

St. Stephen Church



129 West Park Avenue
Niles, Ohio
44446

Rev. Thomas Kraszewski,
Pastor

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Obligation:

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Days: Consult Bulletin.

Weekdays: 8:30 a.m., Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Saturday: 3:30-4:15 p.m. and upon
request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

First Sunday of the month at 12:30
p.m. 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.

SICK CALLS:

Anytime day or night.

HOSPITAL CALLS:

When a member of your family
is taken to the hospital, notify the
Rectory.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Rectory Phone: 652-4396;
School Phone: 652-5511.

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL:

Principal – Paula Ekis

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (CCD):

Sunday: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Stephanie Zapka, CCD Coordinator

ORGANIST:

Joseph Maciejewski – 330-847-7742

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please register at once.

MOVING: Notify the Rectory.

QUESTIONS? BULLETIN NEWS: Bulletin deadline –

Monday before 9:00 a.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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

3:30-4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

10:30 a.m. Rosary

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

No School – Labor Day

9:00 a.m. Mass at Cemetery, weather permitting

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

2:30 p.m. Mass at Shepherd of the Valley

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

School – Faculty Meeting

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

3:30-4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

10:30 a.m. Rosary

ST. STEPHEN BAKE SALE

Parish Council is planning a second Bake Sale at the Austintown Wal-Mart on Sunday, September 14. Helpers will be needed, as well as your delicious baked goods. We have a sign-up sheet in the church for volunteers to help us that day.

SCHOOL NEWS

Be sure to visit our web site (www.ststephenschoolniles.com) for updates on our menus, calendars and news. There will be new additions to our web site on a regular basis.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

The school year is well underway! The September Newsletter and menu are posted on our web site. They are located on the home page under File Library. You do not need a password to get to these, so everyone can see the wonderful things happening at St. Stephen School.

This past week, Tuition Angel Awards were granted. Notification will come to the families by mail. This phenomenal program has helped many families. We are in need of help though. We need parishioners to consider serving on the Tuition Angel Committee. Please see Fr. Tom or Mrs. Ekis for the "job description."

Also, we are very grateful to those who continue to donate to the fund. Many families choose to donate in honor or in memory of someone dear to them. Please consider this gift for the person who has everything! Thank you!

MARKET DAY PICKUP

Tuesday, September 9, from 4:00-5:30 p.m., in the School Cafeteria.

GOLF OUTING HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to our recent golf outing. The planning committee is very happy to report that they made a profit of \$3,300.00, all while having a great time. Hope you will be able to join us next year for another day of fun, fellowship and "FORE"!!!!

OTHER NEWS

COMMUNITY SUPPERS:

SEPTEMBER – TRINITY LUTHERAN

Suppers are free and open to the public every Thursday serving from 4:45 to 6:00 p.m.

NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES FOOD COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER – MUSTARD, KETCHUP, SYRUP, MAYO

There is a large basket in the vestibule of the Church for those who wish to contribute to this worthy effort.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 13260 TNT EVENING

On Tuesday, September 16 at TNT on Route 422 in Niles with door opening at 6:00 p.m., and the show at 7:00 p.m. It will be a comedy – *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* – an irreverent, fast-paced romp through all 37 of the Bard's plays – high-speed, roller-coaster compression of all Shakespeare's plays. The cost is \$12.00 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres. For tickets, contact Andy Hietikko at 330-609-6767 or Jerry Rassega at 330-856-2119.

AT OUR NEIGHBORING CHURCHES

Mount Carmel – Homemade Pizza Sale – on September 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at 381 Robbins Avenue. Regular, potato, spinach and white pizza will be available. Call advance orders to 330-652-2811 the week of the sale. Walk-ins are welcome.

Blessed Sacrament – Spanish Mass and Agape – A Catholic Mass celebrated in Spanish will be on Monday, September 8, at 6:00 p.m., at 3020 Reeves Road, Warren. Following Mass, a covered dish dinner (agape) will be shared in Holy Family Hall. All are welcome. Bring a dish to share.

