



# The Family Connection



St. Stephen the Martyr Religious Education  
Mary Maguire, Director [www.stephen.org/reled](http://www.stephen.org/reled)

1st Grade is collecting empty paper towel tubes for a craft project. We need them brought in by Nov. 15. Thanks!!

## September 30, 2011

- Oct. 1: Gr. 8 Confirmation Retreat, GPC; 8- 11 am
- Oct. 1: Gr. 8 Confirmation Retreat, GPC; 1-4 pm
- Oct. 9: Reconciliation Parent Meeting, DR; 7:30 pm
- Oct. 11/12: No R.E. (Conferences in MPS)
- Oct. 25/26: No R.E. (Parish Mission)
- Oct. 30: Sunday School Festival of Saints

## Board Bits

The SSM Board of Education has two positions open for those who would like to serve their parish. We are in particular need of candidates who have an interest in our Religious Education Department, either as a catechist or parent.

Candidates should apply for this position by completing the following form:

[http://www.stephen.org/school/forms/Board\\_of\\_Education\\_Bio\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.stephen.org/school/forms/Board_of_Education_Bio_Sheet.pdf)

Send your completed application to [t.jorgensen@stephen.org](mailto:t.jorgensen@stephen.org).

The Board of Education provides recommendations to the pastor and advisement to the administrators of the Parish School, Religious Education and Kid Zone programs. The Board meets 6 times a year on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm.



Thank you for your consideration in this valuable ministry in the education of our students at St. Stephen the Martyr.

## Disciples of Christ

The following students were given the Disciple of Christ Award from their Catechists:

### Kindergarten:

Justin Willenborg  
Cambell Keber  
Kelsey Rix  
Ben Berreth

### 1st Grade:

Alexis Ladd  
Zachary Bargstadt  
Xavier Luedtke

### 2nd Grade

Tanner Titus  
Cadon Santa Marie  
Maxton Bezousek  
Mason Kass  
Sydney Sayles

### 3rd Grade

Jiavana Manzitto  
Hogan Wright  
Tenley Wright

### 4th Grade

Danielle Calpin  
Alex Schrier  
Samuel Meeves  
Katie McNulty

### 5th Grade

Emily Conry  
Kieffer Holder  
Jocelyn Rock  
Conor Flynn  
David King

### 6th Grade

Jacob Maier

### 8th Grade

Madi Hayes

### Office Hours:

Monday: 9 AM – 3 PM  
Tuesday: 9 AM - 6:30 PM  
Wednesday: 10 AM- 8 PM  
Thursday & Friday: Closed  
Sunday: 9 AM-Noon  
Or by appointment

You can also call us at 896-5683.  
Messages will be checked daily.  
Fax number: 861-4590

- **Director:** Mary Maguire at 896-5683 [m.maguire@stephen.org](mailto:m.maguire@stephen.org),
- **Admin. Asst.:** Eileen Smith at 861-4513 [e.smith@stephen.org](mailto:e.smith@stephen.org)
- **Confirmation:** Deborah Sheehy at 861-4510 [d.sheehy@stephen.org](mailto:d.sheehy@stephen.org)
- **Sunday School/VBS:** Rhonda Richeson at 861-4511 [r.richeson@stephen.org](mailto:r.richeson@stephen.org)
- **Youth Ministry:** Laura Bogue at 861-4509 [l.bogue@stephen.org](mailto:l.bogue@stephen.org)

Want to add something to the newsletter?  
Contact Eileen at: 861-4513,  
[e.smith@stephen.org](mailto:e.smith@stephen.org)

## Sunday School Lessons

October 2, 2011

**Intro:** Mary & Martha Welcome Jesus, Ch. 2

**Pre-K:** God Keeps His Promises, Lesson 5

**Kind.:** You Pray, Ch. 5  
Prayer: Glory Be & Sign of the Cross



**Tue/Wed Kindergarten: (Oct. 4/5)**

The Church, Ch. 10  
Prayer: O Come All Ye Faithful/Mary's Boy Child

## Pancakes!!

The Knights of Columbus invite you to the first Pancake Breakfast of the season!

Sunday October 9, 2011

Breakfast served after the 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30 Masses

-Adults - \$6  
-Children age 4-12 - \$4  
-3 and under free

\$20 maximum for the entire family! (Immediate family members only, please.)

We will be raising funds to support Boy Scout Troop 494

## Cookie Dough Fundraiser Wrap Up

Thanks so much to everyone who supported the fundraiser by selling, purchasing, or helping fill orders for our students. We sold **1,018 tubs of cookie dough for a profit of \$4,479 !!** Proceeds from the sale go to help the needs of the R.E. department, including new resources, new catechist manuals and student texts and tuition assistance.



Thank you also to Kent and Ellen Junge of The Cookie Company for their continuous support and help with this fundraiser. In addition:

**The Cookie Company has offered a cookie party for any class collecting \$50 in donations for Kids Against Hunger. →**

## Right to Life Committee

The Right-to-Life Committee would like to invite you to take part in the following Pro-Life activities.

