St. Stephen Church

129 West Park Avenue
Niles, Ohio
44446

Rev. Richard Murphy,
Administrator

Deacon Frank Marino

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Obligation:
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin.

Weekdays: Consult Bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Sunday: 8:30 a.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, 6:00-7:45 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.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, August 16th
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 a.m. **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR CHARLES W. BURGESS, III**
By Grandma

TUESDAY, August 18th
8:30 a.m. **JOSEPH MARZULLO SR.**
by Mark, Patty & Patrick McElravy

THURSDAY, August 20th
8:30 a.m. **ROBERT BENDON**
by Ed & Pat Spisak

FRIDAY, August 21st
8:30 a.m. **MARIANNE KALEY**
by Shirley Stephens

SUNDAY, August 23rd
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 a.m. **VERONA DURIG**
by Jim Yuhasz and Julie Abraham

THEME: GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY ARE PROMISED TO ALL. The readings today wrestle with the questions of who is in and who is out. When it comes to God's grace, who will receive it? We learn that all who accept the gift of faith are incorporated into the covenant relationship with God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD
The Lords speaks through Isaiah, giving His promise that all *who hold to (His) covenant will brought to His holy mountain*. In the second reading, St. Paul tells the Gentiles that God *delivered all to disobedience, that He might have mercy upon all.* In the Gospel, a Canaanite woman asks Christ to have pity on her, *for her daughter is tormented by a demon.* In spite of the initial rejection, the woman perseveres in faith and Jesus heals her daughter.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS –
WEEK OF AUGUST 16th
IN MEMORY OF JOYCE HEATHERLY
by Sister, Rosalie Williams
IN MEMORY OF JOHN GRANNY by Rick & Anne Misel

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION
HEALING FOR OUR NATION

REST IN PEACE
Our sympathy and prayers for comfort are extended to the family and friends of JANE KASHIEN and BILL CRANK, who died this last week. May perpetual light shine upon them.

PLEASE KNOW THE DISPENSATION IS STILL IN EFFECT FOR ANYONE WHO IS NOT COMFORTABLE RETURNING TO MASS AT THIS TIME.
Not everyone can, nor should, return to Mass. Those of us who are present in reduced numbers will pray for the whole community and the necessarily absent.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar
The mother in today's Gospel persisted, even when she was ignored and insulted. She would do whatever was necessary to bring relief to her child. Parenting is more than bringing life into the world; it is also about sacrificing daily for your children.

PARISH NEWS

www.ststephenchurchniles.com

BEREAVEMENT PRAYER SERVICE
Will be held Thursday, August 20 following 8:30 a.m. Mass. If you have any prayer requests, please call the rectory and they will be added. Anyone who attends is invited to join us for breakfast following the service.

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***: Nancy Jayne, Chuck Jorza, Marguerite Kovach, Alida Lendvay, Frank Burke, Marilyn (Tock) Schneider, Patrick Parry, Patricia McMahon, Barbara Dohar, Will Scheidegger, David Holmes, Adelbert Durig, Mary Beth Havasi, Janice Hudzik Nemick, Janet Kandrac, Sue Kopetsky, Jim Ogden, Dale Havaich, John Wilson, Julie Abraham, Roseann Aceto, 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.***

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP
Attendance 77

PARISH GOAL: $4,700.00 per Sunday

STEWARDSHIP:	**8/9/2020**
SUNDAY	$4,188.00
Envelopes 69	
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	$ 590.00
CEMETERY	$ 269.00
CATHOLIC EXPONENT	$ 26.00
ASSUMPTION	$ 60.00

The above figures include $3,296.00 that we received through mail in donations.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF YOUR PARISH

MINISTRY SCHEDULE SERVING MASS ~ August 23

Eucharistic Minister of Bread	**Mary Kay Nicholas**
Lector	**Lisa Abraham**
Altar Server	**Patrick Wilson**
Sacristan	**Jacquie Whetstone**
Greeters	**Rosella McCloskey/ Sophia Gearhart**

