

April 21, 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

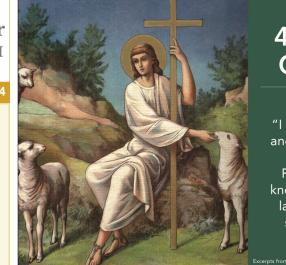
Pastor: Fr. David Belt Associate Pastor: Fr. Zach Tucker Staff Contact Info: <u>stephen.org/staff</u>

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM Submit requests to Leslie at <u>l.schulte@stephen.org</u>.

# **Congratulations, Newly Baptized!**

Aubriella Bastiani, daughter of Hailey Matilda Mae Roder, daughter of Nathan and Leah Frances Marie Roder, daughter of Nathan and Leah Hallie Grace Lausten, daughter of Robert and Lisa





# 4<sup>™</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

<u>—6€0</u>—

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

# Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep."

Bad shepherds let their flocks wander away from the fold and be eaten by wolves and other wild animals. Good shepherds would die protecting their sheep. In Greek,



the word for "good" also means "ideal and noble." This idea of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is a reference to the "noble and ideal" shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. This image was used in the early Church to refer to the passion of Jesus Christ, and it is this great love of Jesus, who gives up His life so that His sheep will be saved, that we celebrate whenever we gather for Eucharist.

Throughout the Old Testament, there was the promise that God would send a shepherd who would tend the flock of believers. Jesus is the fulfillment of that prophecy. He was sent by God, but He wasn't forced to suffer and die. He chose to take on the rejection, suffering, and death that He endured, because He knew that this would be the only way that we would be saved.

On this "Good Shepherd" Sunday, we must reflect on the many ways that we are called to "lay down our lives" for the sake of others. This is an especially powerful image for parents, as they make sacrifices for their families. It is also an image of leadership in the Church that has been used from the early days of our existence. As we continue to grow in our vocations to love and serve the Lord, let us pray for one another, that we may embody the example of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who willingly gave Himself so that we might be saved.

"If Socrates would enter the room, we should rise and do him honor. But if Jesus Christ came into the room, we should fall down on our knees and worship Him." –Napoleon

> God Bless, Father Dave

### First Communion Congratulations

Congratulations to the young people of our parish who are receiving their First Holy Communion today. Please continue to pray for them and their families. May God bless you!

"Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me."

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 4/9-4/15, 2024:

Actual:	\$44,995
Budget:	\$50,167
FYTD Actual:	\$2,058,529
FYTD Budget:	\$2,030,210

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.



THE WORLD DAY **OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS IS OBSERVED ON GOOD** SHEPHERD SUNDAY.

#### "I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice." - John 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

#stewardshipreflection

# 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  $\Rightarrow$ 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.
- School Advisory Board End of the Year  $\Rightarrow$ Nominations: Each year our School Advisory Board honors individuals for their hard work and dedication to our students. Scan the QR Code to nominate your favorite teachers, support staff members and volunteers!



# **Religious Education**

- Vacation Bible School Registration Closed: We have reached capacity for our Vacation Bible School. You may still contact the RE Office at <u>e.smith@stephen.org</u> to be added to the waitlist. The office will contact you if spots become available. Sign up to volunteer at stephen.org/vbs.
- $\Rightarrow$ **Registration for the 2024-2025 school year has begun.** Please visit stephen.org/religious-education for more information and to register.
- Congratulations to our First Communicants and their families.  $\Rightarrow$ Praying that Jesus, the Bread of Life and Cup of Eternal Salvation, will always nourish your faith. We are very proud of them!

# Youth Ministry

- Witness Wednesdays: Please join us April 24th in the Parish Center.  $\Rightarrow$ 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 for Totus Tuus & volunteer to help:**  $\Rightarrow$



# VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION



**Registration Deadline is May 8th.** Tryouts are on May 11th.

Scan the QR Code or visit stephen.org/sports-club-volleyball for registration & more info.

