



The Saint Stephen Church Parish Bulletin

1344 White Oak Bottom Road
Toms River, NJ, 08755

Reverend Volodymyr Popyk – Pastor of Parish

LITURGIES:
SUNDAY- 9:00 AM English; 10:30 AM Ukrainian

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Phone for ordering pyrohy 732-505-6293

Pastor's cell: 609-372-7161 Email: pastor@ststephenchurch.us

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Sunday before Christmas – of the Holy Fathers – Неділя Перед Різдвом Христовим

December 19 Ep.: Heb.11,9-10 & 32-40 Go.: Mt.1,1-25 Tone 5

9:00AM God's blessing for all parishioners – Благословення Парафіян. PROSFORAS

10:00AM Rosary for the conversion of the world – Вервиця за навернення світу

10:30AM + Любомира від Марти Грицило
“Освячення Просфор для Святої Вечері”

Monday, December 20 9:00am + Любомира від Марти Грицило

Tuesday, December 21 9:00am + Любомира від Марти Грицило

Wednesday, December 22 9:00am + Любомира від Марти Грицило
Здоров'я Кайли, Андрія, Володимира, Костянтина, Анни і всіх рідних

Thursday, December 23 9:00am + Julia and Mykola Jurkewicz from Stefania and Maria Jurkewicz
(Birthday Anniversary)

Friday, December 24 “Vigil of Christmas” - Надвечір'я Різдва Христового
9:00pm Vespers with Lytia and Christmas Divine Liturgy.
Вечірня із Литією та Св. Різдвяна Літургія

Saturday, December 25 Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ – Різдво Христове
9:00AM Christmas Divine Liturgy (Eng.)
10:30AM Christmas Divine Liturgy (Ukr.) Св. Різдвяна Літургія

Sunday. Synaxis of the Theotokos – Неділя. Собор Пресвятої Богородиці

December 26 Ep.: Heb.2,11-18 Go.: Mt.2,13-23 Tone 6 + Festal Tone

9:00AM + Sofia Paluga from Valentyna Paraniuk

10:00AM Rosary for the conversion of the world – Вервиця за навернення світу

10:30AM God's blessing for all parishioners – Благословення Парафіян

Monday, December 27 “Stephen Protomartyr” - Первомученика Архидиякона Стефана
9:00am Divine Liturgy

Rectory Office Hours: In emergency, parishioners can contact Father any time. **Mondays-Day Off - office closed.**

Church Membership: All faithful are welcome to our Church. Ukrainian Catholics, Roman Catholics and Orthodox people can pray with us. We would love to see at our Church non-Catholics and unaffiliated people. If any of the visitors feels that our Church is a house of prayer and spiritual life, this person can become a Christian and member of our parish. We appreciate all contributions for the Church to cover expenses of our the Parish. You may use your envelopes.

Baptism: All people can become Christians. Children can become Christians through the consent of the parents. According to our Ukrainian-Byzantine custom Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion is combined into one service. For adults Catechetical preparation is required.

First Confession and Solemn Holy Communion: Every baptized adult must go to Confession at least once a year. Children after the age of 8 have to receive First Penance and Holy Communion according to the Church's Law. Catechetical classes are available in our parish. Please sign up your child for classes at least one year before the day of the event.

Confession is available 30 min. before every Liturgy & at other times by requesting the priest.

Marriages All couples contemplating marriage are required to attend counseling sessions. A period of six months is needed for all preparations. Please contact Father as soon as you make plans to wed.

Anointing of the Home-bound Due to Illness: If you are home-bound and would like Father to visit you, please call the office to make sure your name is on the list. It is the family's responsibility to inform the pastor on time, especially of an emergency.

Funeral: Have your funeral director contact the rectory immediately after the death to make proper funeral arrangements.

Parish Ukrainian School: Parish Ukrainian school is now open. The schedule is Saturdays from 9:30AM to 11:30AM. Children of all ages are invited. **Запрошуємо до суботньої Української Школи всіх дітей різного віку! (732) 505-6053**

“SCHOLARSHIP of St. Stephen Parish”: A scholarship of \$500 is available from our parish to high school graduating students. To be eligible, graduating students must attend the Liturgy and services every Sunday and be active in the parish at least 3 years before graduation.

