

August 11, 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, 7:30 AM–7:30 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. Matthew Pohlman Staff Contact Info: <u>stephen.org/staff</u> Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM Submit requests to Leslie at <u>l.schulte@stephen.org</u>.



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Join us for Mass on this Holy Day of Obligation

- Wednesday, August 14th at 5:30 PM
- Thursday, August 15th at 6:30 AM, 8:15 AM*, 12:05 PM, or 5:30 PM

*Father Dave will bless our new Tabernacle at 8:15 AM Mass.

Parish Offices are closed on Thursday.



19[™] SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

″I am the bread of life. Your

ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die." - Jn 6:48-50

Pastor's Message—From Father Dave

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."



This past week, I received an e-mail that included a story that I had seen before. In these weeks of hearing from the "Bread of Life" discourse from the Gospel of Saint John, I thought that it would be a good message for all of us to ponder...Why Go To Church?

A Church-goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

For Catholics, trying to live without the Eucharist is like trying to stay alive without adequate food. We turn to Jesus the Bread of Life, in prayer, service, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Sacraments—especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Sunday Mass. Without the spiritual nourishment that comes from Jesus through the Church, we are going to be weak and lifeless. Without the prayerful support of a family of faith and the food and drink of the Eucharist, we are not going to be strong enough to make this earthly journey to eternal life.

"If you're hankering for God, He's already found you for it is God who creates the hankering." – Gerald Mann

In Christ, Father Dave



Blessing of the Tabernacle

ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION AUGUST 15 AT 8:15 AM MASS

Thank you to all our parishioners who support our mission to make St. Stephen the Martyr a place to Encounter, Know and Proclaim Christ!

16701 "S" Street, Omaha, NE 68135 | (402) 896-9675 | stephen.org 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: <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 & Homebound Eucharist Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Becoming Catholic! Order of Christian Initiation Contact Adam Ybarra, Director of Mission, at (402) 861-4507 or <u>a.ybarra@stephen.org</u>.

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 7/30-8/5:

Actual:	\$32,018
Budget:	\$46,249
FYTD Actual: FYTD Budget:	\$212,923 \$227,731

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/</u> <u>give</u>. Offertory envelopes may also be mailed to our office: 16701 S Street, Omaha, NE 68135.





Congratulations, Newly Married!

Jalen Jack Barry & Lainey LeAnn Russell Our faith community wishes you many blessings!



Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Livvy Jade Fowlkes daughter of Tatem and Lauren

"Get up and eat or the journey will be too much for you!" 1 Kings19:7

God knows that committing to a stewardship lifestyle is difficult. However, we were not designed to do it on our own, we need God's help. Fortunately, God gave us the greatest gift of all, His son, Jesus. Through the gift of the Eucharist, we unite our sacrifice with Jesus' sacrifice to do the will of God, Our Father. We receive the strength and courage to be His missionary disciples.

School News

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

- ⇒ We're Hiring! We are seeking a Teacher Associate for a Kindergarten classroom from 8-11 AM on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. Interested? Please contact Greg Verraneault, Assistant Principal, at (402) 896-0754 or g.verraneault@stephen.org.
- ⇒ We still have room for your student! We still have space in most classes for the 24-25 school year, including our PreK and Kindergarten classes! Request a tour or apply at <u>school.stephen.org/admissions</u>.

Religious Education

- Catechist Meeting: TODAY, August 11th, at 2 PM in the Dining Room. All catechists who have signed up for the upcoming year are expected to attend. If you are interested in being a catechist or just want more information about what it entails, please join us today!
- ⇒ Why Religious Education? Our program invites, encourages, and equips children and their families to encounter, know and proclaim Christ! Through Religious Education, we strive to teach a deeper understanding of prayer and worship, as well as make known the love that God offers to all. We offer weekly, catechist-led classes for students in PreK through Grade 8 on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We also offer a home-school RE program for parent-led faith formation in non-sacrament years. Lastly, we offer additional sacrament preparation for students who missed First Communion and Reconciliation in the second grade. Please reach out to discover how SSM Religious Education can support your family on your journey of faith! Call (402) 896-5683 for more information.
- 2nd and 5th Grade Catechists needed! Please reach out to learn how you may share the faith with children of our parish. All materials are provided!
- ⇒ New RE Volunteer Opportunities: We have added a "Catechist Assistant" volunteer role this year for parents/grandparents/high school students who want to be involved in the classroom without the responsibilities of preparing and teaching the curriculum. To learn about this and all of our volunteer opportunities visit <u>stephen.org/reregistration</u>. Volunteers receive discounted or waived tuition. Please prayerfully consider signing up—we cannot do this without you!

