The Saint Stephen Church Parish Bulletin

1344 White Oak Bottom Road
Toms River, NJ, 08755
Reverend Volodymyr Popyk – Pastor of Parish

LITURGIES:
SATURDAY-4:00pm, 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

Saturday, February 3 4:00pm + Rev. Nicholas Zbyr by Roman Mykyta

Sunday of Meat- Fare - M'ясопусна Неділя
February 4 **Ep.: 1Cor. 8,8-13; 9, 1-2** **Go.: Mtt. 25, 31-46** **Tone 2- page 114-115**

9:00am Blessing of Dmytro and Nicholas by brother Nicholas
10:00am Rosary for repentance and peace of the world to God — Молитва на Вервиці
10:30am Blessing all Parishioners – Благословення Парафіян

Monday, February 5 Day off (office closed)

Tuesday, February 6 9:00am + Luba Lyga – Bortnyk by Maria, Irene and Orest Kacyna

Wednesday, February 7 8:00am + Dmytro Pyrih by Anna Pyrih

Thursday, February 8 8:00am + John and Theodor Furda by family

Friday, February 9 9:00am Blessing Grace Woloshyn by "baba" Marion Woloshyn (18th birthday)

Saturday, February 10 4:00pm Blessing all Parishioners – Благословення Парафіян **(Forgiveness prayer)**

Sunday of Cheese- Fare - Сиропусна Неділя
February 11 **Ep.: Rom. 13, 11-14; 14,1-4** **Go.: Mtt. 6, 14-21** **Tone 3- page 116-117**

9:00am + Arthur O'Connell by Lydia Bargiuk **(Forgiveness prayer)**
10:00am Rosary for repentance and peace of the world to God — Молитва на Вервиці
10:30am + Daria Chech (2nd Anniver.) and + Wasyl Chech (10th Anniv.) by a Children
(Forgiveness service – Молитва Всепрощення)

Monday, February 12 - 1st Day of the Great Fast – Початок Великого Посту

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 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. Children can become Christians through the 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.

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 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 request of the priest.

Marriages All couples contemplating marriage are required to attend counseling sessions. Time 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 school days are Saturdays from 9:30am to 1:00pm. We have three groups of children. The children participate in this school and their teachers Maria Ivanus, Galia Ivanus and Natalia Koshkina lead these classes. Children of all ages are invited. **Запрошуємо до суботньої Української Школи всіх дітей різного віку! (732) 505-6053 or (732) 267-3655**

"SCHOLARSHIP of St. Stephen Parish": A scholarship of $500 is available 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.

Bingo information- Every Tuesday, at 7:00pm, we have Bingo at our parish hall. The income from Bingo is helping us to cover our expenses of the mortgage for our new church. **Please come and play bingo!**

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 the Rosary every day.

Religion education- To be educated in the religious life, our parish has Catechetical classes.
The religion classes for adult parishioners and visitors Fr. Volodymyr provides on Sundays during "Coffee hour" time at 12:00pm in the parish hall. On Saturdays at 1:00pm (after Ukrainian school) Father have 30 min. religion classes for children. All are welcome!

Ukrainian "DANCE SCHOOL" – Ukrainian Dance classes will start shortly. All children are welcome! Просимо записувати дітей у Школу Українських танців – (609) 372-7161

The Parish Outreach – *Парафіяльна допомога для кожного.* In our parish we have an independent group of volunteers. Offer includes providing occasional transportation to/from our church for services, visiting the home-bound, visiting those who are laid up in a hospital or rehab. Please contact Olga or Gerry Tchir 732-364-6838 or George Shevchuk 732-905-0507 or outreach@ststephenchurch.us.

Renting of the Hall: Our parish hall is available for renting. Six hours of rent will cost $600 for non-parishioners and $500 for parishioners. For more information and/or 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!

