



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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For donations to our parish you can use VENMO: @StStephens-UkrainianCatholicCh

Субота. Saturday, December 24 “Vigil of Christmas” - Надвечір'я Різдва Христового
8:30pm Vespers with Lytia and Christmas Divine Liturgy. Мирвання
8:30 год. вечора Вечірня із Литією та Св. Різдва Літургія

Неділя. Sunday, December 25 “Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ” – Різдво Христове
9:00am Christmas Divine Liturgy (Eng.) Мирвання
10:30am Різдвяна Божественна Літургія. Мирвання

Monday, December 26 “Synaxis of the Theotokos” Собор Пресвятої Богородиці
10:00am Health of Steven from Maria Danyluk. Мирвання
7:00pm + Rev. Josef from Mary Danyluk. Мирвання

Tuesday, December 27 “St. Stephen Protomartyr” Первомученика Архидиякона Стефана
10:00am Health and recovery of Sean Carne from John and Irene Bortnyk. Мирвання

Wednesday, December 28 8:30am No Liturgy

Thursday, December 29 8:30am No Liturgy

Friday, December 30 8:30am No Liturgy

Saturday, December 31 8:30am No Liturgy

Sunday before Theophany – Неділя перед Хрещенням Ісуса, Найменування Ісуса Христа
January 1 **Ep.:** Col. 2:8-12 **Go.:** Lk.2:20-21;40-52 Festal Tone

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

10:00AM Rosary for the conversion of the russia – Вервиця за навернення росії

10:30AM Благословення Українського Народу, Воїнів та визволення полонених

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- 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 Iryna Bortnyk 609-290-5503. **Запрошуємо всіх**

Have a Merry and Joyful Christmas! Із Різдвом Христовим всіх вітаємо!

COLLECTIONS – \$ 2,228

Thank you so much for your generous donations! Дякуємо щиро за офіру!

Thank you so much our Parishioners, Sisterhood and Head of Sisterhood Irene Bortnyk for a very good organized of Christmas food sale on Saturday, December 17, 2022. Income was \$3,864. Expenses were \$1,447. Net income is \$ 2,416.92. Thank you for help! May Lord Jesus bless all of you and your families.

Thank you very much John and Irene Bortnyk for offering of \$1,000 for church loan reduction. May the Lord give you all you need for a blessed life!

Our parish needs new snow thrower. We have one but that one is very old and runs so badly. To buy a good one we need \$1,200 - \$1,500. If anyone is interested to offer some part of that money, please contact the parish Pastor Volodymyr. Supporting your church is a noble good deed!

After January 6, 2023 Father Volodymyr would like to visit homes of our parishioners with the blessing of Jordan Water. The visits will be by request only. Please contact Father.

Після 6 січня парох о. Володимир буде відвідувати дома парафіян із Йорданським Благословенням (за попереднім записом). Хто хоче освятити свій Дім то прошу звернутися до отця Володимира і домовитися про час відвідин.

“The Family Candles on the Holy Altar” for the month of December are offered from Brown and Tymchuk families. Thank you! **Свічки на “Святому Вівтарі” на місяць Січень** є поофірувані від Бравн і Тимчук родин в наміренні Божої помочі та здоров'я для родини. Дякуємо за офіру!

To make donations to our parish you can use VENMO: **@StStephens-UkrainianCatholicCh**
Or, you can use QR Code of VENMO Account that is located on Bulletin board at corridor.

On Thursday, February 24, 2022 russia attacked Ukraine. Ukraine still in war and need our support. We must pray for victory over the enemy russia and an end to the war. Ukrainian army needs our support and support from the United States government, as well as the European Union. Lord God can change all this situations but we have to ask. Please pray sincerely! Молімося за Україну та її воїнів щиро і ревно!

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, should be made in **father's Name**.

УВАГА! 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 Священника. Офіру банківським чеком за Літургію, слід виповнити на ім'я Священника.

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!

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

In the parish we have new tradition to worship *The Lord Jesus and His Sacred Heart on the First Friday* 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.*

Your name or names of your family members can be displayed on a new board of donations for the church loan for 2020-2022. 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.

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

We wish all our parishioners and guests a Merry and Joyful Christmas!

Вітаємо всіх парафіян та вірних із Різдвом Христовим та бажаємо всім радості, здоров'я та скорого закінчення війни в Україні, нашої великої перемоги!

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!

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 кожен 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.

Prayer for Ukraine and its people:
“We pray to you, O Virgin of Kyiv, our Lady of Tenderness, for your protection and help for the people of Ukraine, during this time of war. Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with confidence, I fly yo you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen. “
Hail Mary Most Pure, conceived without sin save our souls, save Ukraine!

“О Непорочно Зачата Діво Маріє врятуй наші душі, врятуй Україну !”
Hail Mary Most Pure, conceived without sin save our souls, save Ukraine!

Our parish has Sisterhood and Iryna Bortnyk is the Chairwoman of Sisterhood (Голова Сестрицтва). The members of the Sisterhood are: Natalya Popyk, Galyna Ivanus, Luba Kelyman, Lida Kelyman, Halyna Pelikan, Ivanna Kelyman, Oksana Powzaniuk, Irene Dziaba, Nadya Kashuba, Iryna Stremska, Iryna Karol, Viktoria Kelyman, Lesia Obaranec, Lesia Bashta. Our congratulations to new members of Sisterhood. **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. The letter of registration to the Sisterhood is on Bulletinboard in the corridor of the church. Лист реєстрації до Сестрицтва є на дошці оголошень. Запрошуємо щиро всіх жінок та дівчат до Сестрицтва для добра Парафії та її розвитку!

“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)

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 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”

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.

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.

ЦИТАТИ Григорія Сковороди: 1.“Що може бути шкідливіше за людину, котра володіє знаннями найскладніших наук, але не має доброго серця.” 2.“Хто соромиться визнати недоліки свої, той з часом безсоромно виправдовуватиме своє невігластво, яке є найбільшою вадою.”

ЦИТАТИ отця Піо: 1. “Божа доброта не тільки не відкидає покірних душ, але й шукає душі, закам'янілі у злі.” 2. “Ти покутуєш, з болем думаючи про зневаги, завдані Богові. Покута — це витривалість у доброму. Покута - це перемагання своїх вад.” 3. “Молитва є хлібом і життям душі, диханням серця, плідною і тривалою зустріччю з Богом.”

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