

June 16, 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 l.schulte@stephen.org





11[™] SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

_____G i d _____

"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants."- Mk 4:30-32b

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how."



In the Gospels, Jesus never tells us exactly what the kingdom of God is. Instead, he uses parables about

familiar activities and objects to describe the kingdom that's waiting for us and God's saving activity in our lives today. This weekend, we hear Jesus teach that the kingdom is like the seed that is scattered on the ground. Slowly and gradually, the seed sprouts and grows, and the farmer "knows not how" all of this happens.

I believe that there are two important lessons in these few words. First, the seed sprouting and growing is a slow process. Many times, we get impatient with God and expect Him to work according to our timeline. Even when we may think that God isn't with us or that He isn't active in our lives or our world, we have to trust that He is certainly here and He is nurturing the seeds of His grace all around us. Along with this lesson, we recognize that we don't know how God works—we just have to trust that He is present and is working among us.

Today, let us be aware of the ways that God quietly and slowly works in our lives.

"When God is going to do something wonderful, He always starts with a hardship; when God is going to do something amazing, He starts with an impossibility." – Anne Lamott

God Bless, Father Dave



Congratulations, Newly Married!

Chad Peterson & Kelly Mooberry Our faith community wishes you many blessings!

Congratulations, Newly Baptized!



Benjamin James Richardson, son of Phillip & Ashley Briggs Alan Farris, son of Paxton & Kaitlin Leo Jon Nice, son of Jonathan & Kelly

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 6/4-6/10:

Actual:	\$51,208
Budget:	\$47,834
FYTD Actual:	\$2,418,459
FYTD Budget:	\$2,411,044

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.





Prayer for Fathers

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil." - 2 Corinthians 5:10

We are all accountable for all of the gifts God has given us – our time, our talent and our treasure; everything we have and everything we are. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?

#stewardshipreflection

School News

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

- ⇒ Teacher Associates Needed for 24-25 School Year: We are seeking a Teacher Associate to help in Kindergarten all day MWF. Interested? Contact Mr. Verraneault at g.verraneault@stephen.org.
- ⇒ Used Uniform Sale: Our Used Uniform Sale will be Sunday, June 23rd from 8:30 AM 12:30 PM in the Dining Room. Details for buyers and sellers at <u>school.stephen.org/used-uniform-sale</u>.
- ⇒ Summer Play Dates: Our first Summer Play Date for incoming PreK, TK & Kinder students is Mon., June 24th. The event is free to attend but registration is requested so we can plan snacks accordingly! Get all the details and sign up at <u>school.stephen.org/summer-play-date</u>.
- ⇒ 24-25 School Supply Packs: The deadline to order EPI school supply packs is June 21, 2024. To order, visit <u>educationalproducts.com/</u> <u>ShopPacks</u> and enter school code STS021. Be sure to order for your child's 24/25 grade level.

Religious Education

- Thanks be to God! VBS was Fin-tastic! Thank you to all who volunteered, donated items, and prayed for us. We had an awesome team of adults and youth volunteers. The week went swimmingly, and a great time was had by all. Check out our <u>Facebook page</u> for cool videos and pictures from the week.
- ⇒ **Religious Education Fall Registration:** Please register for Fall classes on our website at <u>stephen.org/religious-education</u>. Early registration helps us with planning for the number of classes and catechists needed. Thinking about being a Catechist or Volunteer? Please check the same website for more information and to sign up.

Youth Ministry

- ⇒ Witness Wednesdays: Join us on June 19th from 8—9:30 PM 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 <u>stephen.org/witness-wednesdays</u>.
- ⇒ Register for Totus Tuus & volunteer to help: Totus Tuus is July 7th-12th for 1st-12th graders. Get all the details, register and sign up to volunteer at <u>stephen.org/totus-tuus</u>.

CYSL FALL SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- CYSL Soccer is for SSM Parishioners in grades K-8th
- Athletes of all abilities and multi-sports athletes welcome
- Registration Deadline: 5 PM, Monday, July 8th Note: Micro (Ages 3-6) Registration Opening at Later Date!



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

CROSS COUNTRY REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- Open to all registered St. Stephen parishioners in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th
- Welcome students of all capacities and those participating in other sports
- The registration deadline is 5 PM, Friday, August 15th
- Fees are \$40 per student







ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR MOVING VETERANS FORWARD PROJECT JUNE 15 - 30TH

This June, the St. Stephen Social Justice Ministry is hosting a project to provide household items for veterans moving into small apartments. You can choose to participate in any of these ways:

- Take a star from a tree in the Gathering Space and return the item(s) under the trees.
- Donate \$10 or \$25 gift cards (Walmart or Target), cash, or checks & place them in boxes in the Gathering Space. Checks should be made out to St. Stephen the Martyr Church.



