Parish Office Hours
Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm
Closed Saturday/Sunday/Holidays

Pastoral Staff
Pastor:
Rev. Caroli B. Shao, A.J. (ext. 17)
Parochial Vicar:
Rev. Benjamin Koka, A.J. (ext. 14)
Latin Mass Celebrant:
Rev. Bede Kotinski, OSB
German Mass Celebrant:
Rev. S. Michael Franz (Ret.)

Parish Staff
Church Secretary:
Debbie Hemphill (ext. 11)
Church Accountant:
Russ Niebling (ext. 12)
Maintenance:
Glenn Rollins
Sacristan:
Melissa Daubert
Organists:
Joe Kolecki and Matthew Tirabassi
Lectors:
Virginija Mulilis and Teagan Webb
Latin Schola Director:
Nathan Marinchick
St. Vincent de Paul:
Steve McElroy (ext. 16)

Metro Catholic Parish School
1910 West 54th Street
Mary Lou Toler, Director
Sr. Anne Malone, SND, Director Emerita
216-281-4044

Sisters of Notre Dame Convent
1891 West 57th Street
216-631-0754

Mission Statement
Saint Stephen Parish, as guided by the Holy Spirit and empowered by the Sacraments, is sent forth to know, love and serve God. For the salvation of souls, we endeavor to evangelize the Gospel message through Christ-centered ministries and faithful witness. Our parish pledges fidelity to the Magisterium, the teaching authority of the Holy Catholic Church. We offer traditional, orthodox and reverent practice of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the edification of the faithful and for the making of saints. The Saint Stephen parish family seeks to actively build a culture of life and recognizes the dignity of all persons as children of God.

English Weekend Masses
Saturday: 5pm
Sunday: 8am and 11am

Latin (Tridentine) Weekend Mass
1st Friday 6:30pm / 1st Saturday 9:30am
Sunday: 9:30am

German Weekend Mass
1st Sunday of every month: 11am

Weekday, Holy Days & Holidays
See full schedule inside bulletin

Reconciliation
Saturday 4:15-4:45pm
Sunday 9-9:20am (or by appointment)

Baptism
The baptism of infants and children under the age of seven is celebrated monthly. Call the Parish Office to Register.

Marriage
Weddings should be arranged with the Pastor at least 6 months in advance.

Anointing of the Sick / Funerals
Contact the Parish Office to arrange.

New Parishioners
Please contact the Parish Office to register.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Those wishing to become Catholic are encouraged to contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633.
This Week's Church Services

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 22, Church
Vigil of the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:15 – 4:45 PM  Reconciliation (Confessions Heard)
5:00 PM  †† Russell & Dawn Sutherland

Sunday, February 23, Church
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM  †† Bob & Marie Birt—68th Wedding Anniversary
9:00 AM  Reconciliation (Confessions Heard/Pray the Holy Rosary)
9:30 AM  Tridentine Latin Mass (Quinquagesima Sunday) - In Thanksgiving Daniel Odoemene
11:00 AM  † Chrisann Blankenship, Deceased Members of the Smith Family, Living & Deceased Members of the Bewley Family

Monday, February 24, Rectory Chapel
Weekday
6:30 PM  Homebound Parishioners

Tuesday, February 25
Weekday
6:45 AM  Tridentine Latin Mass (St. Matthias) (Church) — † France (Frank) Jus
6:30 PM  (Rectory Chapel) Jude Telesz

Wednesday, February 26, Church
Ash Wednesday
5:00 PM  English Mass—Conversion of Sinners
6:30 PM  Tridentine Latin Mass — † Leo Bevelacqua
7:00-8:00 PM Holy Hour (Adoration, Confessions, Benediction)

Thursday, February 27, Church
Thursday after Ash Wednesday
6:30 PM  John and Sylvia Telesz

Friday, February 28, Church
Friday after Ash Wednesday
5:00 PM  Faye Thornton
5:30 PM  Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 29, Church
Vigil of the First Sunday in Lent
4:15 – 4:45 PM  Reconciliation (Confessions Heard)
5:00 PM  Bob Habjanic

Sunday, March 1, Church
First Sunday in Lent
8:00 AM  Living and Deceased Members of the Marica Plavec Family
9:00 AM  Reconciliation (Confessions Heard)/Pray the Holy Rosary
9:30 AM  Tridentine Latin Mass—† Coletta Spuhler
11:00 AM  German Mass—†† Wilhelm & Mathilde Asbrand