Mount Carmel – Pasta Dinner – from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., on Sunday, September 14, in Marian Hall. The cost is \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under 10. Dinner includes two meatballs, salad, cake and beverage.

Immaculate Heart of Mary – Treasure in Your Trunk – 4490 Norquest, Austintown, on Saturday, September 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 per vehicle early registration, \$15.00 the day of the sale. Bring your own table (up to 8 ft.) for setting up in front of your trunk. There will also be a Used Book and Media Sale in the Parish Center, and 50/50 raffle, bake sale, and hot dog and soda sale. Any questions? Call Dolly at 330-792-8355. (No refunds for any reason.)

Blessed Sacrament – Casino Night and Texas Hold'em Tournament – on Saturday, September 20, at 3020 Reeves Road, Warren. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Also featured will be Chuck-a-luck wheel, 50/50 raffle, blackjack and poker tables, food and beverages. Must be 18 years of age to attend. Call the office at 330-372-2215 for information.

Villa Maria – Dream Work Intensive Retreat – is for those who have been working with their dreams as well as those who are new to this process, from 7:00 p.m. Thursday, September 25, to Sunday, September 28, at 1:00 p.m. You will have the opportunity to share your dreams as well as receive input on how to work with them. Methods for improving dream recall and keeping a personal dream journal will be shared. Register by September 4 and pay \$290.00 for overnight or \$190.00 commuter; or by September 5-18, pay \$300.00 overnight or \$200.00 commuter. For more info or to register, call 1-724-964-8920, ext. 3241, or e-mail cwilpula@humilityofmary.org.

CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE STUDY

Will begin an in-depth study of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Bible) on Wednesdays, starting September 10, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., at St. Paul the Apostle in New Middletown. Study the timeless stories of the Patriarchs, prophets and people of the Old Testament. Study their encounters and covenants with the One True God as examples for all of us who desire to walk by faith. Broaden your knowledge of Scripture, strengthen your Catholic Faith, and make new friends! For more information, call Chris at 330-757-7520.

OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION SHRINE FAMILY DAY

Will be on Sunday, September 28th, at 315 Clay Street, Carey, OH. They will welcome families to come and pray together. Mass at 12:00 noon with lunch and games for the family. The day concludes with Devotions at 2:30 p.m. and individual family blessings.

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME BARBECUE AND BOUTIQUE

On Sundays, September 21 and 28, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., at 13000 Auburn Road, Chardon. Enjoy barbecued chicken or ribs, apple pie, beverages. Select sisters' handmade items in the Boutique. Tickets available at the door for \$12.00 for Ribs and \$9.00 for Chicken! Take-outs available.

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The second celebration for this year will be held on Sunday, October 26, at 2:00 p.m., at St. John the Baptist Church, Canton. This celebration is for couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and over wedding anniversaries in 2008. It will include Mass celebrated by Bishop Murry, renewal of marriage vows, personalized certificate for each couple, and a reception for the couples and their families. Reservations are to be turned in to the Parish Office by September 29th and are available at our Rectory. Please call 330-744-8451, ext. 274, if you have any questions.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

4:30 P.M. RUTH FRAYER
(Marguerite Kovach & Mary Nicholas)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31 -

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 A.M. DECEASED MEMBERS OF CLASS OF
1953 OF NILES McKINLEY HIGH
SCHOOL (Mary Lou Manning)

11:00 A.M. CHRISTOPHER GRUSHA
(Mom, Dad & Allison)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

(At cemetery, weather-permitting)

9:00 A.M. PASQUA & DOMENIC PALUMBO
(Family)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

8:30 A.M. VINCENT HOLMES (Wife, Jean)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8:30 A.M. NO MASS -
WORD & COMMUNION SERVICE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:30 A.M. JACK SHAFFER
(Jim & Martha Benedict)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:30 A.M. FR. JOHN & FR. PAUL GUBSER
(Joe & Jean Tripodi)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

4:30 P.M. MARY & MIKE NICHOLAS
51st WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 -

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 A.M. JEAN SCHEETZ (Family)
11:00 A.M. BETTY SIMEONE (Mary Kos)

OFFERING Sunday, August 23 \$6,831.00
234 Envelopes

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to total stewardship. Brothers and sisters, he urges "... offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."

