



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

March 24, 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 ([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.



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

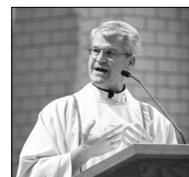
So they brought the colt to
Jesus and put their cloaks
over it. And he sat on it.
Many people spread their
cloaks on the road, and
others spread leafy branches
that they had cut from the
fields. - Mk 11:7-8

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

©LPH

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which is translated, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'"



Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the holiest days of our Church year. This week our parish will join with all the Catholic communities, and many Christian communities throughout the world in celebrating our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. The liturgies that we celebrate this week will help draw us into the reality of the Paschal Mystery.

The season of Lent has prepared us for the journey through these holy days. Our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving have renewed our hearts through the grace of Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins. The sacrifices that we made have helped peel away the layers of sin and neglect in our lives, so that we might enter the great mystery of new life that comes through suffering and death.

I encourage all of you to make time this week to participate in our Holy Week liturgies. They are some of the most beautiful liturgical events of our Catholic tradition. Also, if you have not yet celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we have times available this week. Please check another column in this bulletin for a schedule of Reconciliation times and liturgies.

"This is the wood of the cross, on which hung the Savior of the world. Come, let us worship."

*God Bless,
Father Dave*



*Please pray for
those becoming
Catholic this
Easter!*

*Crystal, Daniel, Ashlynn,
Raquel, Beck, Kaylin, Jacob,
Stella, Nicole, Kevin, Tom,
Audra, Tim, Gabe,
Christian, Phil, Keri, Mike,
Trish, Kerrie, Jeff*

Lord, I pray that the Holy Spirit guides the thoughts and actions of these beloved children of God, as they contemplate their entry into the Catholic Church. Fill their hearts with faith, hope and charity and help them to surrender to Your holy will. In Jesus' Name, I pray, AMEN.



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

Join us for Holy Week!

See page 4 of this bulletin or visit stephen.org/easter



"Holy Week marks a time of grace that the Lord gives us so that we may open the doors of our hearts and our communities...and going out to meet Jesus and others, also to bring the light and joy of our faith."

Pope Francis

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 3/12-3/18, 2024:

Actual:	\$41,475
Budget:	\$46,280
FYTD Actual:	\$1,851,791
FYTD Budget:	\$1,836,742

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.



Good Friday Collection Serving Those in Need in the Holy Land

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land.

Through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. To contribute to this fund, please drop your envelopes in the collection basket or scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity.



Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Mac Johnathon McEachen,
son of Emily McEachen

School News

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

⇒ **Enrollment for 2024/2025 School Year:** We are still accepting new student applications for the 24/25 school year. Once your application has been accepted, our office will send you an enrollment packet to complete. To apply, visit school.stephen.org/admissions.

Religious Education

Registration Open

SCUBA
giving into friendship with god
totally catholic

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

Youth Leader Signup

Adult Station Leader Signup

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

Youth Ministry

- ⇒ **Witness Wednesdays:** High Schoolers—we will be on break March 27th for Holy Week. Please join us April 3rd 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.
- ⇒ **Register Now for Steubenville of Rochester!** Join us for a weekend experience of your Catholic faith in Rochester, MN. All rising freshmen in high school through rising freshmen in college are invited to attend this weekend retreat with our group. Visit stephen.org/steubenville for more information.
- ⇒ **Register for Totus Tuus & Volunteer to Help:**

SUMMER YOUTH MINISTRY HELP NEEDED

WE WANT YOU!

TOTUS TUUS

JULY 6-12 AT SSM

Scan the QR Code to help!
Questions? Contact
aybarra@stephen.org

NEEDED

- HOST FAMILIES
- PROVIDE SNACKS
- PROVIDE MEALS
- TRANSPORTATION

Totus Tuus
A Catholic Summer Camp

July 7-12, 2024
St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church

1st-6th Grades:
9:30 AM-2:30 PM, July 8th-12th

Grades 7th-12 Grades:
7-9 PM, July 7th-11th

Scan the QR Code to Register Now!



St. Stephen the Martyr | Dinner & Auction

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St. Stephen the Martyr

Holy Week

Holy Thursday (March 28): 7 PM

Good Friday (March 29): 3 PM, 7 PM

Easter Vigil & Reception (March 30):

Saturday, 8:30 PM

Easter Sunday (March 31): 7:30 AM, 9 AM,
9:05 AM (gym), 10:30 AM*, 10:35 AM (gym)
& 6 PM

Additional Confession Times During Holy Week:

Tuesday, March 26th: 4:30-6:30 PM

Wednesday, March 27th: 4:30-5:30 PM, 7-8 PM

Thursday, March 28th, 9-10 AM, 11 AM-Noon

*Live-streamed

Worship
with Us!