Youth Ministry

⇒ Witness Wednesdays: Join us this week, Wednesday, August 14th from 8—9:30 PM in the Parish Center. We will spend time together learning from powerful witnesses to our faith. Snacks and drinks are provided. For more information, please visit <u>stephen.org/witness-</u> wednesdays.

MICRO SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- Micro Soccer is for SSM Parishioners, ages 3-6
- Games will start Sept. 15th and play for 7 weeks, every Sunday at Mission Park
- Register by 5 PM, Friday, August 30th



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



#stewardshipreflection



To schedule your appointment:

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767),

Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: StStephenOMA, or

- Scan the OR code to schedule an appointment.
- Questions? Contact Tom Rushing at (402) 657-7041



Appointment

Donors needed! Come give blood in August for a \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card by email!

See rcblood.org/Help.

Brain Health: A Discussion about

Alzheimer's and Dementia **Presented by Rosalyn Trumm**

Hosted by the St. Stephen Respect Life Committee August 25th | 3 PM | Parish Center

You're invited to come learn from Rosalyn Trumm and her husband, who have been on a seven year journey learning how to live with Alzheimer's and Dementia. She will share her personal experiences of being a caretaker for her husband who lives with this awful disease along with research and help available to others. Because of lessons learned and lifestyle changes made and implemented, her husband is more independent and functional.

Register after Masses on

Sundays from August 3rd-18th

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!

Cinnamon at 402-669-3441.

Scan the QR Code to register as a parishioner. To learn how you can get involved & grow closer to Christ, contact Adam Ybarra at (402) 861-4507 or a.ybarra@stephen.org.



"Behold, I stand at the door and knock." - Rev 3:20

Are you ready to open the door?



Becoming Catholic! Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

- Are you seeking full communion with the Catholic Church?
- Are you a baptized Catholic needing First Communion or Confirmation?
- Do you have loved ones falling into any of these descriptions?

The Becoming Catholic!

Program at St. Stephen the Martyr will help you **deepen** your **relationship** with Jesus Christ through a more intimate knowledge of **His Church** and **Holy Scripture**.





For more information, scan the QR code or contact Deacon Scott & Julie Tylski at tylskisj@outlook.com, 402-850-4501 (Julie) or 402-689-3387 (Dcn. Scott).

Book & Bible Studies

Many Bible/Book Studies are available to our parishioners as a way to encounter, know, and proclaim Christ. Additional opportunities will be announced in the coming weeks! Scan the QR code to see the latest information.



- ⇒ Seeking Truth Bible Study on Genesis: Everyone is welcome to join the 2024-2025 season of Seeking Truth Bible Study. This year, we will study the Book of Genesis. The study begins August 27th and meets every Tuesday from 9:15-10:45 AM in the Parish Center. The study has a winter break from December 3rd-January 7th. Questions? Please contact Connie at <u>ccinnamon47@gmail.com</u>.
- ⇒ Acts of the Apostles Bible Study with Deacon Marty: Deacon Marty will be offering study on the Acts of Apostles. The group will meet on Wednesdays starting September 5th from 9:30-11:00 AM in the Parish Center. The textbooks will be the Bible and the Shepherd's Notes book on "Acts". For more information or to register, email Deacon Marty at <u>mwarwick3@cox.net</u>.
- ⇒ Women's Bible Study on 2nd Saturday Mornings: Join other women of St. Stephen the Martyr parish once per month as we journey together through "Psalms II Praying With Jesus" by Kevin Perrotta. We will meet on the second Saturday of the month from 9 - 11 AM beginning September 14th. To register and reserve your book, contact Janice Dethlefs 402-651-0153.
- ⇒ Lectio Divina: Come and learn the Lectio Divina way to pray! Lectio Divina means "Divine Reading". Our women's group invites you to learn the practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word. We meet the First Thursday of each month from 9:15 – 10:30 AM, beginning September 5th in the Parish Center. Questions? Contact Nancy at wiederholtnancy@hotmail.com.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question: I've heard that faith is a theological virtue. What does that mean?

