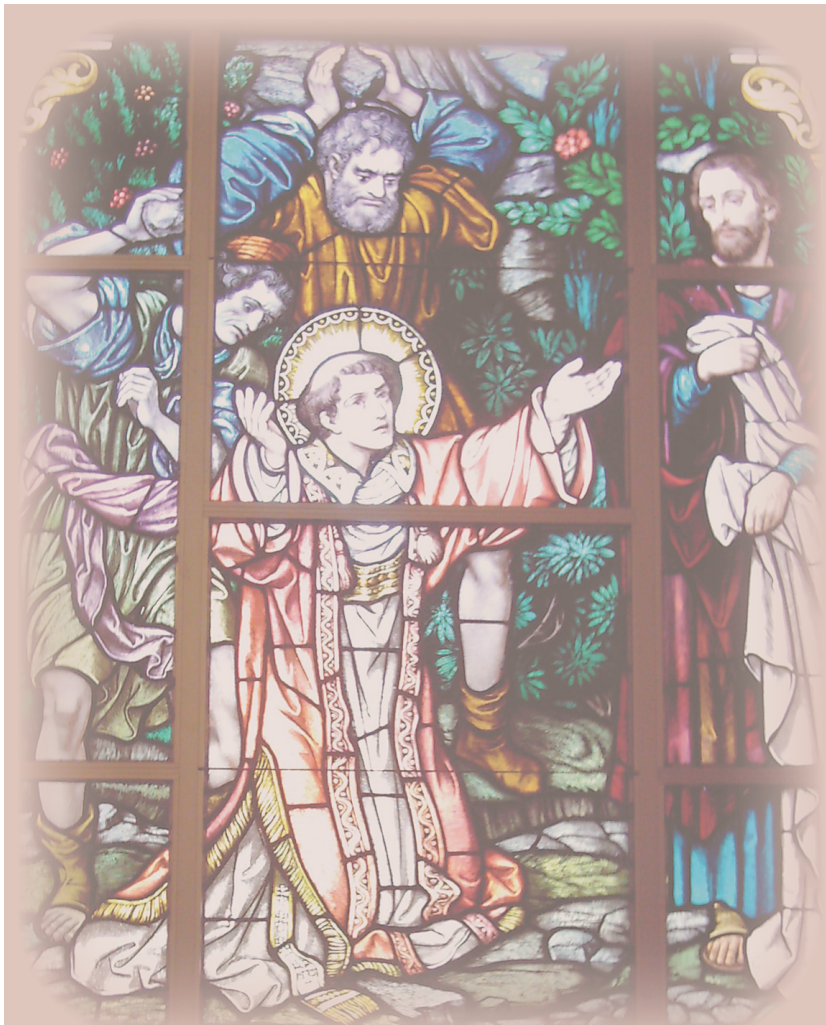


St. Stephen Church

**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, JANUARY 14th – SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9:00 a.m. **DAVID MOORE** by Aggie
 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

MONDAY, JANUARY 15th

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16th

8:30 a.m. **BETTY ZIOTS** by Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17th

8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18th

8:30 a.m. **KEVIN MURPHY** by Jacquie Whetstone

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19th

8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th

4:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21st – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 a.m. **EDWARD SCOTT** by Daughter, Lola
 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

My Dear Friends,

I want to thank each one of you who kindly remembered me with beautiful cards and generous gifts during the Christmas season. I certainly appreciate every card and good wish.

*Thank
you
so
much*

I am also overwhelmed with gratitude for all the warm wishes I received as I was installed as your pastor last Sunday. The ceremonies were beautiful, the food delicious, and the camaraderie was heartwarming and gives me great hope as we move forward. It was a day I will always remember fondly. I look forward to a wonderful relationship as we work together for the glory of God in the city of Niles. May God bless all of you for your giving hearts and may He bless us with a lasting friendship.

Peace and Blessings,
 – Father Steve



As part of the **PARISH YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**, St. Stephen will host an hour of Adoration on Thursdays following the 8:30 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m. Please join us to honor and glorify God for His most perfect gift to us. The Blessed Sacrament is never to be left alone during this time, so if it is difficult for you to be here for 8:30 a.m. Mass, please consider coming between 9:00-10:00 a.m. for a visit.

THEME:**THE LORD INVITES US TO COME AND STAY A WHILE WITH HIM.**

What are we looking for in Jesus? Are we looking for a teacher, as the disciples were? A problem-solver? A miracle-worker? Whatever it is that our hearts are seeking, the Lord, the Lamb of God, present here in the Eucharist, invites us to come and stay a while with Him. If we dare do so, we, like Andrew, might come to know who Jesus truly is and be transformed by His presence.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Lord calls Samuel for the first time, but Samuel does not know Him. Eli recognizes what is happening and tells Samuel how to answer: *Speak, for your servant is listening.* Paul exhorts the Corinthians to avoid immorality, reminding them that they are united to Christ and their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, John the Baptist directs two of his disciples toward Jesus, who invites them to stay with Him. Andrew, one of the two, seeks his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus.



ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS
WEEK OF JANUARY 14

IN MEMORY OF
GENE BOCCIA by Stancher Nieces

IN MEMORY OF
KEVIN MURPHY by Mary Ann Hudzik

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE – SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST**

Sacristan	JEFF BURKE
Lector	ANNA MARIE GRANNY
Eucharistic Minister of Bread	JOHN CULLIVAN
Eucharistic Ministers of Cup	JANE CULLIVAN FRANK DILLON
Altar Server	SOPHIA GEARHART
Greeters	MARY ANN McMAHON CAROL SYLVESTER

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

December 31, 2023

Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday

Attendance Sunday: 152

Envelopes: 74

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$ 2,421.00
MAINTENANCE	\$ 45.00
CEMETERY	\$ 83.00
CHRISTMAS	\$ 950.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	\$ 25.00
SOLEMNITY OF MARY	\$ 410.00
CHURCH OVERSEAS	\$ 10.00
DIOCESAN COMMUNICATION FUND	\$ 10.00
INITIAL OFFERING	\$ 30.00

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Daily Masses will be cancelled any time there is a school cancellation or two-hour delay for Niles City Schools. Father Ziegler is driving in from Canfield and we want to keep him safe!

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

January 7, 2024

Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday

Attendance Sunday: 159

Envelopes: 93

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$ 4,607.00
MAINTENANCE	\$ 187.00
CEMETERY	\$ 187.00
CHRISTMAS	\$ 735.00
SOLEMNITY OF MARY	\$ 210.00
CHURCH OVERSEAS	\$ 60.00
DIOCESAN COMMUNICATION FUND	\$ 150.00
INITIAL OFFERING	\$ 640.00



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, Don Donnelly, 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, June Dudinec, 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, Chuck Durig, Tucker Paul Clark, Jim & Jo Villeco, Sr., Jim Nitzsky, 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 Lingle, Peg McGinnis, Larry Batovsky, Sr., Steven Medovich, Mary Jane Tripodi, Phil C., Cathy Marino, Roberta Williams, Mary Jane Hileman, Todd Beedy, Angela Marzullo, John Daubner, Father Murphy, Peter Ford, Pat Sylvester, Sr., Hudson Joseph (Janice Rayle's 4-year-old grandson), Nanette Ball, Rick Cool, and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**

**NILES CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB****NITE AT THE RACES**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 at Ciminero's.

Doors open 6:30 p.m. – Races begin 7:00 p.m.

Tickets on sale from any club member, the office or online. **DEADLINE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM IS MONDAY, JANUARY 15.** We hope

you will be able to join this evening of fun and help your parish at the same time!

**LUCK OF THE IRISH 2024 – MARCH 16th, 2024**

We invite all visitors to view the St. Stephen Parish website listed on the bulletin cover where there will be upcoming information about our annual Luck of the Irish event on March 16, 2024. Luck of the Irish is St. Stephen's only fundraising event, and we ask for your support, whether you are a current parishioner or a visitor to our parish. Tickets are available and can be purchased online or by calling the rectory. We will resume selling tickets after Mass this weekend. Thank you for supporting our only parish fundraiser.

STEWARDSHIP – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’”

When we recognize who we are, it is easier to find what we are looking for. Once we see ourselves, and others, as children of God, we spend less time looking for the material comforts of the world. Instead, our hearts long for something deeper that can only be filled by God. Ask God daily how He wants you to live the life He intended for you.

OTHER NEWS**NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION – CANNED STEW OR CHILI**

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – NONE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY. Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursday from 4:45-5:30 p.m.



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.

**POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH/WARM HEARTS FOR WARM HOMES CAMPAIGN**

(formerly Keep the Kids Warm) Many people come to Catholic Charities for assistance to keep their homes warm during the long, cold winter months here in Ohio. Catholic Charities' Warm Hearts for Warm Homes campaign provides tangible assistance and peace of mind to individuals and families in need of utility assistance. Please visit www.ccdoy.org to learn more or to make a gift online; give today in your parish; or mail checks to: Catholic Charities, 144 West Wood Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503. *Thank you for your generosity.*

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Jesus' question in today's Gospel is still valid today. What are you looking for? What do you want from your spouse, children, or parents? Families are populated with imperfect people. To expect perfection is unreal. To expect and accept imperfection is wisdom.

**Call for Recipes!**

The Catholic Echo magazine would like to feature your favorite recipes in an upcoming print edition! All recipes are welcome, but the editor will likely choose to feature more common recipes, as *Echo* staff need to find photos to accompany the entries. For more information or to submit a recipe, email catholicecho@youngstowndiocese.org.

9 DAYS FOR LIFE – JANUARY 16-24

9 Days for Life, the U.S. Bishops' Annual Novena surrounding the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, will take place January 16-24. Participants can sign up for daily emails or text messages in English at www.9daysforlife.com.

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