



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

August 9, 2026

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 (facebook.com/StStephensCatholicChurchOmaha)
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 8:20-9:05 AM
on Tues/Wed/Fri. The Adoration Chapel is available
24/7 via door access code: 9675*

Exposed Adoration

Mondays from 7 to 8 PM and on first Friday of the
Month from 9 AM to Noon 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. John Norman

Staff Contact Info: stephen.org/staff

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 5 PM

Submit requests to Rachel at r.cooley@stephen.org.



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply,
"Lord, if it is you, command
me to come to you on the
water." He said, "Come."
Peter got out of the boat
and began to walk on the
water toward Jesus.
- Mt 14:28-29

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

OLPH

Pastor's Message – From Father Dave

Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"



The story of Jesus calming the sea is a beautiful parable about the life of the Church: the danger and evil of the world in the raging sea; the boat as the ark of God's people, the Church; Jesus giving his usual admonition for the Christian in every situation: "Do not be afraid." Saint Matthew has Peter step forward and ask to come out on the water with Jesus, but his faith fails him. As soon as he takes his eyes off Jesus and looks at the stormy seas, he begins to sink into the chaos.

This parable teaches us that all members of the Church must step out of the safety of the boat, take a few risks, and listen to the voice of Jesus, who will save us and guide us to do His work in the chaos of the world. We must not be bound by fear, even though the danger is real. Instead, we should recognize that Jesus is in the midst of the uncertainty and the turbulence of the world and He is near enough to rescue us if our courage and faith fail us.

"Do not be afraid." We cannot do the rest of what Jesus asks of us until we stop trembling in fear. If we want a change in the world, if we want our families, our parish, and our community to know peace and joy, we have to step out of the confines of our everyday lives, take a risk, and follow the gentle voice of the Good Shepherd. Jesus calls to us and invites us lend a hand to those who are sinking into the chaos and danger of the world.

"Sometimes the Lord calms the storm. Sometimes he lets the storm rage and calms his child." -Unknown

*In Christ,
Father Dave*



End of Summer Tailgate

Saturday, August 15th
6 PM after Mass
In front of the Parish Center

**Join us for a night of great food, drinks,
music, & inflatables for the kids!**





Congratulations, Newly Baptized!

Aaliyah Victoria Franco-Garcia

daughter of Victor Franco Melendez and Stephannie Garcia Rosales

Kolt James Zelei and Kase Michael Zelei

sons of Cameron and Cheyanne Zelei

Pray & Worship

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 & Homebound Eucharist

Contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Becoming Catholic! Order of Christian Initiation

Contact Brooke Keller, Director of Evangelization, at (402) 861-4507 or bnkeller@stephen.org.

Financial Stewardship

Offertory & Online Giving 7/28 - 8/3/2026:

Actual:	\$37,039
Budget:	\$52,688

FYTD Actual:	\$207,001
FYTD Budget:	\$255,914

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.



CALL FOR 2026-2027 CORPORATE SPONSORS

LEARN MORE:
SCHOOL.STEPHEN.ORG/CORPORATE-SPONSORS

Support our Catholic School!

Interested in supporting our school while promoting your business? Become a 2026-2027 St. Stephen the Martyr Corporate Sponsor! This year's fundraising efforts will help underwrite the cost of updating classroom equipment & technology, contributing to the cost of instructional materials, and providing teacher grants throughout the year. Additional funds raised will be used for security upgrades and technology subscriptions. The deadline for sponsorships is August 10th. Thank you for supporting our Catholic school! Questions? Contact the Martyr Marathon team at martyrmarathon@gmail.com.



School News

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

- **Save the Date for our Back to School Event!** Join us Monday, August 17th from 4—6:30 PM where you can drop off your child's school supplies, meet their teachers, check out their classroom, and visit the various club & activities booths in the gym.

Religious Education

- **Help your child grow in relationship with the Lord and receive the sacraments!** Register your pre-k through 8th grade children in our after-school Religious Education classes. Classes will begin on Aug. 25th & 26th and do fill up, so please visit www.stephen.org/religious-education/ for more information and to register today!
- **Please prayerfully consider sharing your faith with the children of our parish as a Catechist or Volunteer in our Religious Education program!** Volunteers receive free or discounted tuition for enrolled children. All materials are provided and no experience is required. For more information about our many volunteer opportunities and to register, please visit www.stephen.org/re-registration. Our fall RE Volunteer Meeting will be held on August 16th at 2 PM in the school dining room. Call 402-896-5683 with questions!
- **Is your child over 7 and in need of Baptism or First Communion?** Register for our Sunday morning OCIA for Children class, for those new to the faith or missing sacraments. Visit stephen.org/re-registration for information on the OCIC program or reach out to Sandy Kimmey at S.Kimmey@stephen.org with questions.

