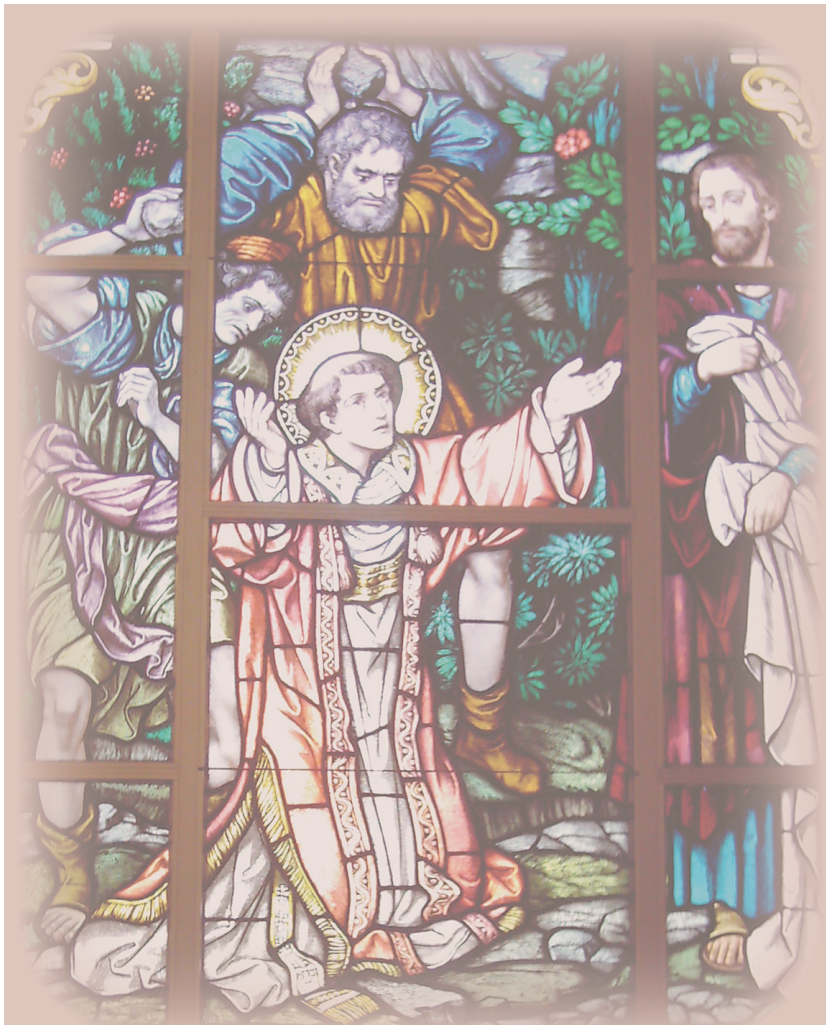


St. Stephen Church

**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, DECEMBER 31st – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

9:00 a.m. **JIM & PATSY SYLVESTER**
by Carol & Pat Sylvester
11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel



MONDAY, JANUARY 1st – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD and WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
10:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel ONLY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2nd
8:30 a.m. **PAUL BENEDICT** by Jacquie Whetstone

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3rd
8:30 a.m. at Mt. Carmel

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4th
8:30 a.m. **WILLIAM WHETSTONE – 5th ANNIVERSARY**
by Jacquie Whetstone

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5th
8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th
4:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7th – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
INSTALLATION OF REV. STEVEN J. AGOSTINO
AS PASTOR AT BOTH PARISHES
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m. at Mt. Carmel
1:00 p.m. **Reception for Father Agostino at Ciminero's for those who have made reservations.**
NO WALK INS.

THEME: IMITATE THE HOLY FAMILY, THE TRUE MODEL OF LIFE.

Even in their holiness, Mary, Joseph, and their child Jesus were not exempt from suffering, and the difficulties of life. Yet they never wavered in their commitment to God or to each other. Theirs was a home where *the child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.* Let us strive to make our homes a haven for others to grow in love, virtue, and favor.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Abram puts his faith in God's promise of a child despite his and Sarah's old age. In the second reading, the author emphasizes all that Abraham did was by faith. In the Gospel, Joseph, and Mary present Jesus at the temple, and meet Simeon and Anna who prophesy about the child.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS
WEEK OF DECEMBER 31st

IN MEMORY OF
NORMAN STANCHER by Mary & Daughters

IN MEMORY OF
DON HUDZIK – 6th ANNIVERSARY
by Mary Ann Hudzik

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION
PAUL BENEDICT by Connie Hake



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.

