

St. Stephen Church



CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (CCD):

Thursday, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Niles Intermediate School
CCD Coordinator: Mary Ann McMahon – 330-544-4766

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please register at once.

MOVING: Notify the Rectory.

QUESTIONS? BULLETIN NEWS: Bulletin deadline –
Tuesday before 4:00 p.m. Call the Rectory.

CHURCH SUPPORT: The weekly use of your envelopes with a donation justly related to your means, fulfills the obligation of church support. It also is one indication of your regular attendance at Mass, and an expression of your appreciation to God for what has been given to you.

129 West Park Avenue
Niles, Ohio
44446

Rev. Steven Agostino,
Pastor

Deacon Michael Hanshaw

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Obligation:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. at St. Stephen
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin.

Weekdays: Consult Bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made at the Rectory and the instruction class must be attended by the parents.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

To be arranged at the Rectory six months in advance of the wedding.

HOSPITAL CALLS:

When a member of your family is taken to the hospital, notify the Rectory.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Rectory: 330-652-4396

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

ORGANIST:

Meg Daniluk

E-MAIL:

churchofsaintstephen@yahoo.com

WEB SITE:

www.ststephenchurchniles.com

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are St. Stephen Church in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Youngstown. Since 1853, we have served the community of Niles. Through our Baptism, we are called to build our lives in the image of Christ through worship and prayer, in Word and Eucharist. Together we draw others close to God through our service, charity and evangelization. In a spirit of stewardship, we share our time, talent and treasure with the faith community and for future generations.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 a.m. **DECEASED MEMBERS OF SPISAK FAMILY**



by Ed & Pat Spisak

TUESDAY, APRIL 30th

8:30 a.m. **GAVIN "CHAPPY" ROSS** by Family

THURSDAY, MAY 2nd

8:30 a.m. **ANNE KAY ALFANO**

by Anna Marie & Tommy

SUNDAY, MAY 5th – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 a.m. **RICHARD DUNNIGAN, SR.**



by Employees of Diane's Hair Salon

Daily Masses at Mt. Carmel on Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. and at Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP
APRIL 21, 2024**

Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday
Attendance Sunday: 182
Envelopes Sunday: 99

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$2,439.00
CEMETERY	\$63.00
MOTHER'S DAY	\$40.00
FATHER'S DAY	\$20.00
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$112.00
SEMINARY COLLECTION	\$547.00

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 5th

Sacristan	JACQUIE WHETSTONE
Lector	MARY ANN McMAHON
Eucharistic Minister of Bread	JOHN CULLIVAN
Eucharistic Ministers of Cup	SHERRIE SYLVESTER/ JANE CULLIVAN
Altar Server	LARKIN STANFORD
Greeters	CAROL SYLVESTER/ HUGH KIELEY

THEME: REMAIN IN JESUS AS THE FATHER TENDS AND CARES FOR US.

When we remain in Jesus, His Word remains in us, and we bear the fruit of love for one another. The Father prunes us, knowing what we need and do not need to grow and flourish. No other vine is as life-giving as that of Jesus.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Barnabas introduces Saul to the Apostles in Jerusalem. In the second reading, John teaches that we remain in Jesus by keeping His commandment to love one another. In the Gospel, Jesus uses vineyard imagery to describe our relationship with Him and His nurturing Father. Jesus is the true vine, we remain in Him as His branches, and His Father is the vine grower pruning us to bear much fruit.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTION ~ WEEK OF APRIL 28th



IN MEMORY OF MARY STANCHER
by Family
CONTINUED HEALING FOR FRIENDS
by Mary Ann Hudzik



CONFIRMED IN FAITH

Congratulations and many blessings are wished for our eighth graders Kasen Helmick, Joey Lehman, Madison Martig, Addison McCormick, Greenleigh Sedoris, and Maria Yuhasz who made their commitment to God and their faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday at St. Columba Cathedral. Please keep these young people in your prayers that the commitment they make will remain strong and steady as they continue their journey of faith. They are our future! The picture at the left shows our candidates at their retreat held last Sunday.

ATTENTION: LAY MINISTERS

YOU ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE CHECK IN WITH THE SACRISTAN 20 MINUTES BEFORE MASS TO LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE THERE FOR YOUR ASSIGNMENT. THANK YOU.



PRAYER LIST: We would like to offer everyone the opportunity to pray for our fellow parishioners and friends who are ill or in need of prayer for any reason. If you would like to add someone to the list, please call the rectory and leave a message and we will add the requested person. Please remember the following

in your prayers: **Dorothy Bianco, Alida Lendvay, Mary Beth Havasi, Janet Kandrak, Sue Kopetsky, John Wilson, Kathy DeCristofaro, Mitzi Malvasi, Lou Lukz, Jennifer Cable, Michelle Howard, Jo Medovich, Kevin Grafton, Mary Catherine Freel, Kara Stanford, Arlene Wilson, Mary Miller, Bob Leonard, Mike Kozak, Bob Adler, Joe Smaltz, Sandy LaMonica, Karen & Richard Slanina & Family, Carri R., Pat Hines, Bill Smith, Debbie Kovell, Lois DiFrancesco, Jeff Burke, Jack DiTunno, Tammy C., Faith Harnack, Paul Lapolla, Jim Orsine, Connie Hake, Michael Edward Thompson, Pat Spisak, Tucker Paul Clark, Martha Williams, Marie Perfette, Denise Burke, Sue Mollis, Chuck & Bonnie Jorza, Connie Brandt, Rachel Tarr, Steve & Dee Cvengros, Rita Mae Dodasovich, Al Conti, Rosalie McGinnis, Dick Bedio, Gavin Lengle, Peg McGinnis, Larry Batovsky, Sr., Mary Jane Tripodi, Roberta Williams, Mary Jane Hileman, Todd Beedy, John Daubner, Father Murphy, Peter Ford, Pat Sylvester, Sr., Hudson Joseph (Janice Rayle's 2-year old grandson), Nanette Ball, Rick Cool, Clair Darby Camp, Bridget Darby Flores, Eli Flores, Paul Saban, Sr., Debbie Schimley, and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**



