

# St. Stephen Church March 2020 Newsletter

WE, THE PARISH OF ST. STEPHEN, WILL CARRY OUT THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST AS A WELCOMING, WORSHIPING, CATHOLIC COMMUNITY BY SHARING, GROWING, AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.

## Mark your Calendars:

**March 5, 12, & 19:**  
**Adoration in Convent 6-7:30 PM**

**March 6:**  
**Stations of the Cross starts**  
**every Friday during Lent at 7 PM**  
**in the Church**

**March 11 & 25:**  
**Speaker Series 7pm Hall, 6:30**  
**refreshments**

**March 15:**  
**Community Sunday in the Hall**  
**after the 10:45 am Hall Mass**

**March 22:**  
**2nd collection for Catholic Relief**  
**Services & Evangelization**

**March 29:**  
**2nd collection for Building &**  
**Maintenance**

**March 31:**  
**Day of Reconciliation, Confession, &**  
**Adoration in Church 1:30-3:30pm &**  
**5-7pm**

**SAVE THE DATE~ KENYA DAY EVENT ~ SUNDAY,**  
**APRIL 26, 2020 ~ at 10:45 in the Hall.**

Please mark your calendar for this date to attend our annual Kenya Day Mass as we unite in spirit with our sister parish in Mombasa, Kenya and honor 21 years of our partnership. Stay and enjoy the "Taste of Africa" buffet immediately following 10:45 Mass. The Wasafiri Voices and St. Stephen Choirs will join in the celebration as well. Please plan to attend to celebrate and rejoice in the blessings of our Kenya Partnership! Volunteers are graciously welcomed! For additional information, please call Mary Bauer at 443-456-3498.

## BINGO Night

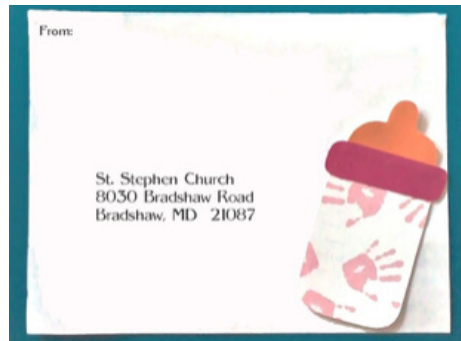
	<b>31 Gifts</b>	<b>Beer &amp; Wine</b>	<b>YETI Cooler</b>	
<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Fun</b>	<b>Prizes</b>		<b>Raffles</b>	<b>Food</b>
<b>50/50</b>	<b>Under Armour</b>	<b>Adults Only</b>	<b>Scout Bags</b>	<b>Kate Spade</b>
<b>Tickets \$20</b>		<b>Baskets Galore</b>		<b>Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.</b>

*Proceeds benefit*

### Saint Stephen's School

**Sellout Event. Space is limited.**  
**Tickets include 20 regular bingos. Games start at 7:15**  
**Please support our fundraiser-NO OUTSIDE FOOD & DRINKS**

Speaker Series takes place on March 11th and 25th. Please [click here](#) for more information and to RSVP.



# THANKYOU

We are most grateful to all the wonderful people who donated to our recent baby shower to benefit mothers and babies served by local pregnancy centers. St. Stephen parishioners showed such generosity and kindness! There were many gifts: diapers, beautiful handmade hats and mittens, baby clothes and supplies, towels, blankets, washcloths, diaper bags, pillows, gift cards. Thank you so very much!

And from the Women's Care Center in Fullerton: We are overjoyed and amazed by the gifts you blessed us with through your baby shower. Many of our moms visit the center weekly to attend parenting class and to receive support. Your gifts make it possible for us to serve them and to be a light in their time of need. Please know your gifts will save babies and inspire moms. This is what you do. This is part of your legacy. Inspiring others with your generosity that passes on. You are changing the world one gift at a time and we are deeply grateful.

With warm gratitude,  
Donna Cohen, Director Emeritus

## Girl Scouts:

Several Brownies and Junior Girl Scouts earn their Religious Awards. The Brownie Award is the Family of God Medal and earned it were: Italy F., Lily K., Madison A., and Marianna E. The Junior Award is the God is Love Medal and was earned by Blair F., Ellie K., Liza K., Megan C., Rylee H., and Sarah H. These awards were in addition to the regular Girl Scout meetings and events. Congratulations girls!! The third grade Brownies have been learning about nutrition and completed the Snacks Try It by learning about and making some snacks. They made three healthy snacks: a Savory, Energy and a Slurp-able Snack. As a treat they made "kick the can" ice cream sundaes. The Cadette Troop is hosting a Lock-In for the Kindergarten Daisy troop to help the Daisies earn their Journey. The Cadette Scouts have planned and will run this event. These Leadership skills will prepare them for earning the two highest Girl Scout Awards, the Silver Award for Cadettes and the Gold Award for Seniors and Ambassadors. These Daisies will also be participating in a Lock-In with the Fallston Girl Scout Community this month. The Candy, Nut and Magazine fundraiser is going on now. Help the St Stephen troops by purchasing something from their yummy candy & nut selections or renew or subscribe to your favorite magazine and help the Troops at the same time. More information on this fundraiser or to join, contact [renemonaghan@hotmail.com](mailto:renemonaghan@hotmail.com)



## Confirmation Notices

**Confirmation 2020 Packets** – Registration, Sponsor, Mass Selection, and Retreat Forms were due back to Pam on Jan 6th.

