

PARISH CALENDAR

16 Monday—**Accordion Club Dinner**, 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Menu: Spaghetti with marinara sauce, meatballs, garden salad & garlic bread.

20 Sunday—**GCU Spaghetti Dinner** to benefit Maggie's Place, 11:30 am to 5:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Adults \$7.00, Children \$5.00. Menu: Garden Salad with Italian Dressing, Garlic Bread Stick, Pasta with Meatless Sauce, Parmesan Romano Cheese, Sauced Meatballs, Your Choice of Cake for Dessert.

21-25—**Clergy Days & the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Holy Angels Church in San Diego.** All the clergy will join with our new bishop for a week of lectures and prayer. No daily liturgies will be held at St. Stephen.

30 Wednesday—**Vigil for the Holy Day of Obligation of the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord.** 7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy

May 1—**Thursday Holy Day Feast** 9:00 am Liturgy

May 2—**Fish & Pierogi Dinner.**

May 2-4—**"Life in Christ"** Archeparchial Ministry Conference for catechists, adult faith formation teams and directors of youth ministry at the Antiochian Village, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Call Sr. Celeste Strohmeier at 412-231-4000 ext. 23 or youthministry@archeparchy.org

May 3—**Mother's Tea** to benefit the GCU scholarship fund. 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Contact: Joanie Mahar 602.920.0607 or Diane Papke 480.686.9331.

May 10—**Fifth All Souls Saturday** 9:00 am Liturgy with the reading of the names.

May 11—**Pentecost Sunday & Mother's Day Brunch** after the Sunday morning liturgies.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

"Myrrh-bearers" Women's Retreat—A retreat experience for girls and women from 7 years of age through adulthood. June 27-29 at Mount Claret on Lincoln Drive. For more information refer to the flyers on the Greeting Table. Plan now.

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2008 "Moved by the Spirit in the Windy City" Thursday, July 31—Sunday, August 3, at University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. July 1 deadline for registration. See Father Stephen for registration forms.

✠ **ALTAR SOCIETY**—Mary Clark and Denise Andrade are the church cleaners for this week.



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC PRO-CATHEDRAL

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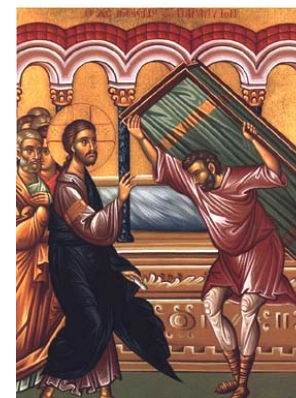
Email: sssparish@qwest.net

Catering: 602-997-4563

Served by: Mitred Archpriest Stephen G. Washko, Rector
Deacon John Montalvo III, Deacon James Danovich and Deacon Michael Hanafin
Sr. Christopher Malcovsky, OSBM, Pastoral Associate
Sr. Jean-Marie Cihota, OSBM, Director of Education

APRIL 13, 2008

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC



JESUS CURED TWO PARALYTICS. In the Lenten Gospel, the emphasis is on effort and on forgiveness. The four friends carry the paralyzed man, haul his dead weight up to the roof and lower him down on ropes. They come to Jesus. Jesus first forgives the man's sins and only then heals him.

In today's reading, Jesus comes to the paralyzed man; the man asks for nothing. When Jesus asks him, "Do you want to be well?" the man offers excuses: "Sir, I have no one to put me down into the pool when the water is stirred up. While I am on the way, someone else gets down there before me."

If Lent has been therapy of conversion, out of old life, if we have encountered the risen Lord at Pascha, then we should feel the effects of New Life radiating throughout our lives. If we do not, today's Gospel challenges us to ask if maybe we don't want certain areas of our lives to be healed. We can grow accustomed to our own sinfulness and mediocrity. There is a certain self-righteous satisfaction in playing victim and blaming others for what is wrong in our lives. Pride can make us refuse the help God sends us in other persons. Sin can keep us lazy and it is easy to substitute fatalism ("whatever happens is God's will!") or superstition (expect miracles to do for you magically what you won't try to do for yourself with the earthly means God has given you) for true religion ("repent and believe the Gospel").

We can choose to do nothing, to lie on our mats and grumble while His New Life passes us by unclaimed, or we can claim the power to grow in Christ and make those first, faith-filled steps into New Life and spiritual growth.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

SCHEDULE OF LENTEN SERVICES & DIVINE LITURGIES

12 Saturday Vigil for Sunday p. 104 and special handouts.
5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy +Laura Haugen by David & Betty Iwinski

13 SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN, p. 181
8:00 am For our parish family and friends
9:45 am Matins-Easter Canon use folders
10:00 am +George Kunak by Liz & Tom Kol
ECF Classes

Week of the Paralytic Man: The pool of Bethesda did not have the power to heal the man paralyzed for thirty-eighth years, but the pool of the waters of Baptism, touched by Christ, risen from the dead, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, have the power to heal our souls of sin and bring us to eternal life. In the fourth week after Pascha we learn of the grace of baptism.