THEME: WHEN WE GIVE OUR LIVES OVER TO CHRIST WE GIVE THEM OVER TO THE WILL OF GOD.

Our life of faith can begin with a desire to know God and His promise of everlasting life. When we are moved to know His will for our lives and strive to unite ourselves with His will, it can become a driving force within us. We then seek to bring God's will to fruition. Despite doubts and struggles, the Holy Spirit keeps calling and inviting us to do the will of God

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Jeremiah struggles with his prophetic call. Yet he cannot resist the power of God moving him to speak the word God gave him. Paul encourages us to offer to God the sacrifice of a holy life. Jesus reveals the destiny of His death to the disciples, and teaches them that their lives must be united with His sacrifice.

PARISH NEWS

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS - WEEK OF AUGUST 31 IN MEMORY OF MARK TOMINEY

By Stancher Family

IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER GRUSHA

By Mom, Dad, & Allison

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION

IN MEMORY OF ANNA MAE GILDEA

By Ruth Corea

We do have some dates open for Eternal Flame intentions. Please call the Rectory to schedule. The offering is \$5.00.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Relationships live in a careful balance. If a person changes, the balance is altered requiring a shift in the relationship. In today's Gospel, Jesus announced a change and Peter resisted. Jesus told Peter: "You are an obstacle to me." Sometimes, those we count on for support may actually be an obstacle.

MINISTER SCHEDULE

Serving Mass Next Week (September 6 & 7)

Eucharistic Ministers

September 6	4:30 p.m.	J. Kolesar/S. Sylvester
September 7	9:00 a.m.	B. Ellwood/J. O'Malia
	11:00 a.m.	J. Dubaj/B. Prout

Lectors

September 6	4:30 p.m.	M. Sylvester
September 7	9:00 a.m.	J. Sylvester
	11:00 a.m.	B. Salyard

Altar Servers

September 6	4:30 p.m.	J. Markowitz/M. Smith/ K. Dubaj
September 7	9:00 a.m.	Z. Scheidegger/A. Wiery/ B. Nelson
	11:00 a.m.	S. Noark/D. Pleiss/ M. O'Malley

Children's Liturgy of the Word

September 7	11:00 a.m.	D. Morrison
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LABOR DAY MASS AT CEMETERY

Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. at the cemetery on Monday, September 1, Labor Day, weather permitting. Please bring your lawn chairs. If raining, Mass will be at church.

THE ROSARY

Members of our Morning Rosary Group invite you to come to pray the Rosary with them at 10:30 a.m. before Mass each and every Sunday.

RCIA - THE JOURNEY TO BECOMING A CATHOLIC

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in the Catholic Church for adults and teens to study and inquire into the Catholic faith. Modeled on the early Church of the apostles and disciples, it is a period of study and discernment leading up to the Easter Vigil for full reception into the Church. RCIA is also an opportunity for baptized Catholics to further their knowledge and understanding of the faith. Weekly classes will begin in the middle of September.

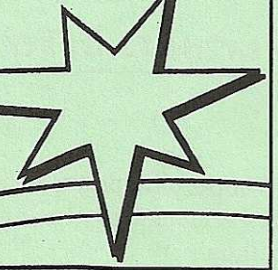
Maybe you know someone who is thinking about the Catholic faith or who has questions. The RCIA process enables one to grow, learn and deepen one's faith. Maybe you or a loved one has been away from the Church for a while. This journey can become a way back home within the Church community. Inquiries are always welcome. Please call Fr. Tom at the Rectory at 330-652-4396 or e-mail Father at FrTomInNiles@yahoo.com.

