ALLELUIA

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad. – Psalm 118

EASTER 2019 • THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

St. Stephen Church

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

EASTER VIGIL, April 20th
7:00 p.m. ***PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED***

EASTER SUNDAY, April 21st
9:30 a.m. ***PARISHIONERS LIVING & DECEASED***

MONDAY, April 22nd, *NO MASS*

TUESDAY, April 23rd
8:30 a.m. ***NICOLA LUCARELLO*** by Daughter-in-Law, Lola

WEDNESDAY, April 24th, *NO MASS*

THURSDAY, April 25th
8:30 a.m. ***JOSEPHINE FITZPATRICK*** by Larry Lippert

FRIDAY, April 26th, *NO MASS*

SATURDAY, April 27th
4:30 p.m. ***DANIEL LUBICH*** by Cousin and Friend

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER – *DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY*
9:30 a.m. ***MARY LUZAR & MARY FREDERICKS*** by Luzar Family

NOTE: If you would like to bring up the offertory gifts during a Mass that is scheduled for a family member or friend, please see the ushers before Mass.

PLEASE NOTE: If you need to have Communion brought to you at your seat, please notify the ushers **before Mass**.

THEME*: THE RISEN CHRIST SEEKS TO TRANSFORM AND REDEEM OUR LIVES –* The Resurrection of the Lord is the highest of all feasts – the day in which we celebrate the truth that Jesus conquers and redeems every darkness of life, even death itself. Truly, this is a day of rejoicing! For even when events are unclear to us – when we do not understand what we see before us, like those who saw the empty tomb – we can be confident in the words and promises of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD – In the first reading, we hear Peter proclaiming the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Paul's Letter to the Colossians, Saint Paul says if we've been raised with Christ we should seek the things of God; he reminds us that Jesus' Resurrection transforms and redeems our whole lives. In John's Gospel, Mary Magdalene – upon arriving at the tomb and realizing that the stone had been rolled away – runs to Simon Peter and John to tell them that Jesus' body had been taken. They both go to the tomb, and while neither yet understands the Scripture that Jesus *had to rise from the dead*, John sees and believes.

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND – If someone in your family or a neighbor is homebound, in a nursing home, in the hospital or recovering at home after a hospital stay and would like a visit and Communion, our Deacon, Frank Marino, and other Eucharistic ministers are available to make those calls. Please call the rectory to arrange for a visit.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS

WEEK OF APRIL 21st

IN MEMORY OF NORMAN STANCHER
By Mary and Daughters

IN MEMORY OF MARK TOMINEY By Mary Beth Stancher

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION

IN MEMORY OF AMELIA SFERRA by John Daubner

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL REMAIN CLOSED THROUGH EASTER MONDAY.

PARISH NEWS

www.ststephenchurchniles.com

***A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE* BY BUD OZAR –** Millions of Christians around the world celebrate the Resurrection today. It all began simply on the first Easter -with one person telling another: "Mary told Peter" and "they believed." Faith is passed one person to another; it is caught, not taught, and parents are the most effective persons to pass faith to their children.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

ATTENDANCE

Saturday, April 13th	4:30 p.m. Mass... 162
Sunday, April 14th	9:30 a.m. Mass... 190

STEWARDSHIP	**THIS WEEK**	**YTD (42 weeks)**
WEEKLY BUDGETED	$ 5,456.00	$ 229,152.00
SUNDAY/HOLY DAYS	$ 6,412.90	$ 227,834.12
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	$ 956.90	($ 1,317.88)
176 Envelopes		
RESTORATION		$ 100.00
DEBT REDUCTION		
Owed to DOY 4/7/2019		**$ 166,998.05**
Debt reduction collection 4/14/2019		$ 338.00
NEW BALANCE		**$ 166,660.05**

Thank you for your continued support of your parish.

*Any time there is a Diocesan second collection, we will suspend our debt reduction second collection for that week. Of course, you may still use your debt reduction envelope.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

SERVING MASS – APRIL 27th & 28th

	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF CUP	**LECTOR**
April 27th	J. Dubaj/K. Slanina	F. Dillon
April 28th	J. Abraham/L. Burgess	M. Sylvester

	EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF BREAD	**SACRISTAN**
April 27th	N. Hlad	L. Garland
April 28th	S. Sylvester	C. McGuirk

	ALTAR SERVERS	**GREETERS**
April 27th	D. Fusselman/S. Kopetsky	J. Corliss/M. Mehit
April 28th	J. Burke/K. Stanford	C. Fricker/T. Fricker

My Friends,
As we have completed this holiest week of the year, remembering the Passion, death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus, I want to wish all of you and your loved ones a blessed Easter Sunday. I also want to thank all of those who have planned and prepared the Church and our Masses and services this past week. They have truly brought us closer to God and one another in the Easter spirit of the Risen Christ. As we continue to celebrate this season until the day of Pentecost, when we celebrate the birthday of the Church of Jesus Christ, may our God look kindly upon you and our parish with his mercy, goodness and love. Love and prayers, Fr. Korda

THROUGH THE WATERS OF BAPTISM – We are happy to welcome to the Catholic faith and our parish family, Lacey Renee Gallentine, who was baptized April 6. Lacey is the daughter of Joseph Gallentine and Elizabeth Foos, and granddaughter of Perry and Mary Ann Foos. We ask God's blessings on Lacey and her whole family as they begin their journey of faith together/.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY – ***Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration 25th, 40th, 50th, and over Wedding Anniversary.*** The Diocese of Youngstown will sponsor a **Wedding Anniversary Celebration** on **Sunday, June 2, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Columba** Cathedral in Youngstown, honoring couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and over wedding anniversaries in 2019.The Wedding Anniversary Celebration will include Mass with Bishop George V. Murry, S.J., renewal of marriage vows and a personalized certificate for each couple. (Following the Mass, there will be a reception for the couples and their families in the Cathedral Hall.) You must make a reservation in advance for this event by contacting your parish office by **APRIL 29.**

RICE BOWLS – ENCOUNTER OPPORTUNITY – If you forgot your Rice Bowl, please bring it next week so we can get the funds sent. Thank you.

