



The Saint Stephen Church Parish Bulletin 2024

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**

Rectory Phone 732-505-6053

Phone for ordering pyrohy 732-505-6293

Pastor's cell: 609-372-7161

Email: pastor@ststephenchurch.us

Website: www.ststephenchurch.us

Instagram: st.stephenu.c.c.

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

Palm Sunday of the Great Fast – Вїзд Ісуса Христа до Єрусалиму

March 24 **Ep.:** Phil. 4:4-9 **Go.:** Jn.12:1-18 Palm Sunday

9:00AM God's blessing for all parishioners – Благословення всіх Парафіян. **Willows.**

10:00AM Rosary for Victory of Ukraine over russia – Вервиця за перемогу України

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

Blessing of the Willows – Освячення Верби. МИРОВАННЯ. Myrovania

Coffee hour – Спілкування парафіян за кавою

Monday, March 25 Annunciation of the Theotokos. At 10am and 6:30pm Liturgies. Myrovania

*Tuesday, March 26 At 2pm Confession **Сповідь** and at 3pm Stations of the Cross (Eng.)*

*Wednesday, March 27 At 4pm Confession **Сповідь** and at 5pm Stations of the Cross (Ukr.)*

*Thursday, March 28 At 9am Liturgy. At 5pm **Confession**. At 6pm Passion of the Lord - **Спасми***

Friday, March 29 At 3pm Vespers with Procession. At 4pm Adoration. At 6pm Akafist to the Lord

*Saturday, March 30 At 3.30pm Hunting of the eggs by children — Збирання яєць Дітьми
At 4pm Blessing of the Easter Baskets at the Hall — Освячення Пасхальних страв
At 4:30pm Service at the Lord's Grave — Надгробна відправа*

Sunday of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus, March 31- Воскресіння ГНІХ — Великдень

At 7:30am Easter Matins and Procession- Великодна Утренья. Процесія

*At 8:30am Easter Divine Liturgy(Ukr.) - Воскресна Літургія. Мировання
Освячення Великодніх страв*

At 11:45am Easter Divine Liturgy (Eng.) - Воскресна Літургія (англійською)

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: 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.

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. Cost \$1,500 for 6 hours of rent. For more information and/or to sign a rental agreement, please call Father Volodymyr at 732-505-6053, or 609-372-7161.

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**

*Воскресіння твоє Христе Спасе, Ангели оспівують на Небесах, і нас на землі,
сподоби чистим серцем тебе співом прославляти!*

COLLECTIONS — Недільна Збірка — \$ 1,886 Army \$137

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

Thank you so much parishioners for offering of \$ 257 for church Loan (03/17/2024). These amount was offered by: Babiak family \$200. Cash (unknown names) \$ 57. Thank you very much to all. Your names will be placed on the “Memory Board” in the future. May Lord grand all His grace, health and salvation! Щиро вдячні вам!

Please remember about your the Easter Confession! Confession time are scheduled on Passion Week. Отець Володимир **пригадує вірянам** про Передвеликодну Сповідь. На графіку Богослужінь Страстного Тижня є поданий час, коли можна буде Висповідатися. У Великодну Неділю сповідей не буде!

On Saturday, March 23 we will have “Easter Food Sale”. Order letter placed on the board. Please help us to pinch pyrohy on Saturday, March 23 at 9am. We will sale Pyrogies \$11 per dozen. Kielbasa \$20 per ring. Babka \$12. Rolls \$ 18. Plase your order no later then March 19. **23 березня** матимемо Великодній Базар. Лист замовлень є на дошці оголошень. Просимо спланувати свою допомогу у проведенні Базару а саме ліпити пироги від 9 год. ранку. Також, зробіть своє замовлення не пізніше 19 березня. Підтримаймо нашу парафію. Парафія є нашим спільним Духовним Домом та потребує підтримки!

Thank you parishioners and our Sisterhood for helping parish with Pyrohy project and we stile HAVE on SALE pyrohy for \$11 per dozen. You can buy them, just ask Irene Bortnyk or Father.

The Pastor and parish Financing Committee are asking parishioners to help our parish to repay our Church Loan of \$109,689. In 2013 the parish borrowed \$500,000 for 4% fixed interest. We have to pay \$2,330 monthly with percentage. We believe that, if every parish family would pay help of \$1,000 per year, we can repay church loan in tree years. The parish will not be able to get rid of this heavy debt without your help. Your investment for God's Church from the heart will be counted as a great goods. Please help your Parish. **Просимо парафіян підтримати** фінансово нашу парафію, щоб ми могли якнайскоріше сплатити церковний “mortgage” - позику на \$500.000 під фіксованих 4% річних. Місячно маємо сплачувати \$2.330 із процентом. Ще залишилося сплатити \$109.689. Мусимо працею та підтримкою допомогти парафії, щоб за два-три роки позбутися цього зобов'язання.