Visit
stephen.org/easter
for more information

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Do Catholics always need to receive communion in wafer form, or can it be different kinds of bread?

Answer: In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the most common form for the eucharistic bread is the small white communion "wafer" that is a ubiquitous part of the Catholic Mass. The instructions of the Church have been very specific regarding the make-up of the bread used in the Mass: "The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made ... it follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament" (see Redemptionis Sacramentum by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, no. 48).

The Church's tradition of using a wheat-based bread is based on the bread that Jesus would have used at the Last Supper and is considered to be an essential part of the "matter" of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

As we consider the question of whether a "wafer" — which is properly called a "host" — should be used, we also must keep in mind that in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, leavened (i.e. "raised") bread is more often used. And so, while the thin, white "wafer" is most commonly used in the Roman Rite of the Church, the full expression of the Catholic tradition does allow for a more substantial form of bread to be used, but the tradition of using a simple wheat bread with no other additions or additives is considered essential. ©LPi

Easter Egg Hunt

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH

AFTER 10:30AM MASS IN THE PARISH CENTER

Join us for an Easter celebration

featuring donuts, "Sleepless from Seattle" coffee cart,
and face painting followed by an egg hunt and a visit
from live bunnies to pet and hold!

Scan code to RSVP
or volunteer!



Join the PrimeTimers for a Kentucky Derby Party!

Thursday, April 4th | 6 PM | Parish Center



The cost to attend is \$20 and includes Derby-themed food, drinks, desserts and FUN games! Ladies should wear fancy hats & guys may wear silly "derby" hats. BYOB and \$1 Bills.

RSVP and pay by March 28th to Pat Miller at 402-201-7945

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Landscape Ministry

The Landscape Ministry is seeking volunteers to help us water and tend to the landscape beds at the rectory and our parish grounds! There are 8 landscape beds and 61 new trees that need to be watered weekly while we continue with dry conditions.

To volunteer, contact Steve at:
402-669-3441

Knights of Columbus Scholarship 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 School and four \$1,000 one-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 30th. Completed applications must be submitted to the SSM Parish Office by May 1st. If you have any questions, please reach out to Hank Hardy at hhardy@janome-america.com.

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST



Join us in the quiet to worship Jesus.

Monday from 7-8 PM
in the Worship Space

Holy Thursday

Following 7 PM Mass until Midnight
in the Daily Mass Chapel

You can also join us in our Adoration
Chapel 24/7.

The code for access is 9675*.

**"The greatest love story of all time is
contained in a tiny, white host."**

- Venerable Fulton Sheen

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him. (Phil 2:8-9)

Gospel:

They brought him to the place of Golgotha
—which is translated Place of the Skull—. (Mk 15:22)

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

The crowds of Jerusalem beautified the path of Jesus as he came into the city, offering their own cloaks in homage. Let us make way in our hearts for the King as we enter into Holy Week.

Observances for the week of March 24, 2024

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord,
Holy Week begins

Thursday: Holy Thursday

Friday: Good Friday

Saturday: Holy Saturday

Next Sunday: Easter Sunday



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, March 23

8:15 am † Grace Kankousky (ZT)
5:00 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)

Sunday, March 24 — Palm Sunday

7:30 am † Roger Pribnow (DB)
9:00 am † Cathy Greise (DB)
10:30 am † Erin Doll (ZT)
6:00 pm † Mike Strehle (ZT)

Monday, March 25

6:30 am † Leonard Kruse (ZT)
8:15 am † Nathaniel Closen (ZT)

Tuesday, March 26

6:30 am † Ron & Rita Hruska (ZT)
8:15 am † Norma Houston (DB)

Wednesday, March 27

6:30 am † Charley Bacon, Sr. (ZT)
8:15 am † JoAnn Spurgin (DB)

Thursday, March 28—Holy Thursday

7:00 pm SI Archbishop Lucas and all Priests of
the Archdiocese of Omaha (DB)

Friday, March 29—Good Friday

3:00 pm The Passion of our Lord (DB)
7:00 pm The Passion of our Lord (ZT)

Saturday, March 30—Easter Vigil

8:30 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)

Sunday, March 31—Easter Sunday

7:30 am † Mary Ann Drelicharz (ZT)
9:00 am † Elizabeth Gulizia (DB)
9:05 am † Mike Jenkins (ZT)
10:30 am † Mary Dinneen (DB)
10:35 am † Leonard Kruse (SC)
6:00 pm SI Isabel Souba (DH)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

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

SC = Fr. Scott Schilmoeler;

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...