Answer: To say a virtue is theological means that it comes as a gift from God. St. Thomas Aquinas, a Dominican monk who crafted the famous arguments for the existence of God, wrote: "This alone is the true knowledge of God: to know that God is beyond knowing." God is transcendent. This word comes from the Latin "transcendere," meaning "to climb beyond." When something is transcendent, it exists beyond our normal range of experience. Philosopher Peter Kreeft put it simply: "God is always more." While God created us in His image and likeness, too often we re-create Him in ours. We project our deepest hopes, our subliminal fears, and our hidden dreams, and conjure up our own image of what God could be. Yet God can never be limited to our own perception of Him.

That's where faith comes in. We read in the Catechism that "faith is the theological virtue by which we believe in God and believe all that He has said and revealed to us and all that the Holy Church proposes for our belief" (CCC 1814). We can know God through reason, to a point. As human beings, we want to know and understand the world around us, but God isn't in the world around us. He's beyond it. The best way to come to know God is not through our own clever mental maneuvering, but through trusting in God's revelation of Himself. We might think we know who God is, but the only way we can have any idea is if we trust, through the virtue of faith, who He has revealed Himself to be. **©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*.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

He got up, ate, and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb. (1 Kgs 19:8)

Psalm:

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading:

So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us. (Eph 5:1-2)

Gospel:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (Jn 6:51)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Jesus tells us that he is the living bread that came down from heaven. His actions, his example, his teachings — they are not just words on a page, stories from a moth-eaten history book. They are life. They are food for our journey, and they are forever.

Observances for the week of August 11, 2024

Sunday:	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
Tuesday:	Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs
Wednesday:	St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr
Thursday:	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday:	St. Stephen of Hungary

Next Sunday: 20th 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, August 10 8:15 am † Kyle Andersen (MP) 5:00 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB) Sunday August 11

Sunauy, nagase n				
		Mary Drelicharz (MP)		
9:00 am	SI	Mary Johns and Family (MP)		
10:30 am	†	Bob Menard (DB)		
6:00 pm	SI	Fabrice Togo Brianne Piper (AS)		
	_			

Monday, August 12

6:30 am † Peggy Steinauer (MP) 8:15 am † Rich McCormick (MP)

Tuesday, August 13

6:30 am † Robert O'Donnell (MP) 8:15 am † Dan McGargill (DB)

Wednesday, August 14

6:30 am	Ť	Daniel Higgins (MP)
8:15 am	†	JoAnn Spurgin (DB)
		Rich Johns (MP)

Thursday, August 15— Assumption of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**

- 6:30 am † Jeanette Peterson (DB) 8:15 am † Jesus Maria Gutierrez Puentes (DB) 12:05 pm SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)
- 5:30 pm SI William John Macholan (MP)

Friday, August 16 6:30 am † Terry & Marie Zrust (MP) 8:15 am † Leonard Kruse (DB)

Saturday, August 17 8:15 am † Bob & Sue Mathine (MP) 5:00 pm † Erin Doll (DB)

Sunday, August 18

7:30 am † Lewis Storm (MP) 9:00 am SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (MP) 10:30 am SI Bob & Eva Cockson (DB) 6:00 pm † Jerry Goldsberry (DB)

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

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; MP = Fr. Matthew Pohlman; AS=Fr. Andy Sohm

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 the repose of the soul of: Leann Keller, sister of Seri Letak

Pray for those who are sick/injured/healing:

Larry Comer, husband of Janie Matt Kelly, son of Billie Watsabaugh Larry Boettcher, husband of Judith Rod Heng, husband of Carol Judy Bagby, sister in-law of Suzie Dallan 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