**Sunday, October 2 -Life Chain-Join fellow Catholics and Christians in an hour long vigil along Dodge Street to show our solidarity in prayer to end the scourge of abortion in our lifetime. St. Stephen the Martyr parish will be praying along the south side, in front of 8511 W. Dodge (Methodist Health Systems Corporate Center). We're just west of 84th.**

**Saturday, October 15 -Pro-life Conference, Building a Civilization of Love & Life: With featured homilist and banquet speaker Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop Emeritus of New York. See SSM Prolife website ([www.ssmprolifecommittee.org](http://www.ssmprolifecommittee.org)) for details on Mass, conference and evening banquet.**

**Every Saturday at 10:00 to 11:00 am -** Prayer vigil at the new Planned Parenthood. The facility is located at 3105 N. 93rd St. The prayer service will consist of the Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Scripture Readings, Intercessory Prayers, Litanies, a couple of hymns, and moments for personal prayer and reflection. It is recommended that you park in the protestant church lot (permission has been granted) that is just on the left (west side) as you turn onto 93rd from Maple.

**4th Annual Adult Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. -January 21-24, 2012.** Please consider joining Nebraskans United for Life (with partnership of the Omaha and Lincoln dioceses) in a pilgrimage to D.C. as they travel to meet with Nebraska representatives, tour a bit of the D.C. area, and most importantly, remember our unborn brothers and sisters and the 38th anniversary of Roe v. Wade at the March for Life. Cost includes airfare, lodging, local transportation, and some meals. We need a \$350 down payment per person by Oct. 26, 2011 to reserve a space on this pilgrimage. Please call (402) 399-0299 for information about travel details. For more info., visit [www.ssmprolifecommittee.org](http://www.ssmprolifecommittee.org) or Bob Finger at 402-953-5806.

## Gospel Reflection for Families

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 21:33-43  
Jesus tells the parable about the wicked tenants.

### Family Connection:

In an ideal household, family members know the rules and follow them consistently. Even the most conscientious among us, however, sometimes needs to be reminded of the rules and their importance. How we respond to such correction reveals our true character. In today's Gospel Jesus exposes the religious leaders for their failure to heed God's messengers. It is an opportunity for us to consider how we respond to those who are God's messengers today, calling us to correct our ways and return to the way of the Lord.

As you gather as a family, talk about some of the most important rules of your household. Consider how consistently family members follow these rules. How are family members reminded when rules are not being followed? How do they respond? In today's Gospel Jesus corrects the religious leaders through a parable telling them that they have not heeded God's messengers. Read Matthew 21:33-43. What are some of God's rules that we must follow? How do we respond to God's messengers today? Pray together as a family that you will heed God's messengers and follow God's ways. Pray together the Act of Contrition for the times when your family has not heeded God's word.



## Kids Against Hunger

Kids Against Hunger is our parish outreach project to coincide with our Parish Mission scheduled for Oct. 22-26. Our goal is to package 20,000 meals at 25 cents per meal. This amounts to a total of \$5,000. Half of this amount (\$2,500) must be sent to Kids Against Hunger by Oct.13 in order to purchase the food for our packaging date one month later.

We are asking you to help by making a donation and/or assisting with packaging the food on Sunday, Nov.13 at 13409 I Circle. This is a great family experience—children as young as five years old can participate. We need 40 people from 1-3 PM and 40 people from 3-5 PM. There will be an opportunity to make donations and volunteer for packaging after all of the Masses on October 1-2. However, you may make a donation before that time, if you wish.

Make checks payable to "Kids Against Hunger" and drop off in the parish office or at the GPC. For more information and/or to volunteer - Contact Sister Clarice - 402-861-4508 or [c.faltus@stephen.org](mailto:c.faltus@stephen.org).

## Project HOPE

Have you heard the latest?

You can now help SSM when shopping at Costco, picking up lunch at McDonald's or visiting thousands of retailers here at home or across the country with Discover gift cards.

No matter what you do during the week, we have a card for that!

Stop by the Project HOPE table following our weekend masses for a complete list of vendors. Make it a family tradition to stop by the Project HOPE table weekly or visit the parish office to make your purchases.

If we all work together, we can do great things in our parish and our community.

## Lily Dotson's Care Page



This is the care page for Lily. You need to be registered on this site to see her updates: <http://www.carepages.com/carepages/lilydotson>

You can sign up for e-mail alerts when Susie or David update the page.

## Parent Meeting

### FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

**OCTOBER 9, 2011**

**7:30 P.M.**

Parents of children who will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will need to attend an informational meeting with Fr. Jim Tieg on Sunday, October 9 at 7:30 pm in the Dining Room.

First Reconciliation will be held during the Advent Reconciliation services on Monday, December 5 and Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 pm, followed by a reception in the Dining Room. Please see the *Sacrament Preparation* page of our website at [www.stephen.org/reled](http://www.stephen.org/reled) for more information.

## Skutt Catholic Chic Boutique

**Saturday, October 8th, 2010**

**9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Admission - \$1.00**

- Over 100 crafters
- Breakfast and lunch available
- A craft show you don't want to miss this fall!