**Confirmation 2020 Enrollment Rite** – If your child missed the Rite of Enrollment, we will be celebrating the ritual on the retreats.

**Confirmation Retreats** – Please see the Sign Up Genius to assist us with providing snacks and lunch. VIRTUS certified chaperons for free time/lunch are also needed. We appreciate your involvement!

## Faith Formation Notices

**Sacramental Prep Reminder:** The guidelines from the Archdiocese of Baltimore require that a student **MUST** have regular attendance in Faith Formation for one year prior to **AND** the year celebrating each/any Sacrament in a Faith Formation Catechesis program or at a Catholic School. If you are interested in more information or would like a registration form, please contact Mrs. Pam Franke at 401-592-8666.

**8th Grade Faith Formation Notes** - 8th graders are encouraged to continue to meet on Middle School Youth Ministry #MSYM days (2nd Sunday of the month). Check in to the satellite office with Mrs. Pam to be directed to your meeting space and watch the SUG for snacks and other instructions!

## Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-39):

Young Adult Ministry Contact Info:  
Kellie Reynolds [kellie@ssparish](mailto:kellie@ssparish) (best)  
or 410-592-7294.

Twitter @ststephenyya

FaceBook Group [ststephenyoungadultministry](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenyoungadultministry)

Pinterest [ststephenmd](https://www.pinterest.com/ststephenmd)

Instagram @mrskelli



## Youth Ministry Update for youth in grades 6-12:

**3/1 College Care Packages Service Project:** Join us on Sunday, Mar 1 at 10:15 – 10:45 to write cards to our parishioners away at college. We will meet in the Art Room, 2nd floor of school. Please see the SUG for wish list! This is a Confirmation "Parish Service Project."

**Middle School Youth Ministry:** Our next gathering is Sunday 3/8. Have you registered yet? See below for details.

All parish youth in grades 6-8 are encouraged to register for our free monthly gatherings which take place on the 2nd Sunday of each month. The MSYM gatherings feature snacks, topical presentations, small group faith- sharing, and service projects. Register by downloading the MSYM permission form from the website and choose your meeting day and time. Those who are registered for Faith Formation on Sundays are already registered for MSYM! For more information, contact Mrs. Colleen Everson at [colleen.everson@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.everson@gmail.com) or call 410-592-7294.

**3/8 High School Youth Ministry:** Our next event will be a Coffee Bar & Service Project for all High School youth. Please join us for a light refreshments and coffee bar on Sunday 3/8 at 10:15 – Noon. We will be starting the Anna's House Easter Baskets. Please see the Sign Up Genius for a list of items needed and bring these with you. Baskets and Grace will be provided! You can RSVP at [robin@ssparish.org](mailto:robin@ssparish.org) or 410-592-7294!

**3/8 Swahili Mass at St. Matthew!** The Wasafiri Voices Choir from St. Matthew Catholic Church in Baltimore extend the invitation to all St. Stephen Parish to come and celebrate the Swahili Mass with their community on March 8, 2020 at 2 PM. Refreshments will be served immediately after the Mass. The presence of our parishioners will be highly appreciated. Our Wasafiri friends will be greatly honored to unite in spirit with our sister parish in Kenya and celebrate with us our culture exchange. RSVP: If you are attending as a family, please call 443-456-3498 to respond YES to this invitation. If you are a youth in grades 6-12 and need transportation, please contact Mrs. Kellie [kellie@ssparish.org](mailto:kellie@ssparish.org) or 410-592-7294 by March 5!

**SWAHILI MASS AT ST MATTHEW CHURCH**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020 at 2 PM**  
**5401 LOCH RAVEN BOULEVARD**  
**BALTIMORE, MD 21239** [stmatthew@archbalt.org](mailto:stmatthew@archbalt.org)

**Service Opportunities** - Please visit the Service Page of the Parish Website OFTEN to see current opportunities!

**Our Lady, Queen of Families Rosary Guild:** Meets on the first Saturday of the month from 9am – 10am in the Ministries Office, ground floor of the Parish Center. Please consider joining the Rosary Guild ministry to pray, make rosaries for our church as well as missions throughout the world and spread devotion to Our Lady! For additional information, please contact Jo Anna Schmidt at 443-286-2901. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us! **Upcoming Guild gatherings:** March 7 & April 4

**Sign up Genius:** Go to our parish home page at [www.ssparish.org](http://www.ssparish.org) and scroll down until you see the "sign up genius" logo. Click the logo to link to our parish events! You will need to create a username and password. Check the SUG often to see the latest opportunities!



