



# The Saint Stephen Church Parish Bulletin

1344 White Oak Bottom Road,  
Toms River, NJ, 08755

Reverend Volodymyr Popyk – Pastor of Parish

## LITURGIES:

SATURDAY-5:00pm, SUNDAY- 9:00 am English; 10:30 am Ukrainian  
Rectory Phone 732-505-6053, Fax 732-505-6295  
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**Circumcision of our Lord- St. Basil: Ep.: Col. 2, 8-12 \* Go.: Luke 2, 20-21; 40-52 \* Tropar of Circumcision**

### Saturday, December 31 “Saturday after Christmas”

4:00pm + Lidia Muraschuk by Maria Onyszkewycz

### Sunday, January 1 “Circumcision of our Lord – St. Basil” - Новий Рік. Найменування ГНІХ. Св.Василія

**9:00 am** Blessing All Parishioners. **Myrovania**

10:00am PRAYING on the ROSARY for peace in Ukraine and the World

**10:30am** Здоров'я Руслана, Іванки, Софії, Віти Килиман і Дмитра Холошнюк від Іванки. **Мировання**

### Monday, January 2 Day off.

### Tuesday, January 3 9:00am за навернення Ольги від Анни

### Wednesday, January 4 9:00am + Богдана Охотського і Теодозія Федина від Марії Охотської і Осипа

### Thursday, January 5 “Vigil of Theophany of the Lord”. 5:00pm Prayer to Holy Eucharist.

6:00pm Divine Liturgy.

### Friday, January 6 “Epiphany of our Lord” – Йорданське Хрещення ГНІХ.

9:30am Divine Liturgy and Jordan Blessing of the Water. Йорданське освячення води. Myrovania

### Saturday, January 7 “Різдво Христове “ (за старим юліанським стилем)

10:00am Різдвяна Літургія (Ukr.). Мировання.

4:00pm за здоров'я Анни від Анни

**Sunday after Epiphany: Epistle: Eph. 4, 7-13\* Gospel: Matthew 4, 12-17 \* Tone 1. Page 112-113**

### Sunday, January 8 “Sunday after Epiphany”

**9:00 am** Blessing All Parishioners

10:00am PRAYING on the ROSARY for peace in Ukraine and the World

**10:30am** + Theodor Chech by Maria Ochotsky

**12:00pm** Presentation of modern Holy Martyrs of Ukrainian Catholic Church by Sr. Elizabeth (Vepruk)

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**Rectory Office Hours:** Parishioners can contact Father at any time, especially in an emergency. Mondays – Day Off.

**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. Everyone can come to Jesus and He can give to all His Blessing and Salvation. Come and worship our Lord with us. If some of the visitors will feel that our Church is a home 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.

**Baptisms:** All people can become Christians. That is the will of God. Children can become Christians through free will of the parents. According to our Ukrainian-Byzantine custom we give Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion in one service. For adults there is needed catechetical preparation. Please contact the Pastor and make an appointment.

**First Penance and Solemn Holy Communion:** Every adult Baptized has to receive Penance at least once a year. Children after the age of 8 have to receive First Penance and Holy Communion according to 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 & other times by request of the Priest.

**Marriages** All couples contemplating marriage are required to attend counseling sessions. 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.

**Sanctuary Lamp** - You can dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a loved one or in honor/thanksgiving by using the special offering envelope with the date you have chosen. Drop off the dedication and your donation of \$20 into the Sunday collection basket. Names needed.

**Church Flowers-** May be sponsored weekly. Parishioners can sponsor these flowers in memory of a loved one, or for any occasion. When interested in sponsoring flowers, please call the rectory.

**Liturgy request-** Please make Divine Liturgy intentions for your loved ones. Weekdays are available to serve the Divine Liturgy. The family has the choice to pick a time of service of the Divine Liturgy on week days.

**Bingo information-** Every Tuesday we have Bingo at our parish hall. The income of Bingo is helping us to cover our expenses of the mortgage for the our new church.

**Rosary society-** Our Parish has a very spiritual group called the Rosary Society. The group keeps the will of the Holy Mother of God to pray on the Rosary every day.