Youth Ministry

- **Witness Wednesdays:** Youth Night for High Schoolers: Join us on Wednesday, August 12th from 5:30-9:30 PM at the Shaners' residence. All 9th-12th graders are welcome to join us every Wednesday! Learn more at stephen.org/witness-Wednesdays.
- **Middle School Youth Group:** We will take a brief break for the start of school. Join us on Aug. 25 to kick off the school year. We had a great summer together and look forward to the school year!

CROSS COUNTRY REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



- Open to all registered St. Stephen parishioners in grades 5th-8th.
- Welcome students of all capacities and those participating in other sports
- Developmental Run Club available for grades 1st-4th. They will join practices and do several Fun Runs during the season. \$30 fee/student.
- The registration deadline is 5 PM, Wednesday, August 25th.
- Fees are \$60 per student

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTER AT
STEPHEN.ORG/SPORTS-CLUB-CROSS-COUNTRY



MICRO SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

- Micro Soccer is for SSM Parishioners, ages 3-6
- Games will be every Sunday at Mission Park starting Sept. 13th
- Register by Friday, August 28th



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





SACRAMENTS

for children ages 7-13

Order of Christian Initiation
Adapted for Children (OCIA-C)

Do your 7-13 year old children need to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, or Penance (Reconciliation)? Enroll in our OCIC/Sacrament Preparation class beginning this Fall! Our Director of Religious Education is offering a 45-min. weekly class for a multi-age group of children to learn/review the teachings of the Catholic Faith as well as to prepare them for and to receive the sacraments. Upon completion of this class, students will be prepared to enroll the following year in their own grade-level Religious Education class and continue growing with their peers in ongoing religious formation.

Register today!

stephen.org/re-registration

**Class begins:
September 20, 2026**

When: Sunday Mornings

Time: 9:30-10:15am

Where: School Library

For more information,
contact Sandy Kimmey
402-861-4510
s.kimmey@stephen.org

Construction Notice

Ceiling Tile Replacement: Thank you for your patience while we replaced the tile at the entrance to our church building. The work is now complete, and the entrance is fully open.

Dining Room Restroom Renovation: The Dining Room restroom renovation is ongoing. Please use the restrooms in the north hallway.

Thank you for your patience as we complete these improvements!

Seeking Sports Club President

This volunteer position oversees Sports Club activities by coordinating with sport leaders, assisting with registrations, working with the Treasurer on the budget and purchases, leading 3-4 Advisory Board meetings each year, and serving as the main contact for coordinators, coaches, and parents. The time commitment is moderate and varies throughout the year. Interested? Contact Greg at g.verraneault@stephen.org.



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

Now Hiring

Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry

The Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry leads faith formation, service, and community-building for grades 6-8, supports High School Youth Ministry, and fosters a positive, Christ-centered environment while advancing the parish's mission. Email Brooke at bnkeller@stephen.org to apply!



ANSWER THE CALL

to pass on the Catholic faith to children as a
St. Stephen the Martyr

Religious Education
Catechist or Volunteer



Visit the Religious Education page at www.stephen.org/re-registration or scan the QR code to explore our programs, learn more, and register. Discover how God may be calling you to share His love with the children of our parish!



Join the Council of Catholic Women



Monthly Meeting & Fellowship Sept. 1st at 7 PM

You are welcome at our monthly meeting scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month in the Parish Center from 7-8 PM with fellowship through 9 PM. There are many other opportunities for service and fellowship. Please join us! To sign up for emails, please visit stephen.org/councilofcatholicwomen.

St. Stephen's Council of Catholic Women (CCW) is for all baptized Catholic women, so if you are baptized, you are automatically a member. There are no dues. It is a part of the local, state, and national Council of Catholic Women. We support, empower, and educate Catholic women in our community, specifically in the areas of spirituality, service, and leadership. We welcome any baptized Catholic woman to join us for any and all of our meetings or social events.



The Knights of Columbus invite our parish and school families to help clean headstones at Omaha National Cemetery on Saturday, August 29, from 9-11 AM. This is a meaningful service opportunity to honor our veterans and is a great way for students to earn service hours. Parents must accompany students. Soft nylon brushes and buckets will be available, but you are welcome to bring your own. Please note that wire brushes and detergents are not permitted.

Join our Parish Family

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

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 Brooke Keller at bnkeller@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.



