St. Stephen Church

129 West Park Avenue
Niles, Ohio
44446

Rev. James Korda,
Administrator

Deacon Frank Marino

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Obligation:
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin.

Weekdays: Consult Bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Saturday: 3:30-4:00 p.m.

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

ORGANIST:
Meg Daniluk – 330-545-5466

E-MAIL:
churchofsaintstephen@yahoo.com

WEB SITE:
www.ststephenchurchniles.com

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (CCD):
Thursday, 6:00-7:30 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.

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.

MAY 10TH, 2020 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

DURING THIS TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING, WE WILL PROVIDE AN ABBREVIATED BULLETIN WITH THE SUNDAY READINGS AND OTHER PARISH NEWS TO KEEP YOU UPDATED. THE OFFICE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE GOVERNOR'S ORDER. We will check the mail and monitor the phone and email during this time. Please leave us a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTION – WEEK OF MAY 10TH

IN MEMORY OF NORBERT & MARIE ENTLER
by John & Vickie Garland

IN MEMORY OF BOB MARLEY & MARGARET McCAUGHTRY
by Peggy McCaughtry

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION
IN MEMORY OF MARY NICHOLAS by Children

THEME: WE ARE LIVING STONES ALIGNED WITH CHRIST, THE CORNERSTONE – Let the Church rejoice as we, the living body of Christ, have recently welcomed many sisters and brothers, new members of the household of faith. Let us encourage those newly joined to us in the sacraments of baptism and confirmation to fully live their new identity as part of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation.

LITURGY OF THE WORD – In the first reading, the Twelve choose seven reputable men to be their assistants and serve at table. In his Letter, Peter writes that all who have faith are to be living stones, imitating Christ. In John's Gospel, Jesus declares himself the way and the truth and the life, calling those who believe in him to do the works he does.

EASTER TIME – Fifth Sunday of Easter (JN 14:1-12)

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY BUD OZAR – Jesus tells us in the gospel: "I am in the Father and the Father is in me!" The point is: God is in each one of us, in our relationships and in our homes. The vocation of the Christian family is to live the divine gift which is already in and around us.

MOTHER'S DAY A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY BUD OZAR – Mothers are instruments of Christ's presence in the home. A mother's love reveals the attentive, thoughtful, serving, forgiving and concerned side of God's love. Thanks to all mothers for showing us the tender and loving face of God.

STEWARDSHIP – 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

***"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."* 1 PETER 2:7**

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called "charisms" and they are used to build God's kingdom of earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God's salvation plan.

PARISH NEWS

www.ststephenchurchniles.com

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

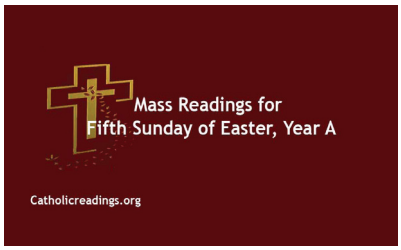
STEWARDSHIP	THIS WEEK	YTD (44 weeks)
BUDGETED	$ 5,456.00	$ 240,064.00
Sunday April 26	$ 3,605.00	$ 214,611.28
Easter	$ 615.00	
Ascension	$ 30.00	$ 218,861.28
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	($21,202.72)	
Sunday envelopes – 35		
Easter envelopes – 7		
MAINTENANCE	$ 156.00	
CEMETERY	$ 120.00	
MOTHERS DAY	$ 30.00	
FATHERS DAY	$ 42.00	

LUCK OF THE IRISH 2020 – We are looking into a new option for our fundraiser for this year, due to the continuing coronavirus issue. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED, as soon as plans are finalized.

EMAILED BULLETINS – While we have always published our bulletin on our parish website, we have started to email the bulletins to everyone who provided an email address on our last census. Some were returned as not deliverable; we assume from people changing their internet provider and not informing us of the new address. If you are talking to any fellow parishioners who did not get an emailed bulletin, all they need to do is call us with their new address and we will add them to the list!