OMAHA COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN CONVENTION: The 100th Convention of the Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (OACCW) will be held on Monday, September 16, 2024 at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 2301 W. Madison Avenue, Norfolk, NE. Registration begins at 7:30 AM with a light breakfast, Rosary at 8 AM, and an opening session at 9 AM. Followed by Mass with Archbishop Lucas at 11AM, Lunch at Noon, and afternoon session with our special guest speakers Nebraska Catholic Conference: Amanada and Scarlett Radke, Mitchell, SD from 1-4 PM. Their talk: "Your Will, Not Mine". For their full bio review, visit <u>oaccw.org</u>. For planning purposes, pre-register by September 2nd. Registration form and \$25 registration fee should be mailed to Deb Warren, POB 324, Elgin, NE 68636. Forms available online at <u>oaccw.org</u> or through your local parish office. Checks are payable to RC Deanery CCW.

FIAT MINISTRIES DISCERNMENT RETREAT: Single women aged 18-30 who are seeking to do God's will are invited to attend an upcoming Fiat Ministries Discernment Retreat at the Missionary Benedictine Sisters Immaculata Monastery. Fiat Ministries cultivates an authentic culture of discernment for young women. Consecrated sisters from various communities will joyfully witness what it means to be a consecrated religious sister. Register and more info at <u>fiatministries.org/retreats</u>.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OMAHA SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAINTAIN FOOD PANTRY GARDEN: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Omaha is a service organization that operates a large food pantry at 2101 Leavenworth St. which includes an outdoor Pantry Garden that provides fresh produce to those in need. The Pantry Garden is run exclusively by volunteers. They are seeking more volunteers to help harvest produce from the garden on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:30-11 AM from mid-April from mid-October. Contact Pat Slaven at <u>mpslaven035@gmail.com</u> for more information.

OPENING ON PRAGUE & DANUBE RIVER CRUISE WITH FR. DAVE AVAILABLE: One person who purchased a ticket to Prague & Danube River Cruise with Father Dave on Oct. 15-26, 2024 is now unable to attend. There is now and opening for one or two people for this incredible travel opportunity with Magi Travel! The individual or couple would take over the trip reservation for a double room on the river boat. For more info, please contact Jo Marsicek 402-981-1254 or <u>marsicekj@aol.com</u>.

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR POSITION OPEN AT SVdP: St. Vincent de Paul Parish is currently seeking applicants for a Director of Youth Ministry. The Director of Youth Ministry facilitates the discipleship and formation efforts for youth, primarily for grades 7-12, and their families. In partnership with other staff members and leaders within the parish, the Youth Ministry Director works to nurture spiritual growth of adolescents on the journey of discipleship. Learn more & apply at <u>svdpomaha.org/</u> <u>about-us/employment1</u>.

Rosary & Mass for Vocations Hosted by the Serra Club of West Omaha August 12 | 5 PM | St. Robert Bellarmine Parish



Join us for a special Rosary for Vocations followed by a Holy Mass on Monday, August 12, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church (11802 Pacific Street, Omaha) to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life within the Archdiocese of Omaha.

The Rosary will begin at 5 PM and Mass is at 5:30 PM. Mass will be celebrated by Rev. Tom Weisbecker,

Serra Chaplain, and Rev. Taylor Leffler, assisted by Deacons Joe Laird and Bob Hamilton. After Mass, join us in the Mainelli Center for a reception where Father Taylor will speak about *The Eucharist: Presence, Sacrifice, Communion.*



All are welcome! If you are interested in helping to build the Church locally through vocations support, contact Bruce Jefferies, Serra VP, at <u>westomaha@serrainternational.org</u>. Learn more at <u>serrawestomaha.org</u> and follow us on Facebook <u>@serrawestomaha</u>.

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:<mark>45 a.m. and 8:15 a.</mark>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

> Saturday, August 17, 2024 9am to 10pm St. Charles Borromeo Gum

SCB Crop

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> Benefitting the St. Charles Borromeo Parish Community.

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Register & More Info: www.stcharlesomaha.org/crop





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