- **Lectio Divina:** Learn the ancient practice of prayerful Scripture reading while studying Pivotal Players, Volume II by Bishop Barron. Meets the first Thursday of each month, 9:15-10:30 AM, beginning September 3 in the Parish Center. Questions? Contact Nancy at wiederholtncancy@hotmail.com.
- **Seeking Truth Bible Study:** Explore the Synoptic Gospels through Scripture, discussion, and Sharon Doran's Seeking Truth lectures. Meets Tuesdays, 9:15-10:45 AM, beginning Aug. 25 in the Parish Center (holiday break in December and January). Contact Diane Burton at 402-490-5966 or burdi561@gmail.com, or Connie Cinnamon at 402-669-3629 or ccinnamon47@gmail.com.
- **Women's Bible Study:** Join us for a monthly study of Acts of the Apostles by Little Rock Scripture Study. Meets the second Saturday of each month, 9-11 AM, beginning Sept. 12 in the Parish Center. All materials are provided. Register with Janice Dethlefs at 402-651-0153 or Jan Mitchell at 402-669-7409.
- **More studies coming soon!** Check back for additional opportunities to grow in the Catholic faith this year.

WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:

Question: Why do we call Jesus "the light of the world"?

Answer: In cultures around the world, light and darkness are chief symbols of good and evil, order and chaos, clarity and confusion, hope and despair. These symbols tap into something essential about the nature of things. God has given us the created world as a gift. His first work, as we see in Genesis 1, is to create light, giving meaning and insight to the abyss. It is in the light that rest of creation comes to be. A gathering darkness emerges in Genesis 3. Adam and Eve hide, shrouding themselves from the sun's rays and the gaze of God. While God offers a promise of salvation and establishes a covenant with His people, the sense of fog and dim understanding still remain. The Hebrew people repeatedly betray the promises they have made to God, and all around them the nations actively worship idols.

The promise of God is not in vain, however. In John 1, we see a depiction of Christ as primordial goodness, order, clarity, and hope. "The true light, which enlightens everyone was coming into the world ... this life was the light of the human race" (John 1: 9, 4). Think of the last sunrise you witnessed (if you could wake up for it!). As you watched the lavender brighten to rose edged with gold, did your heart swell? Did you recall the goodness of the world? Did you feel rekindled hope? Such is the role of Christ in the soul. Such is his coming Incarnate in our world. ©LPi

ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

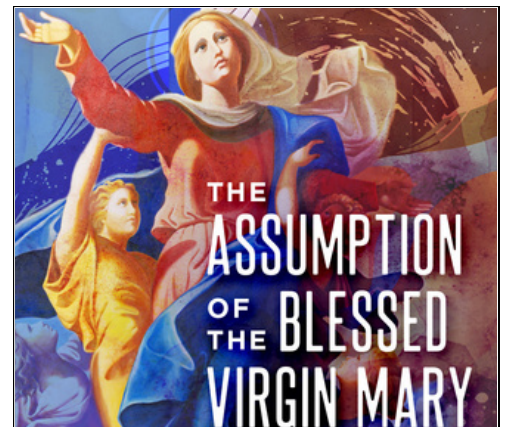


Join us in the quiet to worship Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Mondays | 7 PM | Worship Space

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

To sign up for a regular Holy Hour, please contact Glea at gleahamik@hotmail.com or (712) 551-6293.



Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Then the LORD said to him,
"Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD;
the LORD will be passing by." (1 Kgs 19:11)

Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

Second Reading:

I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie;
my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me
witness. (Rom 9:1)

Gospel:

Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter,
and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you
doubt?" (Mt 14:31)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

In the midst of life's greatest storms, Jesus
comes to us, but we may not recognize him.
We may test him. In doing so, he will test us —
and likely, we will fail. But when we falter, his
saving hand is there.

Observances for the week of August 9, 2026

Sunday:	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr
Tuesday:	St. Clare, Virgin
Wednesday:	St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious
Thursday:	Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs
Friday:	St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr
Saturday:	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
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 stephen.org/prayer-line or call Beth at (402) 669-4793.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 8

8:15 AM SI Terry & Marie Zrust (DB)
5:00 PM † Marcy Lackovic (JN)

Sunday, August 9

7:30 AM † Rita Suan (JN)
9:00 AM † Joyce Murphy (DB)
10:30 AM SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)
6:00 PM † Lu Hill (DH)

Monday, August 10

6:30 AM † Anthony Giebler (JN)
8:15 AM † Renee O'Brien (JN)

Tuesday, August 11

6:30 AM † Bill Knudsen (DB)
8:15 AM † Bea Wede (JN)

Wednesday, August 12

6:30 AM † Charles & Marie Werp (DB)
8:15 AM † Jane Schuyler (JN)

Thursday, August 13

6:30 AM † Forrest Ramsey, Jr. (DB)
8:15 AM † Claribel Buresh (DB)

Friday, August 14

6:30 AM † Barbara Wzorek (DB)
8:15 AM † Trinidad Richards (JN)

Saturday, August 15

8:15 AM † Marjorie Vandenack (DB)
5:00 PM † Linda Lichter (DB)

Sunday, August 16

7:30 AM SI People of St. Stephen the Martyr (DB)
9:00 AM † Jerry F. Goldsberry (JN)
10:30 AM † Nick Schinker (JN)
6:00 PM † George Veomett (AS)

SI = Special Intention † = Repose of the Soul

DB = Fr. Dave Belt; JN = Fr. John Norman;
AS = Fr. Andy Sohm; DH = Denny Hanneman

Please note: Priest schedule subject to change

If you'd like to reserve a Mass intention, please
contact Melissa Payne in the parish office at
mdpayne@stephen.org.