**Religion education-** To be educated in the religious life, our parish has Catechetical classes every Sunday for children at 10:00am. Teacher Sandy provides the classes of Catechism for Sundays. On Saturdays at 12.30pm, Fr. Volodymyr provides Catechetical classes for second group of children. The religion classes for adult parishioners and visitors, Fr. Volodymyr provides on Sundays, during “Coffee hour” time at 12:00pm in parish hall.

**Ukrainian “NADIYA DANCE SCHOOL”** – Ukrainian Dance classes provides choreographer Nadiya Lemega on every Thursday at 6:30pm at our parish hall. All children are welcome! Please call the Rectory.

**COLLECTION -\$6,066; Building Fund \$745 Thank You so much for generous Donations!**

\*\*\*\*\***ANNOUNCEMENTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year:** *As Pastor of this wonderful parish, I want to thank you for the gift you are to us. May your family share in the many blessings of Christ this Christmas. As we rejoice together may we be keenly aware of our call to love God with all our hearts and to love one another. Love is the best Christmas gift that we can give. During this season of giving, we ask you to consider a year-end, tax deductible gift to help us maintain our new beautiful church. I thank you for your continued stewardship. My prayer for each of you is that you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of His love at Christmas time and always. May choicest blessings be yours this Holy Christmas Day and may abundant graces enrich your days throughout the*

coming year. Merry Christmas!

З нагоди Різдва Христового та Нового Року, в дні найбільшої радості, прийміть дорогі моєму серцю парафіяни, сердечні побажання Веселих Різдвяних Свят і Щасливого Нового Року. Із Різдром Христовим та Новим Роком вас вітаю від себе та своєї сім'ї! Христос Рождається! Славіте Його!

**RENTING OF THE HALL:** Our parish hall is available for renting. Six hours of rent will cost \$800 for non-parishioners and \$700 for parishioners. For more information and to sign a rental agreement please call Father Volodymyr at 732-505-6053. **Просимо винаймати на рент наш зал для ваших веселих подій!**

**COFFEE HOUR:** We welcome all parishioners to participate in the Coffee Hour at our parish hall after all Liturgies on Sundays. If you would like to offer cakes please contact Oksana Powzaniuk 732-255-6549. Запрошуємо всіх на дружнє спілкування за чашкою гарячої кави! Запрошуємо!

**The Parish Outreach – Парафіяльна допомога для кожного.** In our Parish we have an independent group of volunteers. The group, known as THE PARISH OUTREACH, has as its mission to provide assistance and/or companionship for our parishioners who have a need of such. Offer includes providing transportation to/from our church for services, visiting the home-bound, visiting those who are laid up in a hospital or rehab. Please contact George Shevchuk 732-905-0507 or Olga or Gerry Tchir 732-364-6838 or outreach@ststephenchurch.us.

**ШКОЛА УКРАЇНСЬКИХ ТАНЦІВ – “Nadiya Ukrainian Dance School” :**

При нашій парафії діє школа Українських танців для дітей та молоді. Заняття відбуваються що четверга, о 6.30 год.вечора. Танцями провадить хореограф Надія Лемєга. Просимо записувати своїх дітей в класи танців (732) 778-9367. Сердечно запрошуємо всіх дітей різного віку. Welcome!

**CHARITABLE DONATIONS:** If you are 70½ or older and have an individual retirement account (IRA) from which you must take a required minimum distribution, please consider making a qualified charitable contribution to St. Stephen Ukrainian Catholic Church. Since these IRA charitable rollover gifts do not need to be reported as taxable income, they can provide a tax break for you and a benefit to our Church. To qualify for a tax benefit for 2016, all IRA Rollover charitable donations must be made by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Please consult your attorney or financial adviser before proceeding.

**“SCHOLARSHIP of ST. STEPHEN PARISH”:** A Scholarship of \$500.00 from our Parish to high school graduating students. To receive this, graduating students would have to visit our parish every Sunday and be active in the parish at least 3 years before graduation.

**PARISH UKRAINIAN SCHOOL:** Parish Ukrainian School is open. The School Days are Saturdays from 9:00am to 12.30pm. The children will participate in this school and teacher Maria Ivanus leads these classes. Children of all ages are invited. **Запрошуємо до Української Школи всіх дітей різного віку!**

**FOR SPONSORS:** Our parish is asking for donations to buy 8 new icons for our new church. We have space on the walls on the left and right sides of the church. These icons will have the same size and style as other icons that are in the church. New Icons we will buy in Greece for \$3,000 plus \$300 shipping. This time we have four sponsors that can offer \$2,500. We need extra \$800. If you would like make a donation please contact father!