COLLECTIONS - $1,284. Thank you so much for generous donations! Дякуємо щиро!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thank you so much Daniya Baussmann for the offer of $150 for church. Thank you so much Anna Pyrih for the offer of $300 for church. Thank you Sofia and Wladimir Adamkewicz for the offer of $100 for church. Thank you all parishioners for your offers and support of the parish. May Lord grant you many happy years!

On Saturday, February 17 we will make pierogies (pyrohy). We are asking our parishioners to place your orders (order sheet is in the vestibule) and make time to come and help us to pinch pierogies. We need your help to pinch pierogies on Saturday, February 17 from 9am.

Parish "Flea Market" will be held on Saturday, March 10. We are asking parishioners to offer some good items for sale for church needs. All items have to be very clean and prepared for sale. All vendors are welcome. For more information please contact Janina Cermak 732-323-0168 (address for Janina is: 14 Dorset Rd., Manchester, NJ 08759).

Parish "Fund-raising Committee" will have a meeting on Thursday, February 8 at 6:00pm. All members are welcome to discuss together the chairmanship for the committee and preparations for the parish "Flea Market" on March 10, 2018.

Parish "Rosary Society" will have a meeting on Thursday, February 15 at 1:00pm. All Rosarians are invited to attend. For more information please contact Maria Onyszkewycz.

On Monday, February 12 begins "The Great Fast – Lent". Strict fast, abstinence required. No meat or dairy products for Monday (first day of Lent), Wednesdays and Fridays. Mondays through Fridays are aliturgical days except the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts. No music or dancing for this time. Do not make any celebrations with music for Lent time. Service of "Sorokousty" will be held on Saturdays. Holy Confesion are avaleble at any time. Please ask Father Volodymyr.

"Sorokousty" service (Liturgy and Parastas) will be served on every Saturday of the Great Lent at 10:00am. Please offer intentions for your deceased members with yellow envelope to pastor before Lent begins.

On Saturday, March 24 we will have "Easter Sale" in our parish. Parishioners can place orders two weeks before the event.

Religion class for children that speak the Ukrainian language is provided every Saturday at 1:00pm (after Ukrainian school classes). **Religion classes for English-speaking children** are every Saturday at 1:30pm. Father Volodymyr invites all children of the school and all interested children to visit religion classes. Уроки релігії для дітей проводяться щосуботи о 1 год. по полудні (після уроків української школи). Отець Володимир запрошує на ці уроки всіх дітей та батьків. Виховуймо із малку своїх діточок в релігійному дусі. Будьмо свідомими того у що віруємо!

The children's choir meets for rehearsals on Saturdays at 1:15PM after the religion classes. Дитячий хор нашої парафії матиме репетиції кожної суботи після української школи, о 1:15 годині.

Our parish Ukrainian School after vacation has resumed. All children of the school have to attend all classes according to the schedule. Next vacation will be at Easter time. School classes are held every Saturday from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Пригадую батькам, що зимові канікули закінчилися і діти мають відвідувати школу щосуботи від 9:30 год. ранку до 1 год. по полудні. Наступні канікули діти матимуть в часі Великодніх свят.

Sunday of Meat-fare:

This Sunday is called "miasopusna nedilia", i.e., meatless. On this Sunday the Church presents the last judgement in order to impress her children with a salutary fear and induce them to do penance for their sins. Many years ago, faithful stopped eating meat as a regular meal – meatless. Church remembers this tradition but has updated rules of fasting for modern people. According to our new custom we do not eat meat on the first day of Lent and on every Friday of Lent and all year around. Most important is not to commit any mortal sins. Fasting from meat is helpful in teaching ourselves to be strong in moral life.

Daily Prayer for Lent time with prostrations (prayer of St. Ephrem):

O Lord and Master of my life, give me not the spirit of sloth, indifference, lust of power and idle chatter. **(prostration)**
Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of temperance, humility, patience and love. **(prostration)**
Yea, 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. **(prostration)**