• Scan the QR code to give online.

These items will go to Moving Veterans Forward (MVF) who will provide them directly to veterans they are setting up in small apartments.





Questions? Contact Teresa Ziska at (402) 960-8618.

JOIN THE PRIMETIMERS FOR **ELLIOT THE MUSIC BINGO GUY! THURSDAY, JULY 18** 6 PM **4TH ANNUAL PARISH CENTER** Join us for a fun night with this professional DJ! Bring an appetizer to share & BYOB. Cost is \$10/person. THURS., AUGUST 8TH | TIBURON GOLF CLUB Benefitting St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School **RSVP** to Pat Miller at A Memorial Golf Tournament in honor of Kevin Keegan, 402-201-7945 by July 11th. father of three St. Stephen students; Rex Keegan (4th), Davis Keegan (2nd) and Londyn Keegan (K), will be held on August 8, 2024. All proceeds will be donated to St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic School to enhance the recess area.

Join our Parish Family!

St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church is a community for all people to encounter Christ, know Christ, and proclaim Christ.

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 <u>a.ybarra@stephen.org</u>.



FAREWELL, FR. ZACH

Mass & Reception

Fr. Zach Tucker will celebrate his last Mass as our Associate Pastor on

Sunday, June 30th at 10:30 AM

Reception to follow in the Dining Room Cake, cookies <u>and coffee will be served.</u>

Thank you for bringing Christ to us, Fr. Zach!

We will be praying for you!



Volunteers Needed for Votive Candle Replenishment

We are seeking one or two individuals to help restock our votive candles in the Daily Mass Chapel on Sunday mornings. If you or someone you know would like to help provide the "light" for others' intentions, please contact our Votive Candle Ministry Coordinator, Melissa LaPesh at meli3773@ymail.com.

FOR THE CONSECRATION OF OUR NATION

JULY 4 AFTER THE 8:15 AM MASS ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR PARISH

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Why do the Gospels differ in their details? I was surprised to learn that not all of the Gospels tell the same stories, for example, the Nativity. Doesn't this take away from their credibility?

Answer: Take any event that happens, from family trips to national politics and ask two or three different people to explain what happened. You will get a different version of the same story. People tend to tell the story from their perspective, and past experience shades what we recall and how we recall it. Our choice of words and what details we leave in or out is also influenced by the audience who is listening to our tales.

The Gospel writers are no different. Each one tells the story of Jesus from their own perspective. Versions differ in some details, not because one is true and the other is not, but because each Gospel writer, or Evangelist, has a different theological point to communicate as well as a different audience for whom he is writing. He picks and chooses the details of his Gospel based on what message he is preaching, what his audience may already know, and what message they need to hear. The various details of the Gospels point more to their authenticity as a record of the church's experience and understanding of Jesus. In a good study Bible, the background notes for each Gospel contain a lot of information that helps us better understand each Evangelist and his message. ©LPi



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

Mondays | 7 PM | Worship Space

Please join us in the Adoration Chapel 24/7. The code for access is 9675*.



-ST. DOMINIC SAVIO

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the LORD, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom. (Ez 17:24)

Psalm:

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you. (Ps 92)

Second Reading:

Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. (2 Cor 5:9)

Gospel:

"It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.

But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants." (Mk 4:31-32)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Faith can start small, Jesus tells us - as small as the tiniest seed on earth. But it's up to us to surround that seed with good, nutritious soil, to nourish it with sunlight and water, and to tend to it lovingly so that it will grow.

Observances for the week of June 16, 2024

Wednesday: St. Romuald, Abbot

Thursday: World Refugee Day

- Friday: St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious
- Saturday: St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs

Next Sunday: 12th 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 <u>stephen.org/prayer-line</u> or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 15		
8:15 am	Ť	Ben Hull (AS)
5:00 pm	†	Erin Doll (DA)

Sunday, June 16—Father's Day

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (ZT) 9:00 am † Helen Marx (DB) 10:30 am † Gene Zywiec (DA) 6:00 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)

Monday, June 17

6:30 am † Terry & Marie Zrust (ZT) 8:15 am † Leonard Kruse (ZT)

Tuesday, June 18

6:30 am † Jim & JoAnn Stachura (DB) 8:15 am † Patricia Whipple (ZT)

Wednesday, June 19 6:30 am † Leonard Kruse (DB) 8:15 am † Dan McGargill (ZT)

Thursday, June 20

6:30 am † Egon & Joan Baumert (DB) 8:15 am SI Massan Aflagah-Togo Family (DB)

Friday, June 21

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

Saturday, June 22

8:15 am † Judy Klein (ZT) 5:00 pm † Rodger Fawcett (DH)

Sunday, June 23

7:30 am SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB) 9:00 am † Luella Linnebur (DB) 10:30 am † Cathy Greise (ZT) 6:00 pm † Margaret Klein (ZT)

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

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; ZT = Fr. Zach Tucker; AS = Fr. Andrew Sohm; DA = Fr. Dan Andrews; 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>.