Bingo information- Every Tuesday, at 7:00PM we offer Bingo at our parish hall. The income from Bingo is used to cover the mortgages of our new church. **Please come and help us. We need volunteers! WE HAVE NO BINGO THIS TIME!**

Rosary Society- The Rosary Society is a prayer group that fosters devotion to the Holy Mother of God through daily recitation of the rosary. We are welcome new members.

Religion education- Our parish holds catechetical classes for the promotion of spiritual development. The religion classes for adult parishioners and visitors are provided by Fr. Volodymyr on Sundays during “Coffee hour” at 12:00PM in the parish hall. On Saturdays at 11:30AM (after Ukrainian school) Father has 30 min. of religion classes for children. All are welcome!

Renting of the Hall: Our parish hall is available for rental for six hours until 10:00PM. For more information and/or to sign a rental agreement, please call Father Volodymyr at 732-505-6053. **NO RENTAL HALL THIS TIME!**

Coffee hour: We welcome all parishioners to participate in the Coffee Hour at our parish hall after 10:30 Liturgy on Sundays. If you would like to donate a cake please contact Oksana Powzaniuk 732-255-6549 or Irene Dziaba 732-778-5414. Запрошуємо всіх

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COLLECTIONS – \$1,621. Thank you so much for your generous donations! Дякуємо щиро за офіру!

Good news for the Parish! With the Blessing of the Chancery of our Archeparchy and the Father Volodymyr in our parish will be established a Sisterhood on Sunday, January 9, 2022. The Sisterhood will work for the good and development of our parish. The Sisterhood will take full responsibility for all sorts of events, celebrations, hospitality and preparations in our parish. The Sisterhood will be led by Chairwoman (Голова Сестрицтва), which will be appointed by Pastor Volodymyr at the first meeting of the Sisterhood on Sunday, January 9, 2022. With the establishment of the Sisterhood all other groups of women who worked for the parish will lose their appointments due to the reorganization of work in the parish. The Fundraising Account and Pierogies Account will be led by the Chairwoman and Sisterhood. Chairwoman of Sisterhood will be authorized to sign checks of the Fundraising Account and Pierogies Account. The main purpose of the Sisterhood are to work for the good and development of the parish through serving the people of our parish and to help others in their needs, and help the Pastor in service to the people and financial support of the parish. To be a member of Sisterhood you need to be registered. All the women of our parish are invited to join the Sisterhood of our Parish. The letter of registration to the Sisterhood is on Bulletinboard in the corridor of the church. Всі жінки нашої Парафії є запрошені до парафіяльного Сестрицтва, що буде проголошене на перших Зборах Сестрицтва у Неділю 9 Січня 2022 року. Також буде обрана Голова Сестрицтва. Лист реєстрації до Сестрицтва є на дошці оголошень. Запрошуємо щиро всіх, хто хоче причинитися для добра Парафії та її розвитку!

On Sunday, January 2, 2022 at 12.15pm we will have meeting of new Pastoral and Finace Councils of our parish. Збори нових Пасторальної та Фінансової Рад відбудеться в Неділю, 2 Січня 2022 року о 12.15 годині по полудні. Списки Членів Рад є надруковані у Бюлетені.

On Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 12.15pm we will have first meeting of parish Sisterhood. All ladies wishing to join the Sisterhood are invited to the meeting. Перші збори парафіяльного Сестрицтва відбудуться в Неділю, 9 січня 2022 року о 12.15 годині по полудні. Всі бажаючі жінки є запрошені на Збори Сестрицтва.