WE NEED YOUR HELP!
We currently have several altar servers on the disabled list, and we are asking for both men and women to please consider being trained to assist Father Murphy during the week for funerals. Any recent retirees willing to volunteer? We hate to keep calling the same few, so if you might have a little time to share, we will be glad to train you until you feel comfortable. Thank you for considering this ministry. Call the rectory with any questions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Please keep in your prayers our young people who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, **Kris Hrosar** and **Shawn McMahon**. Because of the current conditions, the ceremony at the Cathedral was cancelled. These young men will be confirmed on Sunday, August 30, during the 9:00 a.m. Mass here at St. Stephen. Congratulations to **Louis Dellimuti** and **Gavin Sedoris,** who were confirmed last weekend at St. Rose with their St. Rose School classmates. May the Lord guide them as they continue in their learning, their prayer life and as they grow even deeper in their love for the Lord during this time of preparation.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (#1316) states "Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds."

Stewardship – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Once again in today's Gospel reading, Jesus extends His powerful ministry of healing. Throughout these ever-changing times when we are all impacted by many effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we must recognize our call to share our gifts with others in the form of ministry. Ministry does not have to be a formal program within a parish; it can be as simple as sharing a smile, a kind gesture, or our time with someone in need.

2020 BISHOP'S APPEAL

As of August 5, **134 of our families have pledged $17,245.00** toward the 2020 Bishop's Appeal. Thank you to all who have contributed! During this unprecedented time with unemployment reaching an all-time high in the Mahoning Valley, additional families are turning to Catholic Charities for assistance in paying their rent or mortgage payments, food assistance, utility payments and mental health needs. If you can assist financially, please consider helping the regional Catholic Charities meet our Valley's needs. Our normal appeal process was interrupted by the pandemic. If you wish to contribute, Bishops Appeal envelopes are available in our vestibule.

THE 6th ANNUAL NUN RUN GOES VIRTUAL!

October would have been the 6th annual Nun Run 5K Run, and 1-mile walk, fundraiser to support children served by the Ursuline Sisters. Due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 and possible future restrictions, the organization has decided to get creative! The month of NOVEMBER 2020 will be the first ever VIRTUAL Nun Run! The virtual race can be run (or walked) from any location at any time during the month of November. Participation in this event is a wonderful way to support the vital missions of the ministries, stay active, and get the whole family involved in a healthy activity. The proceeds from this event will benefit the children served by the Ursuline Sisters HIV/AIDS Ministry and the Ursuline Preschool and Kindergarten. To be guaranteed a race T-shirt and finisher medal, registration must be received by October 7, 2020. Also, back by popular demand is "Run for a Nun." Participants can sign up to run in honor of an Ursuline Sister.

Online registration and sponsorship opportunities are available on our race website – www.runsignup.com/nunrun. If you have any questions, please contact us at 330-793-0434 or at info@ursulinesistersaids.org.

Walking with Moms in Need

Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be "islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference." Everyone in a parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need. This year, as the Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life)* by Pope St. John Paul II, we are invited to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need. This nationwide effort entitled "Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service" is sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities. To learn more about how you can take part in this effort, visit www.walkingwithmoms.com.

A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers

O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, Your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

*Cf. *Evangelium vitae* 105 © Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Vatican City. Adapted with permission. All rights reserved.

VOCATIONS – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 16, 2020

"Woman, you have great faith." It takes faith to hear God's call in our lives. And His call takes us on unexpected paths of deeper trust and love. Is God calling you to life as sister, brother, deacon, or priest? Call Father Scott Kopp at 330-744-8451 or email: skopp@youngstowndiocese.org.

PROJECT RACHEL OUTREACH

If your life has been affected by an abortion or someone else's abortion, there is Hope and Healing available for everyone. For CONFIDENTIAL help contact Project Rachel of N.E. Ohio at 888-259-4806 or support@projrachneo.zohosupport.com.

A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

Jesus Christ, You traveled through towns and villages "curing disease and illness." At Your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the Coronavirus, that we may experience Your healing love.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with You in Your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know Your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know Your protection and peace. Be with the leaders of all nations, give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know Your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us Your peace.

Jesus Christ heal us.

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