CELEBRANT SCHEDULE

Saturday 5PM  Sunday 8AM  Sunday 11AM
Feb 22 & 23  Fr. Caroli  Fr. Franz  Fr. Caroli
Feb 29 & Mar 1  Fr. Benjamin  Fr. Caroli  Fr. Franz
All Sunday & Holy Days at 9:30am: Rev. Bede Kotlinski

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES February 22 & 23

Saturday 5PM  Sunday 8AM  Sunday 11AM
Lector  Glenn Sneed  Andy Reichert  Glenn Sneed
Euch.Min  Jim Lisi  TBD  Dianna Hosta, Jean Gandee
Acolyte  Bella & Sergio Harris  Kevin Kroesen  Kevin Kroesen

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES - February 26

ASH WEDNESDAY — 5PM
Lector  Russ Nieling
Euch.Min  Glenn Sneed  TBD
Acolyte  Bella & Sergio Harris  Kevin Kroesen

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES February 29 & March 1

Saturday 5PM  Sunday 8AM  Sunday 11AM
Lector  Steve McElroy  Andy Reichert  Katie Ganser, Ursula Keck
Euch.Min  Jim Lisi  TBD  Ed Moore, Dianna Hosta, Liz Filippi
Acolyte  Bella & Sergio Harris  Kevin Kroesen  Luke, Colin, Katie Joyce

SAINTS & OBSERVANCES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23

Sunday:  Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday:  Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23

Monday:  Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:  Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:  Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:  Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:  Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:  Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:  Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Walter Allen  Mike Gallo  Jennifer Martinc
Luann Ashby  Jack Grimm, Sr.  Ciele McClain
Victoria Bailey  Susan Hatta  Patricia McGonegal
Burley Blankenship  Larry Haynes  Elizabeth Niehaus
Lawrence Blasius  Barb Helon  Barbara Rieth
Patricia Burfield  Catherin Henry  Mark Reynolds
Jack Busdiecker  Cecilia Hoyer  Ken Schneider
Ann Caldwell  Agnes Hogan  Terry Shannon
Fr. Joseph Callahan  Roger Hoy  Glenn Sneed
Fran Corbin  Robert Johnson  Sharon Sneed
Fred Courtright  Renée Kolecki  Ann Stropp
Deacon Moisés Cruz  Milan Kovatch  Isabel Guadiz Tobey
Rebecca D'Andrea  Fred Krisch  Evelyn Trucks
Dianna Daubert  Inis Lustri  Margie Walters
Wanda Eland  Ann Malone  Karin Whyde
Alberta Gall  Tracy Martin

Contact the Parish Office at 216-631-5633 to schedule a Mass.
The customary stipend (offering) is $10.00.

Nicholas Johanni — Discernment of Holy Orders
Rose Johanni—Discerning Religious Life
Our brave First Responders who work tirelessly to keep us safe, especially
Chris Larson, our Sunday Cleveland Police Officer; and Lt. Timothy Mallo-Judd.
If you would like someone added to or removed from this prayer list, please call the Parish Secretary at 216-631-5633. Thank you.
REFLECTION
Every Christian is called to holiness. Jesus says, “Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.” One of the ways to be holy is to avoid acts of revenge. This means that Christian life is totally against the Law which emphasizes “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.” This crude law leads only to the destruction of the lives of our enemies. The mission of Jesus is to communicate the perfection of the Father by being merciful to sinners, and enemies [his executioners]. The victory of holy believers lies on the conversion of the enemies, but not the elimination of the enemies or infliction of punishment on sinners. The Lord is calling us to be the living image of our heavenly Father - to practice forgiveness and show love to all people.

~ Fr. Benjamin Koka

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 23, 2020
Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.
— Leviticus 19:2b

NEXT WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION
Next week’s second collection will be in support of the Black and Indian Mission. Your generosity strengthens African American and Native American Catholic communities.

PRAY THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO SEND LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST...
We want to witness to young people that vocations are possible for Black people in the Catholic Church.
— Sister Donna Banfield, S.B.S.

When you have Native Americans doing the ministry they bring an aspect that no one else can bring.
— Father Dale Jamison, O.F.M.