With the Blessing of Archbishop Metroliten Borys I would like to announce names of New Pastoral and Finance Councils of our parish for year of 2022:

Finance Councils:

John Bortnyk (Parish Accountant)

Bohdan Kashuba (Trustee)

Anton Stremski (Trustee)

Pastoral Councils:

Mykhailo Hrytsylo, Bohdan Kashuba (Trustee), Taras Kelyman, Oksana Powzaniuk, Iryna Stremska, Ruslan Kelyman, Irene Bortnyk, Luba Bonszek, Stefan Dziaba, Natalia Koshkina, Iryna Dziaba, Orest Pelikan, Sergij Bidovanec.

The parish caretaker is Stefan Dziaba. I am sincerely grateful to the former Pastoral and Finance Councils: Wolodymyr Powzaniuk, Linda Hippel, Walter Krynicki, Jessy Gojdycz, Maria Onyszkewycz, Irene Humeny, Michael Gojdycz. Your work has been usful to the parish and we are grateful to you for this work. May Lord Jesus Christ grand you good health and many Lord's graces for to have Blessed and Happy life! Многая літа вам та благословення! Дякую щиро вам за працю!

Charitable Donations - Individuals who are 70 1/2 or older can support charities through IRA distributions. The donation must be made directly from your IRA (IRA Roll-over) to a "qualified charity". These gifts count toward your required minimum distribution but are not treated as income, thus creating a tax advantage for many people. To qualify for a tax benefit for 2021, all charitable IRA Roll-overs must be made by Dec. 31st. Please consider making such a donation to St. Stephen's. It would be a great benefit to our parish and would be a tax break for you. Remember to consult your tax planner or financial advisor prior to making you decision.

On Sunday, January 16, 2022 we plan to celebrate ending of Christmas season - “Prosfora”. All parishioners are welcomed. Buffet style of service will be offered. Entrens fee is \$20 per person. The Children under 12 is for free. Letter of registration will be located at church entrens!

Attention please! If you have an **intense cough or especially fever**, please do not come to church. Your visit of the church may put other people at risk to get disease. Please watch the Liturgy online!

Attention please! If you make request of the Divine Liturgy in the same day of requested service, please pass this on to father before the service in person. Offering of the check, for the service, have to be made for father's Name. **Якщо ви робите** замовлення Служби в той самий день, то прошу вірних подавати замовлення на відправу Св. Літургії перед службою підійшовши до отця. Якщо ви хочите Службу на інші пізніші дні, то замовлення можна поставити в кошик або підійшовши до Священика. Офіру банківським чеком за Літургію, слід виповнити на ім'я Священика.

“The Family Candles on the Holy Altar” for the month of December candles are offered from Lesia Obaranec in memory of + Dmytro and Anna Markewych, and of + Vasyl and Stefania Obaranec. Thank you for your offering!

In the parish we have new tradition to worship The Lord Jesus and His Sacred Heart on every First Fridays of every month. That was will of the Lord Jesus. У парафії маємо звичай Перших П'ятниць кожного місяця, так як нам заповів сам Ісус. Кожної Першої п'ятниці матимемо Сповідь і Св. Причастя.

At our parish we have established a new tradition of the “Family candles on the Holy Altar”. Candles can be offered by a family for any intentions, and these candles will be lighted for every Divine Liturgy on Altar of the church for all month. Your candles will become a part of the Liturgical service and the family will receive many blessings from God. The offering for the “Family candles on the Holy Altar” is \$45 per month. Please contact Father Volodymyr!

The religion classes for adult are provided by Fr. Volodymyr on every available Sunday at the coffee hour time (after second the Divine Liturgy). Father would like to get some questions from parishioners.

Your name or names of your family members can be displayed on a new board of donations for the church loan for 2020-2021. To receive this acknowledgment the parish is requesting an offering of \$500 or more for the payment of the church loan. Your contribution will help the parish repay the church mortgage. Please make the check out to St. Stephen Church and note the purpose on the check. The new board of benefactors will be made and displayed on the wall at the church entrance.

Please pray for our parishioners: Anna Pyrih, Mary Monani, Walter Adamkewych, Katherine Konopada, Euginia Bobek, Jane Sass, John Libowits, Pamela Chomiak Cavanagh, and Mykola, Igor, Luba, Lidia, Jack, John and Anna Dzera, Gabriele, Alanna Tufaro, Olga Lucyk, Natalia Andrusyk, Ann Ogden, Jessy Kacuba, Stephen Holinatyj, Anna Turdo. They need your support of prayers.