VOCATION THOUGHT Easter Sunday – "The Lord is truly risen!" Are you being called to proclaim the Risen Christ as a priest, deacon, or religious sister or brother? If God is stirring your heart to follow Him, contact Fr. Christopher Luoni at (330) 744-8451 or cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

HOLY PITTSBURGH – Parish Council's bus trip to historic Pittsburgh churches on Thursday, May 2, will leave St. Stephen parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and return at 6:00 p.m. For more information, call Anna Marie Granny at 330-652-2474 or 330-646-1071.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS – SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY – Niles Catholic Women's Club is sponsoring a $500.00 scholarship for a 2019 high school graduate who is a St. Stephen parishioner. Any senior who would like to apply should call the rectory or Jacquie Whetstone at 330-397-1497 for an application and it will be mailed to you. The scholarship will be awarded at our Mass to honor our graduates on Sunday, June 2.

THANK YOU! – CCD PROGRAM – As our CCD program comes to an end for the year, we would like to sincerely thank those volunteers who so generously gave of their time and shared their faith with our youngsters. Our dedicated staff included *Connie Brandt, Kelly Franco, Carol Sylvester, Kara Stanford, Connie Hake, Katie Ward, Stacie Lehman, Gina Helmick and, Lisa Scheidegger.* Special thanks to *Mary Ann McMahon* who coordinated our program with her usual commitment and enthusiasm.
"Train a child the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it. **'Proverbs" 22:6**

ANNUAL INTERFAITH DINNER AT CIMINERO'S ON SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH – Social hour begins at 4:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 5:00 p.m. The speaker is John Hammel, Senior Warden of St. Luke Episcopal Church. Tickets are $20.00 and are available at the rectory.

2019 ANNUAL BISHOPS' APPEAL – As of April 10, our parish has achieved 17% towards our goal of 100% participation. While the financial need is $4.2 million, our parish goal of 100% participation is a goal we are working hard to attain. There are many ways in which you can participate. Please pray for the success of the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Your prayers are meaningful and critical to our success as a Church family. DONATE to the Appeal. Use the response card you received in the mail OR use an envelope found in your pew to respond. VOLUNTEER your time and talents to any of the ministries of the Church. Please submit a response card even if you are unable to make a gift of any dollar amount. Your response will count towards our parish participation goal. We ask every family to prayerfully participate in the Annual Appeal. Thank you in advance for your reflection and generous support.

STEWARDSHIP – Easter Sunday – *"He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."* (Acts 10:38) On this Easter Sunday, open your hearts to receive God's love, mercy and forgiveness. God is love and we are made in His image and likeness. Let our lives reflect His light to others. Pray for guidance on how to live your life and give thanks for all that He has given you.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES – APRIL – PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY – There are large hampers in the vestibule of the church for those who wish to help our neighbors in need.

HARRIET'S CUPBOARD – APRIL – CLEANING PRODUCTS AND LAUNDRY ITEMS – There are large hampers in the vestibule of the church for those who wish to help with this mission of Catholic Charities.

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – NILES CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY – 672 North Road, Niles – Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursdays from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m.

EMMET CAHILL CONCERT – SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019 AT 7:30 P.M. The Cathedral of Saint Columba is excited to announce the return performance of Irish Tenor Emmet Cahill. Emmet will be returning to the cathedral for a Spring Performance on Sunday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are now available for purchase at www.ticketleap.com. Ticket prices are $55.00 (which includes a Meet and Greet with Emmet in the Parish Hall prior to the concert), $40.00 and $35.00. Come and enjoy an amazing musical evening with International talent Emmet Cahill. Please call the rectory at 330-744-5233 if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEER WITH HOSPICE – *"Bringing Health Care Back to Home"* – Once a month or a few hours a week can make a difference! Be the reason someone smiles today! Volunteer with Hospice. Training and Orientation is convenient and is completed after a comprehensive screening process. Call 330-759-9487 and ask for the Volunteer Coordinator.

KIDNEY DONOR SOUGHT – Elida Evans and her husband James Lewandowski are parishioners at St. Charles in Boardman and are asking for your help. Elida is in renal failure and is desperately seeking a kidney donor. Please consider granting her this gift of life. You must be between the age of 18 and 69. Travel, testing, and transplant expenses covered as well as any lost wages. Please contact Jim Lewandowski at 330-727-1949 or lewandowski.jimm3@gmail.com.for more information and links to the Cleveland Clinic and UPMC- Pittsburgh donor application online portals.

LANCASTER BUS TRIP – St. Paul's Church, Salem Ohio – Seats are available for the Salem St. Paul's Church, June 18-19 trip to Lancaster, PA. Enjoy two shows: "Camelot" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theater, and a musical variety show "Ovation" at the American Music Theater. Shop at Kitchen Kettle Village and Park City Center. The cost of $224.00 (double occupancy) includes 2 all-you-can-eat meals, bus transportation, and hotel accommodations. Deadline for registration is May 1st. Contact Janel at 330-647-7946 for registration.

A NIGHT TO HONOR MARY will be held Friday, May 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Columba Cathedral, Youngstown. The Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J., Bishop of Youngstown, will preside at this devotional service to honor Our Blessed Mother. All are invited to attend the service that will include scripture readings, a homily, hymns and recitation of the Rosary.

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