FEBRUARY 15 & 16 OFFERTORY COLLECTION
General Collection: (56) $2,368.123 / Children: (2) $2.00
Ecclesia Nostra: (31) $1,316.00
Building Fund: (19) $384.00
Utility Fund: (2) $210.00
Thank you all for your generosity!
Number of Weekly Collection Envelopes Issued: 235

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23
Sunday, Feb 23  Schola Practice—8:30-9:15am (CR)
Schola Practice—10:40am-12:00pm (CR)
West Shore Chorale Concert—3:00pm (Church)

Wed., Feb 26  Distribution Ashes—5:00pm & 6:30pm Masses

Friday, Feb 28  Fish Fry—4:00-7:00pm (MCB)
Stations of the Cross—5:30 PM

Sat., Feb 29  Sacramental Prep—11:00am (SFR)
- Confirmation

Dear Families,
During Lent our parish will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a faith-in-action program that invites us to reflect on the challenges of global hunger — and our responsibility to respond to the needs of our global human family.

We will be reminded through the Gospel story of Jesus feeding the 5,000, that if we commit to sharing what we have with those in need, trusting in God’s abundance, there is more than enough to feed everyone. Through our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving, we can respond to the call to ensure that all our brothers and sisters are fed nutritious food that gives them what they need to fulfill their God-given potential.

During this holy season, it is important to come together as a family and reflect on the cross of hunger and lack of proper nutrition, that so many of our brothers and sisters both near and far are forced to carry. In so doing, we pledge to stand alongside these members of our human family, supporting them as the Gospel calls us to do. Please pick up your Rice Bowl today in the back of the Church on the table near St. Rita. Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl with your family.

Yours in Christ—Fr. Caroli Shao

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION
ASH WEDNESDAY
Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: these disciplines, prescribed by Jesus himself in the Sermon on the Mount, along with strict instructions not to flaunt them in public to win recognition and praise (Matthew 6:1-18), have been embraced by all the saints at the beginning of every Lent for almost two thousand years. But mention Lent, and many react with a grimace or slight shudder—even now, years after official obligations have been reduced to a minimum! No wonder the Eastern Rite’s “Lenten Announcement” sounds surprising: “Let us receive with joy, O faithful people, the divinely inspired announcement of Lent! The Lenten Spring shines forth! Begin the fast with joy! Let us fast? Give proof by your works. If you see a poor person, take pity. An enemy, be reconciled. A friend gaining honor, don’t be jealous.” A positive approach! May the saints help us keep such a Lent! —Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PROLIFE CORNER - Self-Sacrificing Love
Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical “God is Love” teaches that “agape, which [is] ... the typical expression for the biblical notion of love, ... expresses the experience of a love which involves a real discovery of the other, moving beyond the selfish character that prevailed earlier. Love now becomes concern and care for the other. No longer is it self-seeking, a sinking in the intoxication of happiness; instead it seeks the good of the beloved: it becomes renunciation and it is ready, and even willing, for sacrifice” (n. 6). This kind of love is seen in a particular way when we care for the weak and defenseless, both born and unborn. May the Pope’s encyclical encourage us to build a culture of life! ~ priestsforlife.org
Parish Announcements

ASH WEDNESDAY: Please note that a 5:00 PM English Mass is scheduled to be celebrated in the Church, in addition to the Tridentine Latin Mass scheduled at 6:30.

Limited copies of the Magnificat Lenten Companion, and One Bread, One Body booklets are available in the literature rack located in the back on the St. Rita side of the church.

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 26th this year. We invite all parishioners to bring last year’s palms to the Church. They are needed early to have time to burn the palms, and get them prepared for Ash Wednesday. Please place them in the box in the back of the Church near St. Rita. Thank you!

News from the Pews

CONGRATULATIONS TO...
Mr. and Mrs. Adam and Kayla Ludle who were joined in the Holy Sacrament of Marriage on February 15, 2020!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...
Keagan C. O’Brien for making honor roll for the current grading period at St. Edward High School!

CONDOLENCES TO...
The Hilbert Family on the death of Andrew Hilbert, who died on February 10, 2020. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Join us TODAY!
February 23, 2020, 3:00pm for
Great American Choral Classics Then and Now
St. Stephen welcomes back the West Shore Chorale for “Great American Choral Classics-Then and Now,” today at 3pm here in the sanctuary. The members of the Chorale will treat us to pieces including Thompson’s The Peaceable Kingdom, Ives’ Sixty-Seventh Psalm, Lullaby by Billy Joel, and others. John Drotleff will conduct, along with Associate Conductor, Michael Lisi. No tickets are necessary, but a free will offering will be taken. Part of the proceeds will benefit St. Stephen. For over 50 years, the West Shore Chorale has been serving Cleveland with great choral performances and a commitment to community outreach.