# FIRST COMMUNION

# Congratulations First Communicants! May the light of Christ continue to dwell in your hearts.

Owen Ahart **Owen Albertson** Mila Anderson Sawyer Baack Jocelyn Balsillie Lydia Beach Harper Beatty Josiah Belsky Nathaniel Bogue **Catherine Breiter** Emma Brown Eleanor Busse Jameson Calahan Alexander Calder Jacob Calder Liliana Campos Elijah Cannatella **Emery Christensen** Henry Cleaver Emilia Coniglio Chloe Cote Blake Crum Aurora Danigole Kaden Dickey Thea Dickmeyer Allison Dieckmann Mackenna Doke Lilah Drahota Kane Dudgeon Joseph Edwards Lila Egelhoff Allison Ehlers Brett Ehlers, II Amael Ekoue Kinley Erdei **Cameron Faust** Carter Ficenec Declan Finch Leilani Flores Skylar Fraber Mason Frans Sarah Azonyibo

Lucas Fricke Bravden Frost Matthew Furches Cassen Gilson Colton Glab Brady Gleason Cain Goss Lola Grady Charlotte Grovijohn Calvin Guenther Mack Hall Ella Hansen Mayze Hassanali Margot Havens **Ryder Hayes** Henry Heller **Finnegan Helser** Lucas Hendricks Sophie Hochstein Vivian Hoffert Olivia Hogan Cael Hollingsworth Nicholas Horak Lewis Hutton Nash Johnson Godwin Kangni Kruz Kankousky Henry Kavan **Riley Kingston** Parker Klabunde Rowan Klabunde Gus Klasna Elizabeth Kleinschmit Eva Kooyman Bennett Krobot Elsie Kuhl **Finley Kulawik** Aiden Larson Samir Qaqish

Theresa Le James Lennemann Paige Lennemann Kevin Lind Emmett Lindhorst Lillian Lowman Isaac Lozier **Brock Lutmer** Oscar Lyle **Finley Mace** Francisco Machuca-Diaz **Charlotte Mangenot** Elizabeth Manyout Adalynn Martin Dana Martinez Skylar Mcguire Parker Meyers Leah Micek William Michaelsen Marley Montag Abigayle Mora Leighton Mruz August Neesen Landrie Nelson Addison Nemec Kian Ostwald Grevson Packett Dexter Palmer Sienna Panowicz **Fitzgerald Paus** Lincoln Pearson Weston Pedersen Nathan Perea Pearl Perea **Evelyn Powers** Parker Powers Natalie Purviance **Riley Rakowsky** 

Frank Riha, V **Calen Robbins** Lillian Roberts **Brandon Rodgers** Joseph Rotella Amelia Russell **Emiliano Sandoval** Collin Scheiblhofer Archer Schmitz Nolan Sherrets **Deegan Sindelar** Serenity Sledge-Frank Owen Smith Jessika Snowden **Everly Sookram Charlotte Steffen** William Stephen Axel Stigge Jordan Sullivan **Kelsey Swolley** Violet Taylor Bryan Tchegninougbo Joseph Thomas Mason Thompson Drake Titman **Atley Tselentis Miles Tselentis** Camden VanDorn Rome Velasco **Piper Verraneault** Mallory Warren Mckinley Waszgis Cael Weinert Nora Wernke **Theodore Weyler Bernard Wiggins** Mikael Yee Sydney Zucchelli

# Weekly Prayer

# **Sunday's Readings**

#### **First Reading:**

"There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved." (Acts 4:12)

#### Psalm:

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone. (Ps 118) Or: Alleluia.

#### **Second Reading:**

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,

for we shall see him as he is. (1 Jn 3:2)

#### Gospel:

Jesus said:

"I am the good shepherd.

A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (Jn 10:11)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus the Good Shepherd knows that real love is an action, not an idea. His sacrifice is the proof of his love for his flock. Let us remember to love one another as the Good Shepherd loves us: not just in words but in actions, in choices, in deeds.

# Observances for the week of April 21, 2024

Sunday:	4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for	
	Vocations	
Monday:	Earth Day	
Tuesday:	St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr	
Wednesday:	St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr;	
	Administrative Professionals' Day	
Thursday:	St. Mark, Evangelist	
Friday:	Arbor Day	
Next Sunday:	5th Sunday of Easter	