**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 **NOW** after Mass or can be purchased 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 holiday visitor to our parish. Tickets are available and can be purchased online or by calling the rectory. Thank you. **THERE WILL BE A PLANNING MEETING ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE RECTORY. ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH

Sacristan	JEFF BURKE
Lector	JULIA YUHASZ
Eucharistic Minister of Bread	JULIE ABRAHAM
Eucharistic Ministers of Cup	NORA HLAD
	LISA BURGESS
Altar Server	MARIA YUHASZ
Greeters	SOPHIA GEARHARY
	ROSELLA MCCLOSKEY

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

December 24 & 25, 2023

Parish Goal: \$4,700 per Sunday

Attendance:

Envelopes:

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	
MAINTENANCE	\$
CEMETERY	\$
RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT	\$
CHRISTMAS	\$
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	\$
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	\$
SOLEMNITY OF MARY	\$

Parish Office
Closed

THE PARISH OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED AND WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 2nd AT 9:00 A.M.

**ST. STEPHEN FEAST DAY BRUNCH**

Sunday, January 14th, 2024 – After 9:00 a.m. Mass at Ciminero's Banquet Centre. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Ciminero's Famous Breakfast Brunch – \$10.00 per Person – Parish will cover remaining cost. **Reservation Deadline JANUARY 7th. Return your form in the collection, by mail or drop in parish drop box.**



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 Freil, Kevin Murphy (Father Murphy's brother), 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, Shirley Gustovich, Dick Bedio, Gavin Lengle, 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 and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**



ECHO COMMUNICATIONS COLLECTION

You may ask yourself, "Why should I give to the Communications Collection?" And the answer is simple: Because the Communications Department exists to serve you. Their various programs—Wineskins and *The Catholic Echo* podcast, televised Masses, *The Catholic Echo* magazine and website, diocesan social media and even many of the announcements you see in this bulletin—are geared toward inspiring, informing and engaging you. To support these initiatives (or future ones), please give to the Communications Collection on January 6 and 7. Visit <https://www.doy.org/Communications-collection/> for more information or to give.



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.

STEWARDSHIP

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH
"...AS THE LORD HAS FORGIVEN YOU, SO YOU MUST FORGIVE." - COLOSSIANS 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend, or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.



VOCATIONS – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Monday, January 1, 2024

"The Lord lift up His countenance on you and gives you peace." His peace will be fully felt when you are living the vocation that he has called you to. If Christ may be lifting you up to faithful service as a priest or consecrated religious, talk to your priest, or contact Fr. Chad Johnson at 330-744-8451 or cjohnson@youngstowndiocese.org.

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.



ST. VINCENT de PAUL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is looking for volunteers to assist in all of our various programs such as the Hunger Center, Back2Work Mentoring Program, Care Clothing Room, Special Events and more. If you have a passion for events or fundraising, we have launched a volunteer team that we invite you to join. Contact Laura Bennett at 234-223-2933, ext. 103 or lbennett@svdpneodistrict.org. Contact us today to learn more about these exciting opportunities! www.SVdPTrumbull.org

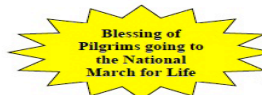


Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You alone is found freedom. Please free our world from conflict, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine. Bring unity to troubled nations. Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart. Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human 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.

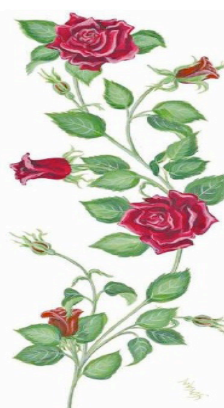


POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH/WARM HEARTS FOR WARM HOMES CAMPAIGN (formerly Keep the Kids Warm) began in 2008 in response to the economic recession impacting many local families. Unfortunately, the need for this annual campaign still exists 15 years later. Warm Hearts for Warm Homes aims to provide

utility assistance during the cold winter months to families with children, working poor adults and older adults on fixed incomes. More information about Warm Hearts for Warm Homes, including ways to support this campaign with your prayers and financial support, can be found on our website (www.ccdoy.org). Donate online or mail checks to: Catholic Charities, 144 West Wood Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503. Here at St. Stephen, we will have a second collection on January 14 for this cause.



MASS FOR LIFE



2024

**Sunday, January 14
4:00 p.m.**

**St. Columba Cathedral
154 West Wood St.
Youngstown**

Lord, help us foster a Culture of Life in Ohio!

**Most Rev. David J. Bonnar
Bishop of Youngstown**

Followed by a Reception
including information on
Walking with Moms in Need, etc.
Donations accepted

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