Our parish rents out the parish Hall. Rental price is \$1,500 for 6 hours of the rent. Security deposit is \$500. The full amount for the rent must be paid 25 days before the Event. The Event Insurance is \$120 and must be payed to Archdiocese no later then 25 days before Event. Rentals of the Hall will help us to pay the church Loan. For more info and for to sign a contract please contact Father Volodymyr.

Ukrainian language lessons for children parish held every Saturday at 10:30am. Парафія ще проводить запис дітей на уроки вивчення Української мови. Просимо телефонувати 732-505-6053 або 609-372-7161.

Наша Парафія потребує Катехита. Якщо хтось зацікавлений у цій позиції то прошу звернутися до пароха о. Володимира. Our parish needs a Catechist. If you are interested please contact Fr. Volodymyr.

The candles on the Holy Altar for months of March are offered from nephew and family of Roman Нас in memory of + Michael Нас . **The candles on the Holy Altar for months of April** are offered from Kelyman family for the Blessing of the Kelyman family. Thank you very much. May Lord grant all His Grace to all!

For 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, have to be made for **Father's Name (not church).** **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 Священика. Офіру банківським чеком за Літургію, слід вивести на ім'я Священика.

HOLY SATURDAY *Great and Holy Saturday is the day on which Christ reposed in the tomb. The Church calls this day the Blessed Sabbath. “The great Moses mystically foreshadowed this day when he said: God blessed the seventh day. This is the blessed Sabbath, This is the day of rest, on which the only-begotten Son of God rested from all His works....” (Vesperal Liturgy of Holy Saturday) By using this title the Church links Holy Saturday with the creative act of God. In the initial account of creation as found in the Book of Genesis, God made man in His own image and likeness. To be truly himself, man was to live in constant communion with the source and dynamic power of that image: God. Man fell from God. Now Christ, the Son of God through whom all things were created, has come to restore man to communion with God. He thereby completes creation. All things are again as they should be. His mission is consummated. On the Blessed Sabbath He rests from all His works. Holy Saturday is a neglected day in parish life. Few people attend the Services. Popular piety usually reduces Holy Week to one day—Holy Friday. This day is quickly replaced by another—Easter Sunday. Christ is dead and then suddenly alive. Great sorrow is suddenly replaced by great joy. In such a scheme Holy Saturday is lost. In the understanding of the Church, sorrow is not replaced by joy; it is transformed into joy. This distinction indicates that it is precisely within death that Christ continues to effect triumph. We sing that Christ is “...trampling down death by death” in the troparion of Easter. This phrase gives great meaning to Holy Saturday. Christ’s repose in the tomb is an “active” repose. He comes in search of His fallen friend, Adam, who is all men. Not finding him on earth, he descends to the realm of death, translated Hades* in the Holy Scriptures. There He finds him and brings him life once again. This is the victory: the dead are given life. The tomb is no longer a forsaken, lifeless place. By His death Christ tramples down death by death. The traditional icon used by the Church on the feast of Easter is an icon of Holy Saturday: the descent of Christ into Hades. It is a painting of theology, for no one has ever seen this event. It depicts Christ, radiant in hues of white and blue, standing on the shattered gates of Hades. With arms outstretched He is joining hands with Adam and all the other Old Testament righteous whom He has found there. He leads them from the kingdom of death. By His death He tramples death.*

Предвісником Воскресіння є Страсті Господні, Смерть на Хресті та зруйнування сил Аду!

Please pray for our parishioners: Paul Brown, Richard Podlinski, Stan and Halyna Jakubowycz,

Anna Pyrih, Mary Monani, Walter Adamkewych, Euginia Bobek, Jane Sass, John Libowits, Pamela Chomiak Cavanagh, Mykola, Ramil-Mykola, Luba, Lidia, Jack, Anna Dzera, Gabriele, Alanna Tufaro, Olga Lucyk, Natalia Andrusyk, Ann Ogden, Jessy Kacuba, Anna Turdo, Maria Danyluk, Borys, Petro, Mykola, Maryan. They need your support of prayers.