## Youth Ministry News



Be sure to check our website at [www.stephen.org/youth](http://www.stephen.org/youth) for more information on what our youth are up to. Contact Laura at 861-4509 or at [l.bogue@stephen.org](mailto:l.bogue@stephen.org).

**EDGE**-Did you ever wonder if Jesus went to middle school? Seriously...what would that have been like? Be sure to join the discussion on Tuesday, October 4 from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm in the dining room!

**LIFE TEEN**-Who's your Mama, Teens? Come find out with our special guest speaker Fr. Jeff Mollner this Sunday, October 2 from 7:00 pm-8:45pm in the Parish Center. Remember: Bring a friend and be able to enter our raffle!

**JR. HIGH YOUTH RALLY** — All 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade teens are invited to attend this year's youth rally, "The Underground Church." It's time for an extreme game of hide & seek as we learn the value of freedom of religion! Cost is \$15 and includes snack and a t-shirt. Rally will be at St. Robert's (120<sup>th</sup> + Pacific) on Sunday, October 16 from 2:00 pm-6:00 pm. See pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter for registration information!

**Save the Date** — Hey, High School Teens! Be sure to mark your calendars for our Theology of the Body for Teens Retreat November 18-20 at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Schuyler, NE. Details coming soon!

Youth fan page link <https://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Archdiocese-of-Omaha-Youth-Ministry-Youth/135013869845920>

Or the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry page: <http://www.nfcym.org/resources/specialissues/revisedmissal.htm>

## St. Stephen's Parish Mission

### ***Igniting the Light of Christ Within You' Parish Mission*** **October 22 – 26, 2011**



Paul Koleske is a Contemporary Catholic Christian Speaker, Musician, Singer, Songwriter, and Recording Artist. He has 3 CDs to his credit.

He travels the United States of America conducting Parish Missions, Concerts & Reflections, Retreats, and Youth Ministry Events. He has been a guest on EWTN and several radio shows.

Saturday and Sunday - October 22 & 23, Paul will share his inspired music at all weekend Masses. On Sunday afternoon October 23 Paul will give a Parish Concert, at 3:00 p.m. in the church to kick off our Mission week. Then, over three evenings on October 24, 25, & 26.

Paul will be conducting a Parish Mission entitled; "Igniting the Light of Christ Within You" at 7:00 pm each night.

His Catholic Speaking & Music Ministry began after a miraculous experience on December 12, 1993. Paul's Mission Series has been called "very inspirational" by those who've experienced a lifting of heart, mind, and soul. His teachings and music will provide you with an increased sense of understanding, peace, insight and inspiration for your spiritual well-being.

**GO**

# **GROUND**

Matthew 5: 11-12

**AN “ALL PARISH  
EVENT” FOR 7<sup>TH</sup>  
& 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

**EXTREME  
HIDE & SEEK  
THE EARLY CHURCH VERSION**

We take our religious freedom for granted. Come and experience what it is like to have to hide out to share faith.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**

**2:00PM - 6:00PM**

**- MASS INCLUDED**

**ST. ROBERT'S CAFETERIA**

**11900 PACIFIC STREET**

EVENT COST: \$15 includes t-shirt & snack  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED through your parish contact.

SPONSORED BY:

The Omaha area Youth Ministers  
and DRE's.

**TOP  
SECRET**

# GO UNDER GROUND

**AN "ALL PARISH EVENT" FOR  
7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS**

Underground Church is a fun game (like hide and seek but more intense), that opens the door to discuss persecution of the early and current church and talk about the value of faith that we have so often taken for granted.

**Event Details:**  
**Date:** Sunday, October 16th  
**Time:** 2:00 - 6:00pm (check-in starts @ 1:45 pm)  
**Location:** St. Robert's Bellarmine (119th & Pacific)  
**Cost:** \$15.00 includes T-shirt and snack  
**Return Registrations to:** Laura Bogue in the Religious Ed. Office  
**Registration Deadline:** Tuesday, October 4th  
**Contact Laura Bogue at l.bogue@stephen.org or at 402-861-4509 with any questions!**

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT PERMISSION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, grant permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in this Youth Ministry event that requires adult supervision and is off campus. As parent or legal guardian, I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named participant. I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, our heirs, successors, and assigns to hold harmless and defend St. Stephen the Martyr, its officers, directors, and agents; the Archdiocese of Omaha; chaperones or representatives associated with this event.

In case of an emergency, I give permission for medical treatment to be sought for my child.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact # \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt Size: \_\_\_ Adult Small \_\_\_ Adult Medium \_\_\_ Adult Large \_\_\_ Adult X Large \_\_\_ Adult XX Large

Chaperones are needed for this event: \_\_\_ Yes, I am available \_\_\_ No, I am not available

Please return this form and payment by Tuesday, October 4th to Laura Bogue in the Religious Ed. Office.

*Checks may be made out to St. Stephen the Martyr Parish.*

*The Underground Church is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Omaha's Youth Ministers and Directors of Religious Ed.*