Please pray for those who have passed away: Linda Ádams, sister-in-law of Pam Davis Frederick Totten, husband of Jane

Please pray for those who are sick/injured/healing:

Larry Boettcher **Rod Heng**, husband of Carol Judy Bagby, sister in-law of Suzie Dallan Kay Schmitt, wife of Vic Tom Johnson, husband of Cherie Ari Taware, nephew of Melissa Kane **Marie Stibbs Richard Bloom** Betty Brinster, wife of Jerry 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 Ryan Huebner, son of Cheryl & Marty

Community News

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION TO PASS THROUGH OMAHA



The National Eucharistic Revival will oversee the blessing of a nation with four Eucharistic Procession Pilgrimages, forming a cross over the country. The Serra Route will pass through Nebraska and Iowa June 12-25, 2024. The Procession Pilgrimage will stop at St. Wenceslaus Church in Omaha on June 22 and St. Cecilia Cathedral

on June 23. For more details, to register for the free procession events, and to stay up to date with the Procession Pilgrimage, tune in to Spirit Catholic Radio and visit spiritcatholicradio.com/serra.

SIDEWALK ADVOCACY TRAINING JUNE 29TH



Training will be offered for men and women desiring to help women through sidewalk advocacy or prayer support at local abortion facilities. This peaceful, prayerful, law abiding approach has saved over 20,000 babies in 239 cities. Training will be held on Saturday, June 29th at the Catholic Charities Building from 10 AM – 4 PM. \$10 registration fee covers

workbook, materials and lunch. For more information or to register contact lifesidewalk@gmail.com.

MAGNIFICAT-OMAHA BRUNCH—JUNE 22ND

All women are invited to the Magnificat-Omaha Summer Brunch at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church at 9:30 AM on June 22. Our guest speaker is Patti Gallagher Mansfield, a participant in the historic "Duquesne Weekend," which marked the beginning of the Charismatic Renewal in the Catholic Church. Author of five books, she has ministered at conferences for laity and priests, proclaiming the grace of the Baptism of the Spirit on five continents. The cost is \$20. For reservations and information, go to MagnificatOmaha.org. Magnificat-Omaha is an archdiocesan-wide Catholic women's organization focused on evangelization.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF OMAHA SUMMER CAMPS

Join us this summer for camps in Literature, Sacred Art, Drama, Mock Trial, and Latin! There are opportunities for participants in grades 3 - Adult. For more information and to register, visit chestertonomaha.org/camps!

CATHOLIC BUSINESS GROUP OF OMAHA'S LUNCH & SPEAKER EVENT

Join us June 20th at 11:30 AM at the Scott Conference Center to hear Tom Freeman, Attorney at Fiedler Law Omaha speak on "Faith and Purpose". Tom's faith journey, including example of God's direction in work, family, Church and life. Non-member fee for event is \$25. RSVP at cbgomaha.org/ meetings/registration by June 17.

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

Will you join Him?



The Eucharistic Procession will take place in and around Omaha June 21-23, 2024, as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.



Register for free here:





V2 DISCOVERY CAMP

V2 Discovery Camp is a Catholic summer camp for young men entering 5th grade through 9th grade in the fall. The camp is 4 days, 3 nights. This camp is a great option for first time campers, fathers and son duos and any other young adventurer hungry for engaging activities, personal growth, inspiring worship and spiritual development

INTERESTED IN BEING A YOUTH LEADER? EMAIL INFO@V2MINISTRIES.ORG TO LEARN HOW TO APPLY.

July 28-31 Camp Kateri Tekakwitha 1305 Road 3 McCool Junction, NE 68401 Price: \$375: Through June 2nd \$400: Through July 1st (Scholarships available)



Scan this QR code to register, or visit v2ministries.org/adventures

For more information contact us at 402-915-0482 or info@v2ministries.org



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

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St. Stephen Martyr, Omaha, NE

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