Please pray for the deceased:

Sharon O'Kief, sister of Nancy Kahm

Please pray for these parishioners who are sick/injured/healing:

Betty Brinster, wife of Jerry

Berneice Adams

Tiffany Cole, wife of Jim, mother of Jaeli, Eli,
Brynlee & Millie

Nick Skar, son of A.J. & Kim

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

Community News

AN EVENING FOR ALL WOMEN AT ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR: Join us Monday, April 1st from 6:30-8 PM for prayer and fellowship in the St. Stephen the Martyr Parish Center to hear from Celine Kelly, a consecrated woman from Magdala in Israel, as she shares her life and mission in Magdala and how the war in the Holy Land has impacted the community with the parishioners of St Stephen the Martyr and friends of Regnum Christi. Magdala provides a place for prayer, teaching and worship for Christians of all backgrounds and is dedicated to the public life of Jesus and his transforming encounters with the people of the time. The synagogue on the grounds of Magdala is currently the oldest excavated in Galilee and one of seven from the first century in all of Israel.

SPRING RETREATS AT ST. BENEDICT CENTER

The Feminine Genius of Queen Esther: Join us April 5th & 6th for a retreat led by Sharon Doran, MA, the foundress of Seeking Truth Catholic Bible Study. This Biblical Retreat will be about this fascinating Old Testament book and its Christ-like heroine Esther, who was willing to lay down her own life for the salvation of God's people. Esther promises to stir your soul, for you too were created and gifted with unique talents to be used in God's Kingdom for a time such as this! Please join us! Retreat concludes with the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the hour of Divine Mercy and Mass. Friday, 7:30 PM to Saturday, 4:45 PM. Register now at StBenedictCenter.com.
Marriage as Prayer: Join us April 12th-14th for a retreat led by Frs. Larry Gillick and Greg Carlson, SJ. Get in touch with the way God has been a guide for your life and marriage, calling you to love each other, yourself and God! You will be given time to pray individually and as a couple, to share with each other, and to explore the beautiful retreat space while seeking to deepen your relationship with God and your spouse. This retreat honors times of silence and private couple sharing but encourages discussion with others during meals. We welcome all couples seeking greater union with God and one another. Friday, 7 PM to Sunday, Noon. Register now at StBenedictCenter.com or call (402) 352-8819.

DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION AT ST. THOMAS MORE: Join us April 7th at St. Thomas More (4804 Grover St.) for our Divine Mercy Celebration. Schedule: 11:30 AM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2-4:30 PM Confessions, 3 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3:30 PM Rosary, 4 PM Benediction, 4:15 PM Procession, 4:30 PM Mass. Relics of St. John Paul II and St. Faustina will be on display.

THE EUCHARIST: THE SOURCE & SUMMIT OF OUR FAITH: Come to St. Robert Bellarmine on April 26th from 7-9:30 PM & April 27th from 9 AM-4:30 PM. Hear friends from EWTN and Catholic Answers speak on The Eucharist: The Source and Summit of our Faith. This 2-day symposium features: Fr. Wade Menezes, Tim Staples, Coleen Kelly Mast, Joe Heschmeyer & Stacy Trasancos. A bookstore will be open and a Saturday box lunch is available for pre-purchase. Tickets are \$25 each. For more info and buy tickets, go to spiritcatholicradio.com/April.

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



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 402.861.4538 or c.eusterwiemann@stephen.org.

Tee It Up For Vocations!



The Serra Clubs of Omaha and West Omaha Present
Annual Golf, Tennis, & Pickleball Outing
Monday, June 3, 2024

All proceeds support Archdiocese of Omaha Vocations Programs
Registration Open Now!

- Individual Golf \$125
- Foursome Golf \$500
- Tennis/Pickle Ball \$75
- Dinner Only \$40
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To learn more, register, or sponsor:
<https://serrawestomaha.org/golf/>
 Register and Pay Online or
 Download PDF and Mail a Check
 For questions, contact Joe Grier at 402-680-6654

Golf Registration - 11 AM
 Pines Country Club
 Tennis and Pickleball - 3 PM
 Genesis Westroads
 Includes lunch before and
 cocktail hour, dinner, and
 awards after





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For more information and to register, please check out
 our Strawberry Brunch page on our website at
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