For more information call 216-373-7773 or visit: www.westshorechorale.org.

LENT* AND EASTER SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>English Mass</th>
<th>Tridentine Latin Mass</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday (February 26)</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>5:00 –8:00pm—Evening of Confession</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td>5:00 PM English Mass</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>5:00 PM Tridentine Latin Mass</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>5:00 PM English Mass</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>5:00 PM Tridentine Latin Mass</td>
<td>5:30 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palm Sunday (April 5)</td>
<td>8:00 AM English Mass</td>
<td>No Confessions</td>
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<td>9:15 AM Procession + Tridentine Latin Mass</td>
<td>11:00 AM German Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spy Wednesday (April 8)</td>
<td>6:30 PM Tridentine Latin Mass</td>
<td>Tenebrae to follow</td>
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<td>Holy Thursday (April 9)</td>
<td>7:00 PM English Mass</td>
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<td>Good Friday (April 10)</td>
<td>2:00 PM Stations of the Cross</td>
<td>3:00 PM Passion of our Lord</td>
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<td>4:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet—Novena</td>
<td>4:00-7:00pm—Fish Fry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Saturday (April 11)</td>
<td>8:00 PM English Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Sunday (April 12)</td>
<td>9:30 AM Tridentine Latin Mass</td>
<td>11:00 AM English Mass</td>
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* Lenten Guide on Fasting and Abstinence—Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of universal fast and abstinence. Fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year. Fasting allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Abstinence (from meat) is obligatory for all who have reached their 14th year. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. Fridays in Lent are obligatory days of complete abstinence (from meat) for all who have completed their 14th year.
“They rebuked him that he should hold his peace.”

QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Thought for the Day: The passage of the Gospel selected by the Church, is that wherein our Savior foretells to his Apostles the Sufferings he was to undergo in Jerusalem. This solemn announcement prepares us for Passiontide. We ought to receive it with feeling and grateful hearts, and make it an additional motive for imitating the devoted Abraham, and giving our whole selves to our God. The ancient Liturgists tell us that the blind man of Jericho, (spoken of, in this same Gospel,) is a figure of those poor sinners, who, during these days, are blind to their Christian character, and rush into excesses, which even Paganism would have coveted. The blind man recovered his sight, because he was aware of his wretched state, and desired to be cured and to see. The Church wishes us to have a like desire, and she promises us that it shall be granted. — Taken from the writings of Dom Prosper Gueranger

Prayer: O most benign Jesus! who didst so desire to suffer for us, grant, that we may willingly suffer for love of Thee; that we may hate and flee from the detestable pleasures of the world and the flesh, and practice penance and mortification, that by so doing we may merit to be released from our spiritual blindness to love Thee more and more ardently, and finally possess Thee forever. Amen.

Ministry Update

The St. Stephen Outreach Ministry served 92 people on Thursday, February 13th from our Food Pantry. Our Community Kindness Food Pantry is open from 9:30am-12:30pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month.

THANK YOU to those who have generously volunteered their time in support of this Ministry!

Opportunity to Serve

Birthright

Birthright will be hosting a training program for new volunteers for our Lakewood office in March. Volunteers duties include answering the phones, sorting baby clothes, making up layettes and helping pregnant women find community resources. If you feel God is calling you to help women, please call Toni at 216-228-5998 for more information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE — February 26—April 5
You too can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers! With God’s help, here are the proven results in 25 coordinated campaigns:

16,746 babies saved from abortion
196 abortion workers converted
104 abortion centers closed

Here’s how you can participate:

Vigil locations:
Preterm—12000 Shaker Blvd., Cleveland, 44102
Planned Parenthood—25350 Rockside Rd., Bedford Hts., 44146
Family Planning—54 South State St., Painesville, 44077

Vigil hours: 7am—7 pm daily

Local contact: John Noall 2216-245-9744 or email: clevelandpraysforlife@gmail.com

Learn more ... get involved ... and sign up for prayer times by visiting our campaigns at the web addresses shown below:

www.40daysforlife.com/Cleveland
www.40daysforlife.com/painesville
www.40daysforlife.com/bedfordheights