NILES CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB SPRING LOTTERY RAFFLE

Beginning today, NCWC will begin selling tickets after Mass for their Spring Lottery Raffle based on the PA Lottery Pick 3 daytime drawing (straight only) for the month of June. The \$10.00 tickets will be sold through the month of May. The weekday prize is \$25.00, weekend prize is \$50.00 and Father's Day Grand Prize is \$500.00. See any NCWC member for tickets.



GOD BLESS YOU, EVAN!

Please keep dear Evan Schimley in your prayers as he prepares to receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time, next Sunday, May 5, during our 9:00 a.m. Mass. He is pictured here after making his First Reconciliation last Wednesday evening. Evan is the son of Matt and Lindsey Schimley. May God bless him as he continues to grow in the love of Christ and the faith of our church.



2024 DIOCESAN APPEAL

Jesus, better than anyone else, understands what kind of trust it takes to achieve intimate, strong friendship. Today's Gospel is a love-letter from Jesus. God longs to have true friendship with His children. He is honest with us about what a relationship with Him requires and gives. Remaining with Him requires pruning, and it bears much fruit. Who doesn't want to bear "much fruit"?

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. - John 15:5

(John 15:8) Our parish seeks to abide in Jesus in this same way and you can help through your support of our Annual Diocesan Appeal. As you discern, abide in Jesus. Respond to how He, the vine, moves you, His beloved branch. Help us bear fruit as a parish so we can yield a greater harvest for Him together. **As of April 22, 85 St. Stephen donors have pledged \$18,260.00 of our goal of \$26,900.00.**



NCWC SCHOLARSHIP

Once again, the Niles Catholic Women's Club will be sponsoring a \$500.00 scholarship for a 2024 high school graduate from St. Stephen. Any senior who would like to apply, should stop at

the rectory for an application. The winner will be announced at the Mass to honor our graduates. **Deadline to apply is May 20** and the winner will be announced on Sunday, June 2, when we will honor our graduating seniors.



MT. CARMEL PIZZA SALE

Today is the last day to order pizza for the Friday, May 3rd sale. Call 330-652-2811 today to order red, potato, spinach or combo pizza at a cost of \$12.00.

Pick up on Friday from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at the new Parish Center.

OTHER NEWS



NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION ~ MAY ~ TUNA, CHICKEN, CANNED MEAT

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – MAY – NILES FIRST CHRISITAN CHURCH – 33 North Arlington, Niles. Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursday from 4:45 to 5:30 p.m.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Like the vine grower in today's Gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."



CATHOLIC CHARITIES will hold its annual **FIRST STEP FOR CHANGE** campaign from Mother's Day through Father's Day, honoring the faith, humility and love it takes to raise a child, and recognizing that many parents lack adequate financial resources

for their children. Funds raised through this campaign assist low-income expectant parents and families with food, formula, clothing, diapers, and other items essential to a child's health, safety, and well-being.

All money collected at our parish will help to meet the needs in our own community! Thank you for joining us in supporting this pro-life campaign. Packets will be available in May.

STEWARDSHIP ~ 5th Sunday of Easter

"Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." – 1 JOHN 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you "walk the talk?" Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!



Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You, alone, is found freedom. Please free our world from conflict, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine. Bring unity to troubled nations. Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart. Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human life. Replace hatred with Your love. Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition. Eliminate all violence and war. Glorious Virgin Mary, Saint Michael the Archangel, every angel, and saint: Please pray for peace. Pray for unity amongst nations. Pray for unity amongst all people. Pray for the most vulnerable. Pray for those suffering. Pray for the fearful. Pray for those most in need. Pray for us all. Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear our prayers. Jesus, I trust in You! Amen.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

EDUCATION & SCREENING

All clergy, religious, seminarians/persons in formation, and employees, as well as any volunteers who work with children, young people, or vulnerable adults, are required to complete a background check and safe environment training. For more information about our safe environment compliance requirements, visit: doy.org/safe-environment/.

REPORTING & VICTIM ASSISTANCE

If you or someone you know has been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, the Diocese encourages you to come forward and speak out by contacting Civil Authorities and Mr. Dominic Colucy, Victim Assistance Coordinator. Mr. Colucy is available to help. He will listen to your needs and support you. He will help you make a formal complaint.

Contact Information

Confidential Response Line: 330-718-1388

Email: dcolucy@youngstowndiocese.org

By Mail: Catholic Diocese of Youngstown,

Attn: Dominic Colucy

144 W. Wood Street, Youngstown, OH 44503

Contact information for Civil Authorities can be found at:

doy.org/safe-environment/.

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