

St. Stephen Church



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

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.

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 21ST – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**9:00 a.m. **ED & BETTY ENTLER**

by John & Vicki Garland

**TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD**8:30 a.m. **BILL BRADLEY** by Rose**THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH**8:30 a.m. **EVELYN HANNON** by Bortmas Family**SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**9:00 a.m. **DECEASED MEMBERS****OF SPISAK FAMILY**

by Ed & Pat Spisak



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.

THEME : RESPOND TO THE LORD'S SACRIFICIAL LOVE WITH GRATITUDE, TRUST, AND LOVE.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He suffered and died for us because of the depth of God's love for us, because this is what a Good Shepherd does for those in His care. How should we respond to such love? With gratitude, trust, and love; by listening to His voice in our lives and being obedient to His commands. This is not always an easy task, but one with which the Lord is happy to assist us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter testifies that a disabled man has been healed in the name of Jesus Christ, the One through whom salvation comes. In the second reading, John reflects on the Father's love for us, through which He has made us His children. In the Gospel, Jesus describes Himself as the Good Shepherd who knows His sheep and freely lays down His life for them.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTION ~ WEEK OF APRIL 21st

IN MEMORY OF ELLA LUHANEY by Joanne
IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN MEDOVIC
by Fred Medovich Family



SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION
IN MEMORY OF MARY STANCHER by Family

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 will be making their commitment to God and their faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 a.m. 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!



We would like to take this opportunity to thank those women who volunteered their time to share their faith with our children through our CCD program this year. Our devoted staff members this year were:

Mary Sklenar, Carol Sylvester, Samie Ellwood, Patty Fuda, Gina Helmick, Subs~ Diane Dellimuti, Michele McCormick & Stacie Lehman, and Coordinator, Mary Ann McMahon. We are so grateful to these women for their willingness to help our youth grow in their faith. May God bless them for their service to our parish children.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP**APRIL 14, 2024**

Parish Goal: \$4,700.00 per Sunday

Attendance Sunday: 182

Envelopes Sunday: 99

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$4,193.00
EASTER	\$445.00
EASTER TO DATE	\$7,302.00
CHURCH AT HOME	\$20.00
ASCENSION	\$10.00
CEMETERY	\$248.00
MOTHER'S DAY	\$150.00
FATHER'S DAY	\$30.00
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	\$30.00

MINISTRY SCHEDULE**Sunday, April 28th**

Sacristan	JOHN DAUBNER
Lector	CHARLENE RABEL
Eucharistic Minister of Bread	JULIE ABRAHAM
Eucharistic Ministers of Cup	LISA BURGESS/ NORA HLAD
Altar Server	JOHN WILSON
Greeters	ANNA MARIE & BOB GRANNY

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.

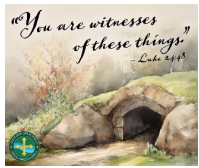
If you would like to add someone to the list, please call the rectory and leave a message and we will add the requested person. Please remember the following

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. and all those who suffer any illness, especially those who have no one to pray for them.**



THE SEMINARIAN COLLECTION takes place this weekend to assist with costs of their tuition, room, board, books, and with stipends for their summer ministry in parishes. During the year, they assist at diocesan events and speak at parishes and schools and are involved in private tutoring in Spanish to help them in their ministry assignments. Your donations will also be used to cover these costs.

PLEASE BE GENEROUS IN SUPPORT OF OUR FUTURE PRIESTS!
For more info about seminarians in our diocese, visit <https://doy.org/vocations/seminarians/>.



2024 DIOCESAN APPEAL In today's Gospel, after rising from the dead, Jesus told His disciples, "Everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and Psalms must be fulfilled" (Luke 24:44). There is not one aspect of God's plan that is not fulfilled in Christ. Our job as His parish is to show the world where certainty can be found. Without Christ, life offers anything *but* certainty. The Gospel can change everything. Jesus trusted our parish to be "witnesses of these things" (Luke 24:48). We need your help to do it! Please support our Annual Diocesan Appeal and help us help others see the nail-marks in His hands and feet with faith. Help us help people find the one place where certainty can be found and that, through Jesus' wounds, one day all our sorrows will be transformed into new life. **As of April 11, 83 St. Stephen donors have pledged \$18,200.00 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. Details about the deadline to apply and the date for the Mass will be announced soon.

OTHER NEWS



NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION ~ PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY

COMMUNITY SUPPERS – APRIL – NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – 21 Fairview Avenue, Niles. Suppers are free and open to the

public on Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 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.



APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

The library located at the Diocese of Youngstown, 225 Elm Street offers adaptive learning kits for sacramental preparation and catechesis. Everyone is welcome to borrow any of our DVDs, books for personal and group reflection, and small group study resources. Free parking is available in the fenced-in lot at the corner of Rayen Avenue and Elm Street You may contact us at 330-744-8451.

APRIL Is Child Abuse Prevention Month



APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

It serves as an annual reminder of the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect. The Catholic Church remains dedicated to being at the forefront of raising awareness about the scourge of child abuse, implementing the best policies and procedures to protect children from potential abusers, and working with professionals to bring healing to those who have been abused. During the month of April, you are encouraged to visit the diocesan safe environment webpage (<https://doy.org/safe-environment/>), where you will find reporting resources and access to our free online safe environment VIRTUS training. This online training provides information about the signs and symptoms of abuse and what steps you can take to prevent and/or report it.



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 ~

***"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep... and they will heed my voice."* - John 10:14-16**

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times, Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

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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 We are a K-6 charter school of choice and would be happy to provide a tour for your family. Please call the school office at 330-989-7474 to set up a tour and meet Principal Jarman.

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