14 Monday Father Confessor Martin, Pope of Rome, p. 381
9:00 am God's blessing on Julia Menlicavage by a friend

15 Tuesday Apostles Aristarchus, Pudens & Trophimus, p. 370
9:00 am Thanksgiving Kathy Slonka by a friend

16 Wednesday MID-PENTECOST, p. 183
9:00 am God's blessing on Robert and Kathleen Crossley by a friend
This giving of the Spirit unites the beginning and the end of the fifty-day feast of our Lord. On Pascha, the Lord, the Giver of Life, breathed the Holy Spirit upon his apostles for the forgiveness of sin, and on Pentecost, the Lord sent the Holy Spirit upon his followers that the Gospel for the baptism of repentance might be preached to all nations. Through the Holy Spirit, we are united with Christ in Holy Communion and are deified by his power. In the middle of the feast we celebrate all these wondrous works of God.

17 Thursday No Services.

18 Friday Postfestive, p. 183
9:00 am Special Intention

19 Saturday and Vigil for Sunday, p. 104 and special handouts
5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy Kelli Flannery by Kathleen Curtis

20 SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN, p. 186
8:00 am +Georgette Tirpake by Diane Papke
9:45 am *Matins --Easter Canon (use folders)*
10:00 am For our parish family and friends
ECF Classes

Confessions are heard one half hour before all Services before the Icon of the Prodigal Son.

✠ **PRAYERS NEEDED FOR** Alice Johnson, Fran Philpot, Marcella Dougherty (mother of Michael Dougherty), William and Elizabeth Gelety, Martha Maleta (Freedom Plaza Nursing Care), Carmen Aragon (grandmother of Deacon John), Fr. Christopher Zugger, Florence Gunt, Mary Mihalko (Good Samaritan Hospital), Mary Hrinko, George Chelena, Louis Rabiej, Jim Cochlin (brother of Jane Brown), Tom Gerez (Dorothy Dumnich's son-in-law), Robert Rankin (father of Fr. Robert Rankin), Olga Uram, Luddy Popovich, Daniel Mundall, Fr. Joseph Ridella (one of our retired priests), Julia Menlicavage, Daniel Dougherty.

✠ **7-DAY CANDLES – ETERNAL LIGHT:** +Frank S. Slonka by Kathy Slonka. **TETRAPOD:** +Michael Mraz. **TETRAPOD:** Health of Florence Gunt by Alice Garcia. **SHROUD OF THE DORMITION:** Bill & Betty Gelety by Mary Popovich. **SHROUD OF OUR LORD:** Health of Louis Rabiej by Alice & Abigail Garcia. **CHRISTMAS ICON:** Health of Mary Mihalko by Mary Popovich. **THEOPHANY ICON:** Health of Martha Maleta by Alice Garcia. **PENTECOST ICON:** Health of Louis & Diane Rabiej by Martin, Ken & Kahlua. **RESURRECTION ICON:** God's blessing on Martha Maleta by Mary Popovich. **ST ANTHONY:** Available.

✠ **THANK YOU** wonderful people who helped make the potato and cheese filling on Friday morning for the pierogi workshop. Some of our people thought about purchasing pierogi on the internet.

✠ **FYI**—We discovered that a dozen of pierogi similar to what we make here at St. Stephen goes for \$10.00 per dozen—not including shipping. Our price is \$6.00 and you get it from our parish hall. What a deal! See the printouts at the Coffee Social in the Parish Hall.

✠ **COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS**—The honor system for donations at the coffee social is a failure. We are not recovering the cost of the doughnuts from the good will baskets. Any suggestions?

✠ **UPDATE ON THE PAINTING PROJECT** the Church, Hall, Rectory and Chancery are completed. The painters are working on the apartments. The cost for painting the apartments is covered by the rent and the fees. This does not come out of the general parish funds or from the Sunday collection.

✠ **ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL.** Last year's Bishop's Appeal Rebate and hopefully this year's rebate will be used to paint our building complex.

Paid up pledges: 35, totaling \$17,200.00, sent to the Eparchy.

Pledges on payment schedule: 24, totaling \$4,500.00.

59 households have responded as of April 4.

Parish goal for parish: 139 households x \$200 = \$27,800.00.

80 households have not responded. \$5,150.00 needed to make our goal.

Here is a sample of the paid up pledges: 1—\$5,000, 2—\$1,500, 1—\$1,000, 1—\$800, 9—\$500, 3—\$300, 16—\$200, 3—\$100, 3—\$50.

Give what you can to help our Eparchy which also helps our parish through the rebate.

Make your check payable to *“St. Stephen Church.”*