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

#### Saturday, April 20

8:15 am	Ť	Jeffrey Kane, Jr. (DB)		
5:00 pm	†	Erin Doll (AS)		
Sunday, April 21				
		Boden Rieschl (ZT)		
		People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)		
10:30 am	SI	First Communion Candidates (DB)		
10:35 am	†	Arthur D Houston (ZT)		
1:00 pm	SI	First Communion Candidates (ZT)		
3:30 pm	SI	First Communion Candidates (DB)		
6:00 pm	†	Margaret Klein (MS)		
Monday,	Apr	il 22		
6:30 am	ť	Kate Stork (ZT)		
8:15 am	†	Kate Stork (ZT) Joel Zounda Sitti &		
		Alice Kokovi Atay (ZT)		
Tuesday,	Ap	ril 23		
		Jeanette M. Peterson (DB)		
		Rich Johns (ZT)		
Wednesday, April 24				
		Liz Souba (DB)		
8:15 am	SI	Debra Worrell (ZT)		

Thursday, April 25

6:30 am † Leonard Kruse (DB) 8:15 am † David Lemoine (DB)

Friday, April 26 6:30 am † Steven Michael Bacon (DB) 8:15 am † Judy Klein (ZT)

Saturday, April 27 8:15 am † Lawrence Rupp (DB) 5:00 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (AS)

#### Sunday, April 27

7:30 am	†	Mary Ann Drelicharz (ZT)
9:00 am	†	Eugene Mitchell (ZT)
10:30 am	†	Cathy Greise (ZT)

6:00 pm † Lyle Samuelson (AS)

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

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker; AS = Fr. Andrew Sohm; MS = Fr. Matt Spotts

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>.

Pray For ...

**Please pray for the deceased: Richard Badura,** father of Francie Badura, JoEllen Newell and Stacey Taylor **Marie Bequette,** mother of Seri Letak

Please pray for those who are sick/injured/healing: **Scott Wagner**, husband of Karen and father of Jared and Dylan **Richard Bloom** 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 Max Rocha, husband of Kelly, father of Jayden, KK, Trinity and Xander Molly Felker, daughter of Mike and Stacy Michael Bazant, husband of Patricia 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



### Pastoral Council Seeking Two New Members

The Pastoral Council is seeking two engaged parishioners to join their team. In support of Fr. Dave, this Council strives to be consultative in nature, a medium for communication, and a model of cooperation and collaboration. Learn more and apply at <u>stephen.org/pastoral-council-faq</u>. Please contact Dean Baumert at <u>baumert2@cox.net</u> if you have additional questions.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION at st. stephen the Martyr REGISTER NOW





St. Stephen the Martyr Religious Education offers a variety of programs to teach your child as they grow in faith and knowledge of God.

- Catechist-Led Classes
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Parent Led Faith Formation

STEPHEN.ORG/RELIGIOUS-EDUCATION



# Knights of Columbus Scholarship Opportunity

The Saint Stephen 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** <u>kofc10160.org</u> **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 <u>hhardy@janome-america.com</u>.

# Help keep our parish grounds beautiful!

#### Saturday, April 27th 9 AM - Noon

- Bring gloves, hand tools, blowers, plastic grocery bags, etc.
- Tasks are trash & branch pick-up, spreading mulch, tree-trimming, landscape bed cleanup, edging sidewalks and gutter cleanup.
- Community service hours can be earned, but students must be accompanied by an adult.



#### WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

**Question:** What is a pilgrimage? Why do people go on them?

**Answer:** A pilgrimage is a spiritual journey to visit a holy site, such as the shrine of a saint, a place where the Blessed Virgin Mary has appeared, or an historic church or chapel. What makes a pilgrimage different from a vacation and a pilgrim distinct from a tourist is the spirit in which the journey is made. Pilgrimages are really a symbol of our spiritual journey in life, reminding us that this world is not our true home and that we spend our lives journeying to our homeland, which is the Kingdom of God. Pilgrimages — which can be as involved as a trip to Rome or the Holy Land or as simple as visiting the Blessed Sacrament in a local parish church — are also an opportunity for us to step out of the rhythms and limits of our daily lives to seek out connection with God in a special way, by visiting a holy place. At times, such as on a special feast, a jubilee, or the anniversary of the dedication of the church, special graces (called "indulgences") can also be offered to pilgrims, helping to enrich our experience of the celebration.

In the end, pilgrimages are an ancient act of devotion and something that each of us can put into practice, helping us to discover how God is present in the world around us, in places both near and far. ©LPi

# ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Join us in the quiet to worship Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

#### Mondays from 7-8 PM in the Worship Space

You can also join us in our Adoration Chapel 24/7. The code for access is 9675\*.