Dear parishioners! Father is asking all parishioners to **remember to make** their donations so that the parish can continue to provide essential services to our congregation. Donations can be made by mailing them to the parish. Our address is: 1344 White Oak Bottom Rd., Toms River, NJ 08755.

God's Love for you is...

UNENDING – God's love is eternal. He loved you yesterday, loves you today and will love you forever! (Jeremiah 31:3)

UNSELFISH –God didn't wait for us to love Him first. His love was freely given.(1 John 4:19)

UNDESERVED – God is Holy, righteous, and just. As sinners, we have done nothing to deserve God's love. But He loves us anyway. (Romans 5:8)

UNIMAGINABLE- God's love led Him to send His Son Jesus to bear the punishment for our sins on the cross. Can you imagine watching someone you love being punished to the point of death for something they didn't do? (John 3:16)

WILL YOU CHOOSE to accept God's love? Then you too can experience God's unfathomable love for all eternity!

“ Nail Mary Most Pure, conceived without sin save our souls! “

“О Непорочно Зачата Діво Маріє врятуй наші душі !”

ВШАНУВАННЯ ПЕРШИХ П'ЯТНИЦЬ МІСЯЦЯ. ОБЩАНКИ, ЩО ДАВ ГОСПОДЬ ІСУС ДО МАРІЇ МАРГАРЕТИ АЛЯКОК:

- 1.Уділю їм усіх ласк для виконання обов'язків їхнього стану.
- 2.Поверну взаєморозуміння роз'єднаним родинам.
- 3.Втішу в усіх їх терпіннях.
- 4.Моє Серце стане їм притулком на протязі життя, особливо у годину смерті.
- 5.Зміцнюватиму їх у праці й благословлю усі їхні наміри й бажання.
- 6.Грішники знайдуть у моєму Серці джерело й океан Милосердя.
- 7.Байдужі стануть ревними. 8.Ревні скоро підіймуться до високої досконалості.
- 9.Щедро благословлятиму місце, де буде розміщений і вшанований образ мого Серця.
- 10.Священикам дам силу зворушувати найбільш закам'янілі серця.
- 11.Імена тих, котрі поширюватимуть це набожєнство, будуть записані в моєму Серці, й ніхто вже не буде в силі їх звідти викреслити.

12.У потоці милосердя Мого Серця обіцяю, що Моя всемогутня любов надасть ласки остаточного витривання всім тим, які приймуть святе Причастя в кожную першу П'ятницю на протязі дев'яти місяців підряд. Вони не помруть без Моєї ласки і без прийняття святих Таїн, а Моє Серце стане для них безпечним притулком у ті останні хвилини.

“Rosary of the Divine Mercy – Вервиця до Божого Милосердя”:

Using Rosary beads, begin with:

Our Father..., Hail Mary..., the Apostles' Creed...

On the large bead before each decade say:

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those that needs your mercy.

On the ten small beads of each decade:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

After the last decade, recite the following prayer three times:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world (3 times)

Jesus invites everyone: “*Come to Me, all you who are weary and are burdened, and I will relieve you!*”

Prayer: “*O Lord God, bless all people of the USA to live in the peace, faith, hope and love to You and all people in the country. Protect all lives, especially unborn children*”!

Prayer: “O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, grant that our hearts become the altar of Your love, that our lips proclaim Your bountiful mercy, that our eyes constantly gaze into the wound of Your most Sacred Heart, that our minds meditate upon Your unfathomable perfections, that our memory guard the precious souvenirs of Your mercy. O Lord, our God, let everything within us praise the ineffable love of Your most Sacred Heart, for Your name is blessed, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, world without end”. Amen

Prayer for unborn Children:

“O Most Holy Blessed Mother who carried the “Source of All Life” in your virginal holy womb; intercede with your tenderly maternal love and graces answering our prayers to end abortion and save precious infant lives. Amen”