**THANK YOU:** Thank you very much Wladimir Kowaliwskyj for offer of \$300 for church. Thank you so much Olga Rabik for offer \$1,000 for new Icons for Church. Thank you for All benefactors of our parish. May our Lord bless all and grant all good health for many happy years! Многая Літа всім нашим жертводавцям і фундаторам!

**Save a Day:** On Sunday, January 29 at 12:00pm , we will have “PROSFORA-ПРОСФОРУ” lunch in our parish. We will have a presentation of “VERTEP” from Trenton, NJ. All parishioners and friends are welcome!

**Presentation:** On Sunday, January 8 at 12:00pm we will have presentation of Holy Icons of Holy Martyrs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church (1941-1972). This presentation will be provided by Sr. Elizabeth (Vepruk) St. Basil Order. All are welcome! Запрошуємо на презентацію ікон і автобіографії Блаженних Мучеників УГКЦ.

**Christmas Carols:** We have an idea to sing carols by visiting homes of our parishioners. We are organizing a group to go sing carols. If you would like to be visited by the carolers, please sign up on the form in the vestibule, or contact Gerry Tchir for more information: 732-941-2503

**Choir practicing:** Every Sunday at 9:30am we have choir rehearsals. All choir members and all interested are welcome. Our choir needs your support if you may have a talent to sing.

**Meeting:** On Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00pm the Fund-Raising Group will have a meeting for preparation of “Prosfora”. All interested to help us with all preparations (and work at kitchen) are welcome!

**Christmas Schedule – Різдвяна відправа** на Різдво Христове за старим стилем буде в суботу, 7 січня о 10:00 години ранку в українській мові. Запрошуємо всіх на святкування Різдва разом із Україною та Родинами.

**Theophany visits:** Those who would like their home blessed after the feast of Theophany (Йордану) please sign up with your name and address, and the Pastor will visit you by an appointment time. Хто бажає поблагословити свій Дім після Йордану прошу записатися на список для відвідин Отцем Володимиром. Лист стоятиме в притворі Церкви. Відвідини проведитимуться по узгодженні часу із господарем дому.

**Christmas Bazaar (December):** Gross Income \$7,380; Expenses \$2,179.67; Net Income(Пироху Account) \$5,200.33. Thank you very much all volunteers for helping us make pyrohy. Дякую за допомогу! Многая Літа!

**Cantor position:** Our parish needs a good Cantor for full time position. Cantor has to know two languages: English and Ukrainian. Cantor will serve Liturgies, Christmas, Lenten and Eastern services, funeral and other services. If some one are interested, please contact Father Volodymyr. Наша парафія потребує постійного дяка. Дяк має вміти читати англійською та українською мовами. Зацікавлених цією працею (служінням) прошу зголоситися до о. Володимира.

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**Circumcision** was a religious rite among the Jews God made it a sign of His covenant with the Israelites. It was performed with a ritual knife on boys on the eighth day after birth. At the same time a name was given. In the New Testament the obligation of circumcision was abolished by the Church because it was a distinctive mark of the Old Testament.

The feast of the Circumcision is kept by the Church to commemorate the subjection of the Child Jesus to the Law of Moses. This feast was introduced in the fourth century. The feast of St. Basil the Great also falls on the same day. St. Basil the Great was archbishop of Cesarea and a Doctor of the Church. He is called Patriarch of the Eastern monks, for he composed the first rule for them. The Western Orders adopted many monastic regulations from the rule of St. Basil.

St. Basil the Great edited the Divine Liturgy (Mass) which is sung ten times a year in the Ukrainian Rite. He was also a staunch defender of the Catholic faith against the Arian heresy. He died on January 1, 379.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND YOUR FAMILIES!**

**З НОВИМ РОКОМ ВІТАЮ ВСІХ ПРИХОЖАН ТА ВАШІ РОДИНИ! Христос Рождається! Славімо Його!**