Pray For...

Pray for deceased souls of our parish:

Cathy Loyett, sister of Paul & Carol Richter
Carole Stickels, daughter of Jen Smith
Kathleen Jorgensen, mother of Kaye John
Victoria Kreidler, daughter of Michaela & Tim

Pray for those sick/injured/healing:

Tom Johnson, husband of Cheryl
Randy Pfeifer, brother of Cheri
Lawrence Boettcher, husband of Judith
Jerry Armbrust, husband of Jane
Rebecca Updike, mom of Sandy (Kenny) Estee
Trish Gappa, wife of Brian Gappa
Isaac Speed, grandson of Jeff & Marlene Stumpf
Cecelia Nelson, sister of Mary Spangler
Zongo Gisele, wife of Alexis Yaméogo
Brenda Kreber, wife of Dave
Maurice O'Toole, brother of Sharon Pratt
Rocky Epperson, brother-in-law of Lisa Goldsmith
Larry Comer, husband of Janie
Rod Heng, husband of Carol
Molly Felker, daughter of Mike and Stacy
Chris Sievers & family, **Norman Thomas**,
Jerry Smith & Ron Rauart



Celebrate
MORE LIFE. GIVE BLOOD.



**Blood Drive
Sponsored By
Knights of Columbus**

St Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church
16701 S Street

**Saturday, August 15, 2026
7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
StStephenOMA to schedule an appointment.

Questions...
Contact Tom Jaworski at (402) 469-5529



Come to give blood in August for a \$20 Amazon Gift Card by email. Terms: rcblood.org/August.



Scan to schedule an appointment.



Annual Golf Outing
Sept. 13 | 2 PM
Tiburon Golf Club

The Knights of Columbus Council 10160 will host its Annual 9-Hole Golf Scramble at Tiburon Golf Club on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 2 PM. All proceeds stay in our local community.

Event Highlights:

- 9-hole scramble (sign up as a single, twosome, threesome, or foursome)
- \$75 per golfer (includes golf, cart, and appetizers)
- Tee Box Events, raffle prizes, and auction items

Proceeds Benefit:

Project Harmony | Wreaths Across America | Veterans Stand Down | Project Pink'd | St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Support the Event!

Corporate Sponsorships | Support the Silent Auction

Contact: Dave Smith at 402-740-7128 or dcsmith37@icloud.com

Register after Masses August 2nd, 9th & 16th

Donate



Community News



All are invited!

Rosary & Mass to Pray for Vocations

Monday, August 17, 2026 | 5:00 PM

St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 5801 Oak Hills Drive, Omaha, NE

5:00 PM - Rosary & Mass to Pray for Vocations

Join the Serra Club of West Omaha as we offer a Rosary & Mass to Pray for Vocations, celebrated by Archbishop Emeritus George Lucas and concelebrated by Father Will Targy, assisted by Deacon Chris Hanson and seminarians Kyle Snodgrass, Max Brown, and Peter Ginn. Together we will pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life in the Archdiocese of Omaha.



**Serra Club of
West Omaha**

Youth, parents, and all the faithful are invited. Help build the church locally through vocations support.

Questions: Contact Lori Hamilton
402-699-5027 or bobxlora@aol.com

Serrawestomaha.org
Facebook.com/serrawestomaha

6:30 PM - Reception Following Mass

After Mass, enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, and cake. All are welcome! Enjoy Father Will Targy's talk, *My Vocation Story and Reflections on My First Year of the Priesthood*.

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) 330-0304

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

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Christy Assman - Parishioner
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Agent & Parishioner | tschmitz@farmersagent.com

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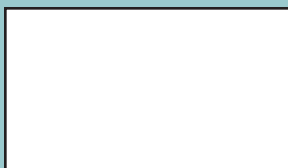
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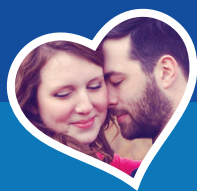
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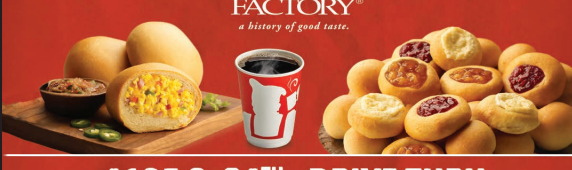
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