# Nebraska s Abortion allot Initiative Is it that Bad?

Pro-abortion activists are leading an effort

to create a right to late-pregnancy

Join Marion Miner of the Nebraska

Catholic Conference and Katherine

Burow of Abortion Dialogue Academy to

learn about this deceptive proposal, and

abortion in the Nebraska Constitution.



Katherine Burow Marion Miner Abortion Dialogue Academv

Nebraska Catholic Conference

- St. Robert Bellarmine Mainelli Center 11802 Pacific Street
- Saturday, May 4th

9 AM to 12 PM -Light Breakfast, Rosary & Talks

Featuring Guest Speakers Deacon Patrick and LuAnn Simons Founders of the Catholic Apostolate, www.AHolyLife.org



how you can help defeat it.

WEDNESDAYS | EACH TALK PRESENTED AT BOTH 9-10 AM & 7-8 PM APRIL 10: "Discernment: How to help your children find meaning in their lives."

APRIL 17: "Vocation: How to help your children hear God's voice."

APRIL 24: "Support: How to help your children navigate discernment and vocation."

Providing practical tips that will help you lead your children to true happiness as teens and young adults.

For free childcare, please email maxsonl@svdpomaha.org.

# Community News

#### THE EUCHARIST: THE SOURCE & SUMMIT OF OUR FAITH



Come to St. Robert Bellarmine in Omaha on April 26 and 27, 2024 to hear friends from EWTN and Catholic Answers speak on THE EUCHARIST: The Source and Summit of our Faith. This 2-day symposium will feature: Fr. Wade Menezes, Tim Staples, Coleen Kelly Mast, Joe Heschmeyer, and Stacy Trasancos. Jack Williams, General Manager of EWTN Radio, will serve as our emcee as we explore the

Eucharist. A bookstore will be open before, during, and after the symposium with a Saturday box lunch available for pre-purchase. The symposium will be held from 7 - 9:30 PM Friday, April 26, and 9 AM - 4:30 PM Saturday, April 27. Tickets are \$25 each. For more info and to purchase tickets, go to spiritcatholicradio.com/April.

#### **GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE STUDY ON SPIRIT CATHOLIC RADIO**

In cooperation with Jeff Cavins and Ascension Press, Spirit Catholic Radio brings you The Great Adventure - Your Journey Through the Bible. Learn how the people, places, and events of the Bible all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. More details at spiritcatholicradio.com/adventure.

#### **GENERATIONAL HEALING MASS**

His Global Love Prayer Communities invite you to a Generational Healing Mass on Friday, April 26, 2024, at St. Gerald Catholic Church, 9602 Q St. Omaha. Rosary at 6:15 PM, praise and worship to follow. Mass at 7 PM. Fr. Kevin Joyce from His Global Love Ministry will be presiding. All are welcome. Questions contact Frances at 402-515-8000.

#### COME VIEW THE CHOSEN WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Visit St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church for a community viewing of The Chosen Season Four on Fridays at 7 PM. We have already viewed episodes 1-4 as a community. Please join us on Friday, April 26th to view episodes 5 & 6 and on Friday, May 3rd to view episodes 7 & 8.

#### 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., 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



# Flaming Hoops Basketball Camp

May 28-May 31, 2024

Registration Now Open!

When: Tuesday, May 28th -Friday, May 31st  $\Rightarrow$ 8:30-10:30 AM (Grades 1-3) ⇒10:45 AM - 12:45 PM (Grades 4-8)

Where: St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School gym

Who: Boys and girls Grades 1-8 (2024-25 school year)

Questions: Contact Kathy Jones, former SSM teacher,

the south side of the building. The plants

Instructions are included with seed packets.

need sun/partial sun and need to be planted ½ inch deep. If you are interesting

in planting these in your own garden,

please stop by the Parish Center.

kionesflaminghoops@gmail.com

Registration: For more information & to register, scan the QR Code.



#### Free Purple Hyacinth Vine Seed Available

Landscape Ministry saved seeds from the Purple Hyacinth Vine that was growing on the wall of Fr. Jim's garden on

Happy gardening!



RSVP



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

St. Stephen Martyr, Omaha, NE

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