



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

Rectory Phone 732-505-6053

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Pentecost Sunday – Неділя Зіслання Святого Духа

May 23 Ep.: Acts. 20:16-18&28-38 Go.: Jn. 17:1-13 Festal Tone

9:00AM + Bohdan Woloshyn from wife Marion and children (20th Anniv.). **Petitions**

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

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

Молебень до Богородиці (стихири з Молебня) і Молитва до Св. Духа

Monday, May 24 **“Pentecost Monday” - Святого Духа**

10:00am All ill, homebound from Marion Woloshyn. **Akafist to Holy Spirit**

Tuesday, May 25 9:00am Особливе намірення від о. В. Попика

Wednesday, May 26 9:00am No Liturgy

Thursday, May 27 9:00am All ill, homebound from Marion Woloshyn. **Moleben to Virgin Mary**

Friday, May 28 9:00am + All Souls in Purgatory from Popyk family. **Moleben to Virgin Mary**

Saturday, May 29 9:00am No Liturgy

Sunday of All Saints – Неділя Всіх Святих

May 30 Ep.: Heb. 11:32-12:2 Go.: Mt. 10:32-33;37-38&19:27-30 Tone 8

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

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

10:30AM + Романа і Катерини Охотський від мами Марії Охотської

+ Петра Федина від сина Осипа Федина

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 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 1:30PM. 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!**

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 1:30PM (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. **Просимо винаймати наш зал для ваших потреб!**

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**

Notice: Due to the health emergency, parish Ukrainian school classes, religious education classes, and the Sunday coffee hour have been temporarily suspended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COLLECTIONS – \$1,319. Thank you so much for your generous donations! Дякуємо щиро за офіру!

Our Church is open for public services. Masks are required for all visitors who must keep a 6-foot distance from each other (except for members of the same immediate family). Holy Communion is distributed during Liturgy and the priest will disinfect the liturgical spoon after each communicant. For more info/details, please call the pastor Rev. Volodymyr or come and look!

In accordance with Metropolitan Archbishop's Borys Gudziak's permission and Canon Law, Father Volodymyr will take vacation from May 29 to June 27. The substitute will be provided by Father Volodymyr Prokipchuk, the Priest from Ukraine (Chief Judge of the Kolomyia Diocese). Father Volodymyr will serve Divine Liturgies on Sundays only. No Liturgies will be served on weekdays. For Funerals please call Father V. Prokipchuk at 973-356-1267. To visit patients, please call the neighboring parishes. Father V. Popyk is asking the Parish Councils to ensure the calculation of collections of donations and their deposit to the bank on time (no later than 1-3 days after collections), and to ensure that the church is locked after the second Service, the lights are off, and the candles are extinguished. For the month of June there will be NO bulletins printed. During the month of July there will be a printed report of collections for parishioners.

Sales of Pierogies/Varenyky (pyrohy)! We have homemade potato pierogies on sale for \$8 per dozen. You can buy them after services at the church or on Tuesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

Your attention please! Due to the coronavirus quarantine regulations, we have Sunday services only 50 or less that can attend church. As a result, parishioners have not had the opportunity to make regular donations, which has negatively affected the parish's ability to pay its bills and expenses. 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 Family Candles on the Holy Altar” for the month of July are offered from Roksanna Stecura in loving memory of deceased father + Orest Stecura. Thank you for your offering! Vichnaia pamiat to Orest Stecura.

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

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.

“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)

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candele or the mirror that reflects it.” - Edith Wharton

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

*“His mercy extends to thouse who fear Him, from generation to generation”
- St. Luke 1:50*

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” - Aesop

Religion education is temporarily unavailable. The religion classes are provided by Fr. Volodymyr every available Sunday at the coffee hour after the Divine Liturgy. The classes for children are provided by Fr. Volodymyr on every Saturday after Ukrainian School from 1:30PM to 2:00PM

RESPECT FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE: *Since we are created by God in its image and likeness, all life is sacred. God being our creator is the sole Master of our lives. All are therefore encouraged to respect all life from the moment of conception to natural death. Life is the most precious gift from God for which we should be most grateful and cherish for ourselves and for others. Therefore, it is our duty as Christians to be committed to defend life by ending abortion, euthanasia and all forms of violence, and persecutions through fervent prayer, voting for pro-life candidates and passage of pro-life legislation. Let America and the rest of the world once again foster and promote a “Culture of Life”!*

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”