CCD - CLASSES FOR 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

CCD will begin Sunday, September 28th. Class time will be Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Registration forms for students returning from last year will be sent out soon. New students can call the Rectory Office for a registration form.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNAL BREAKFAST

Family Corporate Communion Sunday for members of Council 1681 and their Ladies Auxiliary will be held September 28, with Mass being celebrated at 9:00 a.m. at St. Stephen Church. Breakfast will follow at the K of C Hall, Vienna Avenue.



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2008

ST. STEPHEN CCD

Ms. Stephanie Zapka, Coordinator

St. Stephen School

Mrs. Paula Ekis, Principal



Thoughtful Moments

Catholic youth

"Do not be afraid to say 'yes' to Jesus, to find your joy in doing his will, giving yourself completely to the pursuit of holiness," the Pope recently told young people gathered in Sydney, Australia. "With prayer and openness, young people can receive the power of the Holy Spirit and transform the world."

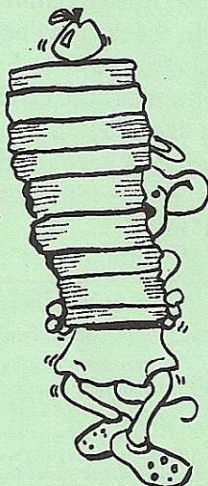


Charity is love

CHARITY: The theological virtue by which we love God above all things for his own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1822*).

Family prayer is powerful

"Again, (amen,) I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:19-20).



Five ways to raise nicer children

"My mother always said you attract more bees with honey than you do with vinegar. She wanted us to be nice," said Lisa. Chris said, "My fifth grade teacher said that you can get through life with bad manners, but good manners make everything easier." Consider these five ways to help children be nicer people:

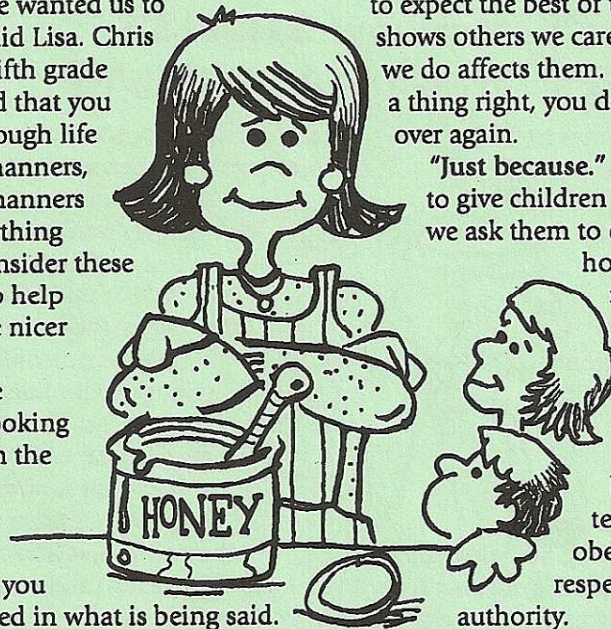
Make eye contact. Looking someone in the eye when speaking tells others that you are interested in what is being said. Good eye contact demonstrates respect for others, as well as ourselves.

Always say, "thank you." Express appreciation for anything you get.

Do it right the first time. Taking time to do a job well teaches children to expect the best of themselves and shows others we care about how what we do affects them. And, when you do a thing right, you don't have to do it over again.

"Just because." As parents, we try to give children reasons for what we ask them to do. Sometimes, however, children need to do things "just because" we ask or "just because" it's the right thing to do. The "just because" rule teaches children obedience and respect for proper authority.

Be polite. A child who listens without interrupting, respects others' opinions, and uses a friendly tone of voice will be welcome anywhere.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do we take a Confirmation name?