Prayers of St. Efremus for a Fast Time. Молитва Св'ятого Єфрема:
O Lord and Master of my life, give me not the spirit of sloth, indifference, lust of power and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of temperance, humility, patience and love. Yes, Lord and King, grant me the grace to see my faults and not to condemn my brother; for You are blessed for ever and ever. Amen.
Господи і Владико життя мого! Духа лінивства, недбайливости, властолюб'я і пустомовства віджени від мене. Духа чистоти, покори, терпеливости й любови даруй мені, слугі твого. Так Господи, Царю! Дай мені бачити гріхи мої і не осуджувати брата мого, бо ти благословенний на віки вічні. Амінь.

ПРЕТЕРПІВИЙ ЗА НАС СТРАСТІ, ІСУСЕ ХРИСТЕ, СИНУ БОЖИЙ, ПОМИЛУЙ НАС ГРІШНИХ!

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!

Our parish has Sisterhood and Iryna Bortnyk is the Chairwoman of Sisterhood (Голова Сестрицтва). The members of the Sisterhood are: Natalya Popyk, Gavrysh Luba, Maria Popyk, Luda Kravec, Galyna Ivanus, Luba Kelyman, Halyna Pelikan, Ivanna Kelyman, Oksana Powzaniuk, Irene Dziaba, Nadya Kashuba, Iryna Karol,, Lesia Obaranec, Lesia Bashta, Riya Kovalchuk **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.

“ Humility is the only thing that no devil can imitate” (St. John Climacus)

“ Heavenly Father, I come to You with a spirit of admiration, adoration and praise as I seek your guidance. I bow at the foot of Your throne to honor You because of who You are. I love You, I worship You and I give You the glory that is due to Your wonderful name. Through Christ, our Redeemer. Amen! “

ІНТЕРНЕТ РЕСУРСИ УГКЦ. Internet resources of UGCC:
Синод Єпископів УГКЦ: synod.ugcc.ua

УГКЦ: ugcc.ua
Біблійні студії. Bible study: zhyty-slovom.com
Катехизм УГКЦ “Христос наша Пасха”: ct.ugcc.ua **or** catechismugcc.org
Catechism of the Catholic Church (eng.): usccb.org
Філадельфійська Архиспархія. Archdiocese of Philadelphia: ukrarcheparchy.us
Івано-Франківська Архиспархія: ugccif.org.ua
Коломийська Єпархія: kolugcc.org.ua

ВІДПУСТИ ВСТАНОВЛЕНІ ЦЕРКВОЮ:
Відпуст — це відпущення дочасної кари за гріх. У Сповіді прощається гріх і вічна кара за нього, але дочасна кара залишається бо гріх міг бути тяжким (по закону Справедливості). Кару можна відпокутувати тут на землі або по смерті в Чистилищі. Церква яка володіє Скарбницею Божих ласк і Милосердя встановила певні акти для спокутування такі як пости, поклони, молитви. Деяку молитви є наділені силою відпокутування. Нижче є надруковані кілька таких молитов, які є корисно молитися щодня:
Господи помилуй 12 разів (300 днів відпусту)
Боже милостивий будь нам грішним, Боже очисти гріхи наші і помилуй нас (300 днів відпусту або 7 років із поклонами)
Христос воскрес із мертвих , смертю смерть подолав і тим що в гробах життя дарував (300 днів відпусту)
Господи Ісусе Христе, Сину Божий, помилуй мене грішного (300 днів відпусту)
Пресвятая Богородице спаси нас (300 днів відпусту)
Молебен або Акафіст до Богородиці (10 років відпусту)
Цілюючи побожно Ікони в церкві (300 днів відпусту)

***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”*

God's Love for you is...
UNENDING – God's love is eternal. He loved you yeasterday, 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. ОБЩЯНКИ, 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 набоженство, 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.

“*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)

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.

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.

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 withIn the parish we have new tradition to worship Lord Jesus and His Sicred Heart on every First Fridays of every month. That was will of the Lord Jesus.

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! O my Jesus I love you with all my heart, forgive me my sins! O милосердне Серце Ісуса помилуй нас грішних! О Непорочно Зачата Діво Маріє врятуй наші душі, врятуй Україну ! Hail Mary Most Pure, conceived without sin save our souls, save Ukraine!

**“Стається чудо тоді, коли міняєш сльози на молитву, а страх на віру”
(Св.Франциск)**

Jesus invites everyone: “Come to Me, all you who are weary and are burdened, and I will relieve you! Прийдіть до мене всі струджені та обтяжені і Я облегшу вас!”