (\$7), Mac & Cheese (\$6) (4 & Under: Free!) Includes French fries, coleslaw & roll Desserts provided by the Council of Catholic Women (cash only) Beer from Nebraska Brewing Company and wine offered for a freewill donation.





kofc10160.org

NEW! Get your Stations FAST PASS! Stations of the Cross are held every Friday in Lent at 6 PM. Attendees will be given a Fast Pass to enter the front of the Fish Fry ticket line following Stations - **no waiting**!

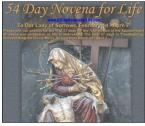
CONFESSION TIMES LENT 2024

Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 PM Saturday from 3:30 to 4:45 PM

Parish-Wide Reconciliation Service Tuesday, March 19 at 7-8:30 PM

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.

Join your parish family in praying the 54 Day Novena for Life February 14—April 7



"Without Divine Intervention, we believe the Nebraska abortion rights amendment will become law, as an amendment to the state constitution. The 54 Day Novena for Life, offered through Mary in Christ, is a very powerful prayer. As we are alive in the body of Christ, our prayer together inspires conversion. Please join us, and invite your friends and families."

Say the rosary every day for 54 days with the intention that abortion becomes illegal in Nebraska. Each Wednesday during Lent at 7:45 AM, we will pray the rosary for this Novena as a parish family. This will take place prior to the 8:15 AM Mass. Visit

stephen.org for more information on this devotion.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Why do we place ashes on our forehead each Ash Wednesday?

Answer: Ashes are rich in spiritual symbolism. We recall in the second chapter of Genesis, when the human person is fashioned "out of the dust of the ground" and receives the breath of life (Genesis 2:7). In death, a person returns to the ground from which we came. The ancient Hebrews used ashes as a sign of repentance, reminding themselves that God is God and we are not. As the minister places ashes on our forehead, we hear either "remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." When we receive ashes, we remember our own mortality. We're reminded that we have limited time on this earth and we ought to make the best use of it that we can! People are in need of love, care, and compassion. We all need to continually rediscover the love of God. The Gospel invites every person in every stage of life to encounter and imitate Jesus here and now. The forty days of Lent are the perfect time to assess our own awareness of these realities. ©LPi



Mondays, 7-8 PM, Worship Space

Join us in the quiet to worship Jesus every week. You can also join us in our Adoration Chapel 24/7. The code for access is 9675*.

Why go to Adoration?

Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because you are the most important person in the world to Him!

"Christ is reserved in our churches as the spiritual center of the heart of the community, the universal Church and all humanity, since within the veil of the species, Christ is contained, the invisible heart of the Church, the Redeemer of the world, the center of all hearts, by him all things are and of whom we exist." (Pope Paul IV, *Mysterium Fidei*)



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:

- "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you
 - and your descendants after you
 - and with every living creature that was with you." (Gn 9:8-10)

Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

Gospel:

He was among wild beasts,

and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

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

In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But he did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey to the desert.

Observances for the week of February 18, 2024

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

- Monday: Presidents' Day
- Wednesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
- Friday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



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 <u>stephen.org/prayer-line</u> or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

111222 1	111				
8:15 am	†	bruary 17 Ken Watkins (DB) Michael Strehle (ZT)			
Sunday, I	Sunday, February 18				
7:30 am	†	Roger Pribnow (ZT)			
9:00 am	SI	People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)			
10:30 am	t	Joe Sautter (DB)			
6:00 pm	†	Ann Chaney (DB)			
Monday, February 19					
6:30 am	†	Kate Stork (DK)			
8:15 am	†	Kate Stork (DK) Arthur D Houston (AS)			
Tuesday, February 20					
		Patrick Tucker (DB)			
		Patricia Whipple (DB)			
Wednesday, February 21					
6:30 am	ау, †	Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB)			
8:15 am	÷	JoAnn Spurgin (DB)			
		e bruary 22 Rich McCormick (DB)			
		Shirley Karas (DB)			
Friday, Fe	bru	uary 23			
6:30 am	1	James Murphy, Sr. (DK)			
8:15 am	Т	Julie Anciaux (DK)			
Saturday, February 24					
8:15 am	SI	Esther Gninefou &			
		James Gninefou (ZT)			

5:00 pm † Mike Jenkins (DH)

Sunday, February 25

7:30 am	†	Barbara DeVol Sinsabaugh (ZT)
9:00 am	†	Gene Mitchell (ZT)
10:30 am	†	Cathy Greise (ZT)
6:00 pm	SI	Patrick Tucker (DH)
SI - Specia	al Ir	tention + - Penose of the So

SI = Special Intention **†** = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker; DK = Fr. Dan Kampschneider; AS = Fr. Andy Sohm; 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 <u>m.kane@stephen.org</u> or 402-896-9675.