Sometimes when someone took on a new role in the Kingdom, God assigned a new name. For example, Jesus named Simon "Peter" when he became the leader of the Church (Matthew 16:18). Saul was renamed Paul when he became an Apostle (Acts 13:9).

Upon Confirmation, we also take on a new role in the Church and take on a new name. We choose the name of a saint who we hope will inspire us to a greater holiness. Our patron becomes a friend for life.



10 prayers for every Catholic child

People who pray take life's ups and downs with grace and peace. Here are 10 basic Catholic prayers to teach your children:

Sign of the Cross. Prayed before and after other prayers, it reminds us we do all things in God's name.

Our Father. A great morning or evening prayer to say as a family.

Hail Mary. Learning this prayer is the first step toward praying the Rosary.

Glory Be. Any child can learn this simple prayer of praise.

Act of Faith. A nice way to start the day.



Act of Hope. Children can pray it before a test or other times they need God's help.

Act of Charity. Expresses love for God, but it is also a daily reminder to forgive and love others.

Act of Contrition. Essential for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but a nice prayer for bedtime, too.

Grace before meals. Reminds us that all good things come from God.

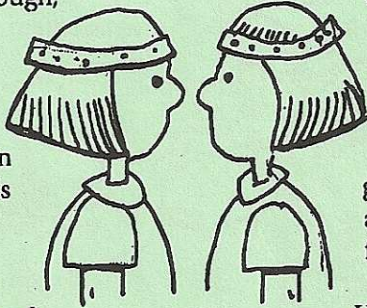
Guardian Angel Prayer. Helps us remember that God sends us help in many different ways.

Scripture LESSON

Matthew 21:28-32, Which son was right?

When Jesus used stories to teach, his parables weren't always easy to figure out. This time, though, even the priests and Pharisees realized that he was speaking of them. By their own answer to Jesus' question asking which son did his father's bidding, the leaders condemned themselves.

The first son who refused to do his father's bidding but relented and obeyed represented the outcasts such as tax collectors and prostitutes. The second son who pretended obedience but defied his father symbolized the religious



leaders. They pretended to live by God's laws while privately pursuing their own interests. These leaders were stung by the idea that sinners would make it into Heaven before they would. Still, they were unwilling to give up their pride, learn at Jesus' feet, and seek forgiveness.

What can a parent do?
Help your children realize that we follow God's laws

because we love him and want to be with him in Heaven for eternity. God wants our heart-felt obedience, not just our empty promises.

Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 14 – Feast: Exaltation of the Holy Cross (300s BC). St. Helena (mother of Emperor Constantine), made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem retracing places in Jesus' life. When she tore down the Temple of Aphrodite, workers found three crosses, one of which was thought to be the Cross on which Jesus died. On the site, Constantine built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher.

Sept. 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows. In Luke 2:35, Simeon predicted Mary's sorrows as "a sword piercing" her soul. This referred in part to a time when

Mary would stand at the foot of her son's Cross. Despite her sorrow, Mary stood dignified and fearless while others fled.

Sept. 17 – St. Robert Bellarmine (1621). A Jesuit, St. Robert was dedicated to accurately recording Church doctrine to protect it from attack from Protestants. Among many activities, he became theologian to Pope Clement VIII, preparing two catechisms which have had great influence in the Church.



Parent TALK

Our family life is stressful. My daughter has a life-threatening condition that requires constant management, so we're always on edge. That makes me chronically cranky. I didn't realize how at odds this was with living my Catholic faith until, "The Parking Lot Incident."

We were racing to make a doctor's appointment that had been scheduled months ago. If we were late, we'd lose it. As I was pulling into the last open parking space, another car slid in before me. I honked but the driver ignored me.

I actually got out of my car and walked toward the driver yelling and screaming. My two terrified children sat in the back seat in shock at my behavior ... all for a parking space.

Fortunately the driver kept walking and I felt like a fool. Lots of prayer and Confession have since helped me to behave more like the follower of Jesus I want to be.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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