# Youth Ministry Update for youth in grades 6-12: (Continued)

## General Notices:

### Parents & Grandparents of college students

**away from home:** If you would like a care package sent, please submit the name and specific mailing address of your college student to us by Feb 6. Please be as detailed as possible. Contact Robin at 410-592-7294 or [robin@ssparish.org](mailto:robin@ssparish.org). If you would like to volunteer with ministry, please let us know

**Harvest for the Hungry/Scouting for Food:** Each Spring, our scouts organize a food drive to benefit the local Kingsville pantry, Helping Hands. Please watch for the wish list in the bulletin Feb 29/Mar 1 weekend. Food will be collected by scouts at all Masses March 7 & 8 weekend. Please be sure to check your non-perishable donations for expiration dates; expired food cannot be accepted. Thank you for your generosity!

**3/11 Dinner & Stations by CRS Rice Bowls** – All are invited to stop in the Hall before stations of the Cross on Friday March 11 for a simple meal inspired by the CRS Rice Bowl recipes. A few options suitable for children will also be available. RSVP not necessary, but helpful [kellie@ssparish.org](mailto:kellie@ssparish.org). The Hall will be open from 6pm – 7pm for dinner; Stations of the Cross is held in the Church at 7pm

**3/15 Community Sunday** - Join us for Mass at 10:45 in the Hall and enjoy socializing with other parishioners after Mass with home-made refreshments, coffee, hot cocoa, or juice, and lots of everyone's favorite: Donuts! Interested in being on our "baker" mailing list? Please let us know, call Kellie at 410-592-7294 or email [kellie@ssparish.org](mailto:kellie@ssparish.org).

**Rice Bowls for Lent** – are available to take home for you and your family to focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during this holy season of Lent. Pick one up in the Church or Hall. Faith Formation and St. Stephen School children received a bowl. After participating in the activities at home, we encourage you to make your alms-giving donation online at [crsricebowl.org/give](http://crsricebowl.org/give). If you are unable to donate electronically, please convert your coins and cash to a check made payable to Catholic Relief Services or CRS with "rice bowl" in the memo and return by April 19. Thank you!

**Communion for the sick/homebound:** If you are aware of a homebound parishioner who is in need of a regular visit to receive the Eucharist, please alert our parish center at 410-592-7071 with their name, phone number, and address if available, so we may try to match them with an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. Thanks in advance for helping us better serve our parish family.

### Spiritual Oasis events in the Convent Chapel:

Eucharistic Adoration is available on Thursday nights, 6pm – 7:30pm. Please join us for spiritual refreshment in the Lord's presence in the Eucharist.

**3/17 St. Patrick's Day Party!** All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to attend. We'll meet in the gym from 6:30pm – 8pm. "Shamrock" Sundae bar and drinks will be provided; please bring a salty, sweet, or health snack to share! Don't forget to wear green! VIRTUS-certified Chaperons needed! To RSVP and/or volunteer, please contact Mrs. Robin at [robin@ssparish.org](mailto:robin@ssparish.org) or 410-592-7294.

**3/22 Rise Up! Middle School Event:** The Archdiocese of Baltimore is hosting another day just for middle school youth – and this time, parents are invited to attend the parent track! Registration is available online at <https://youth-in-christ.org/rise-up-middle-school-day>. Also on the website is a short promo video to view about the day! Payment is made to the parish, please send in your check made payable to St. Stephen, attn.: Youth Ministry, and indicate "Rise Up" on the memo. If you also need transportation, you can rsvp for a spot on the bus for an addition \$15. Bus space is limited!

**3/24 Worthy of the Call training:** For all youth age 14 and up who are involved in parish ministries, or serving at the parish, will be held on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30pm – 8pm in the Youth Room. Space is limited and RSVP by 3/22 is required Mrs. Robin at 410-592-7294 or [robin@ssparish.org](mailto:robin@ssparish.org).

**Palm Sunday Passion Play:** Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to take part in the annual Passion Play on Palm Sunday. Rehearsals are required and held on Tuesdays from 5:30 – 6:30pm in the Church starting March 10th. The Passion Play will take place on Sunday, April 5th in the Convent during 9:15 & 10:45 Faith Formation, so the students may encounter the Gospel story of Jesus' passion. Virtus-certified adults are also needed to assist for rehearsals and on Palm Sunday. Please contact Ms. Cindy Godsey at [godsey.cindy@gmail.com](mailto:godsey.cindy@gmail.com) to sign up as a youth participant or parent volunteer.