PRAYER LIST – During this time when we cannot be together, 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***: Bishop Murry, Father Korda, Nancy Jayne, Chuck Jorza, Marguerite Kovach, Alida Lendvay, Frank Burke, Marilyn (Tock) Schneider, Patrick Parry, Rose Diamond, doctors, nurses, first responders and all who have been affected in any way by the coronavirus, especially those who have no one to pray for them.***

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL CONNECTION – WFMJ is now live streaming Mass on their Weekly Faith Services at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. If you visit our website, www.ststephenchurchniles.com we have a link at the bottom of our page to the Mass for shut-ins that will offer some spiritual comfort during this time. You can listen to Living Bread Radio on 1060 a.m. and 89.5 FM. You can Watch Channel 13 on Spectrum, or 45 on Armstrong Cable for ETC. All local productions from the CTNY Studios in Canfield and St. Columba Cathedral, can be viewed on mobile devices, computer or iPad by going to the "Media" menu at DOY.org and clicking on ETC-TV Live Stream. For a copy of the ETC-TV schedule, call 330-533-2243 or visit the CTNY page at DOY.org. Visit USCCB.org for the daily Mass readings, read your Bible, pray your rosary.
Although we cannot gather in the church, let us join our hearts in prayer for each other and for our brothers and sisters throughout the world as we face this crisis together.



***Readings for* the Fifth Sunday of Easter**
First Reading-- Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 (52-A)
Responsorial Psalm—Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Second Reading-- 1 Peter 2:4-9
Gospel—John 14:1-12

CEMETERY ISSUE – It has been brought to our attention that people have been using the dumpster at the cemetery for remodeling materials, old furniture and even garbage from homes. We have spoken to the Weathersfield Police who have said they will make more frequent trips through the cemetery and have told us that this is a prosecutable offense, known as "theft of services." While we assume most of this dumping is occurring during the night, one man was witnessed dumping during the day and luckily other visitors at the cemetery were able to get his license number. If you happen to witness this while you are at the cemetery, please do not confront the individual, but if you are able to provide a description of the vehicle and get the license number we will notify the police.

PARISH COUNCIL – Our Parish Council members took advantage of new technology and were able to consult safely from their homes using the ZOOM app to discuss what the parish response should be to assist our local community with the extra burden imposed on families by the COVID-19 outbreak.

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

April 27, 2020, Governor Mike DeWine presented a strategy to begin a multi-phased plan, even while the executive "Stay at Home Order" remains in place. His plan begins a process for Ohioans gradually to return to work and daily activity and provides hope and evidence that our cooperation with the governor's orders has significantly curbed the spread of the virus. We thank you for and admire the patience, cooperation and understanding you have already shown during this COVID-19 pandemic. We realize the frustration, sadness, and loss the faithful felt not to be able to gather personally to celebrate the Paschal Mysteries during the Sacred Triduum and each Sunday. During this time of sacrifice and longing, we have joined our prayers and hearts to yours, trusting that God will see us through this pandemic and reunite us at the Eucharistic Feast. Out of deep concern for the common good as well as the physical and spiritual well-being of all the people of Ohio, the Catholic Bishops of Ohio have agreed once again to cooperate with the governor, and to support and abide by the multi-phased approach to returning to work and eventual public gathering in large groups.

To that end, the Catholic Bishops of Ohio extend the temporary suspension of all publicly celebrated Masses/liturgies ending on May 29th, with the hope of publicly celebrating together the Solemnity of Pentecost on the weekend of May 30/31. Each of the bishops of Ohio, once again, dispense the Catholic faithful who reside in their respective dioceses and all other Catholics currently in their territories from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass during this time. We ask for the cooperation and adherence of all the faithful to the governor's directives during this period.

We will be working diligently with our pastoral teams to consider reasonable, gradual and responsible initiatives for welcoming back the faithful in time to Sunday Mass, initiatives which will renew our love for the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and which will help us to restore Catholic life and invite others to share that life after the pandemic. We encourage individual dioceses and their respective pastors and parishioners to begin to work to establish plans which respect social distancing and other requirements for the safety of our people.

This decision has not been taken lightly and, as your bishops, together with you, we recognize the sacrifice we are called to make being physically distanced from the Holy Eucharist and from one another. We remain grateful for your understanding and prayerful support. As your bishops we continue to encourage you to keep holy the Lord's Day by participating in Sunday Mass by way of radio broadcast or televised or livestreamed options and making a spiritual communion. Keeping in mind of the gift of plenary indulgences offered to us by the Church, we encourage all the faithful to turn to the Church's treasury of prayer, praying as a family or individually the Liturgy of the Hours, rosary, divine mercy chaplet, and Stations of the Cross, etc.

Together we continue to pray for all who are suffering from Covid19, for all health care workers and first responders, for all the deceased and their families, and for an easing of the anxiety and tension caused by this pandemic. Relying on the Motherly care of Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we unite our sufferings to those of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and we trust in the glorious hope of His Resurrection.

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