Pray For ...

Deceased souls of our parish family: Richard Lupardus, father of Cindy

Parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Berneice Adams Tiffany Cole, wife of Jim, mother of Jaeli, Eli, Brynlee & Millie Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim The Rumbaugh Family 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

DOUG AND DAVE PROUDLY PRESENT THE FAITH WE LIVE FEBRUARY 25-26 @ 7:00 PM TWO-NIGHT PARISH MISSION | EACH NIGHT IS DIFFERENT!



SAINT WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC CHURCH 15353 PACIFIC STREET, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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247 PM - 9 PMAll TK - 5th grade boysFebruary\$25 Per Mom & Her Son(s)

SSM Dining Hall (enter through south school doors)

Come dressed to impress in your most glow-worthy attire for the 2024 Mom Prom and be ready to dance in a blacklight bash with glow-inthe-dark accessories (will be provided if you don't have your own).

All boys attending any school (SSM/Public) are invited to attend with their mom. Feel free to substitute with a grandma, aunt, older sister as needed!

Scan QR Code or use the link below to Register https://forms.gle/LT38XcyP2LTMKKmD6





St. Stephen the Martyr is Walking with Moms in Need

We are here to promote a culture of life & support in our community and parish. If you are pregnant or parenting and in need of assistance, please reach out to Colleen at <u>c.eusterwiemann@stephen.org</u> or 402-861-4538.

Community News

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: Join Padre Pio Prayer Group us for the Holy Face Devotion on Saturday, February 24 at 11 AM in the Dowd Chapel on the Boys Town Campus.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT CATHOLIC CEMETERIES: Come pray with us on the Wednesdays of Lent. We will journey The Stations of the Cross in Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery at 78th and Center at 6 PM starting on February 21st. On Good Friday we invite you to walk the Stations of the Cross at 3 PM in Calvary Cemetery at 78th and Center Rd. Please come be part of this great tradition and journey for yourself in this 1.3 mile walk of faith. For further information please contact Deacon Jim Tardy at 402-391-3711 or <u>jtardy@catholiccem.com</u>.

ESSENTIAL PREGNANCY SERVICES' GLOW 2024 BENEFIT DINNER: Join GLOW honorary chairs, Dr. Paul and Mrs. Bernadette Esposito, Thursday, February 29th, at the Mid-America Center to hear a life-inspiring keynote address by author and pro-life activist, Toni McFadden. Registration is \$75 per person or \$750 to host a table of 10. Register, sponsor, and donate at <u>bidpal.net/glow24</u>. For event assistance, contact Maria at <u>MariaD@EssentialPS.org</u> or 531-239-3138.

MAGNIFICAT - OMAHA UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Brunch: All women are invited to the Magnificat-Omaha Lenten Brunch at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church on March 9th at 9:30 A.M. Our guest speaker is Julie Storr, OSB Oblate, an inspiring speaker/writer and founder of the LectiotheLiturgy.com. She will inspire you to hold on to joy during your Lenten journey. Cost: \$20. Visit magnificatomaha.org for more information or to register. Life in the Spirit Retreat: All women are invited to the Magnificat-Omaha Life in the Spirit Retreat on March 23rd, from 9 AM to 2 PM at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church. The cost is \$10, including a Box Lunch. Register by March 7th at magnificatomaha.org. Magnificat-Omaha is an archdiocesan-wide Catholic women's organization focused on evangelization.

TOASTMASTERS—THE UH'S HAVE IT: Join us for our Roman Forum Toastmaster meeting this Wednesday February 21st in the Parish Center. Call Tom Johnson for info 402-598-5867.





For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

IPi

St. Stephen Martyr, Omaha, NE

B 4C 02-0349



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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