The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 3, 2019

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:30, 11:00 & 5:30 PM
Reconciliation: Fridays 9:00-10:00 AM
Saturdays 3:00-4:00 PM

Parish Office (253) 631-1940
Faith Formation (253) 631-6175
13055 SE 192nd Street Renton, WA 98058
www.ststephenslife.com

See a listing of Parish Staff on the back inside page.
The Rejection of Jesus in Nazareth  
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Have you ever experienced rejection at any point in your life? Rejection is a very painful and dreadful experience in our lives. However, it is something we often encounter in the journey of our life. Take for an instance, in the circle of our family or friends, we may have a member who is rejected by parents or siblings or friends. Leaders too are often victims of rejection.

Some people can recall how their applications for jobs, admissions and other engagements were rejected. Rejection is one thing nobody prays to experience or go through. On the other hand, we all like to be accepted.

On this fourth Sunday of ordinary time, the liturgy reminds each one of us that we are privileged to be called by God and chosen to be his prophets. We are God’s decisive choices. He knew each one of us personally, called and consecrated us and made us his own. God knows what he wants us to do for him. Hence, he calls us by our names and reminds us: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you”. This assures us that we are not distant and strangers to God. He does not call strangers to his mission, but those he knows personally and sends us in his love to be his witnesses here on earth.

The rejection of Jesus in Nazareth in the gospel of today, was not merely a rejection of the son of Joseph and Mary. It was in fact rejection of God himself and his love. God’s love is the reason that he gave his only Son to us (Jn. 3:16) so whoever rejects his Son ultimately rejects God and his love. Today, God calls us to activate love in our lives. As St. Paul instructed us, love conquers all things, it endures all things, it is patient and kind and it never ends. What do we do when we are rejected even when we are right? When Jesus walked away from those rejected him, what did he do? Did he go home and abandon God’s plan of redemption for his people?

No. If we follow the narrative (Luke 4:31-36) we learn that from the place from where he experienced rejection, he moves on to Capernaum, a town in Galilee where he continued to teach the people with authority even on the Sabbath.

Jesus was not discouraged or depressed by people’s rejection of him; but he remained focused and committed in his mission. Unlike Jesus, in the face of rejection, we reject and eject ourselves. As an individual do I in any way reject Jesus in my life?

The truth is that Jesus Christ is still being rejected by us in various ways. We reject Jesus when we fail to trust and obey him. We reject Jesus Christ when we hear the word of God and fail to put it into practice. We reject Jesus Christ when we reject our neighbors, we reject Jesus Christ when we reject the poor, we reject Jesus Christ when we choose to live a life according to the standards of the world, we reject Jesus when we disconnect us from the sacraments, we reject Jesus when we are more interested in the flesh than in the spiritual; we reject him in our failure to love others as God loved us.

When we experience rejection in our life, let us turn to God that we may be strengthened by his promise: I am with you to deliver you (Jer. 1:8).

Weekly Readings

February 3  Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15-17; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13; Lk 4:21-30

February 4  Monday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

February 5  Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr  
Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43

February 6  Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs  
Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

February 7  Thursday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

February 8  Friday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc; Mk 6:14-29

February 9  Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time  
Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

February 10  Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11
February 4th
8:30a – 9:00a  Morning Prayer & Rosary
8:30a –10:30a  Darling Dusters
10:00 -11:45a  Food Bank
noon — 2:00p  Rosary Making
11a–midnight  Eucharistic Adoration
3:00p – 3:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
5:30p – 6:00p  Evening Prayer
6:00p – 8:00p  Library
6:30p – 7:00p  MASS
6:30p – 8:00p  Fil-Am Choir

February 5th
8:30a – 9:00a  Morning Prayer & Rosary
9a – midnight  Eucharistic Adoration
9:20a–11:45a  Scripture Study
1:00p – 3:00p  Library
3:00p – 3:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00p – 5:45p  Food Bank
5:30p – 6:00p  Evening Prayer
6:30p – 7:00p  MASS
7:00p – 7:45p  Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
7:30p – 9:00p  Sacred Story
7:30p – 9:00p  Returning Catholics

February 6th
12:00a-12:00a  Eucharistic Adoration
8:30a – 9:00a  Morning Prayer & Rosary
1:00p – 3:00p  Library
3:00p – 3:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00p – 5:45p  Food Bank
5:30p – 6:00p  Evening Prayer
6:30p – 7:00p  MASS
7:00p – 8:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30p – 9:00p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
6:30p – 7:00p  Library
6:30p – 8:30p  Alpha
6:30p – 8:30p  Cub Scouts
7:00p – 8:30p  FAQ Apologetics
7:00p – 9:00p  RCIA & Adult Confirmation
7:15p – 7:45p  Most Precious Blood of Jesus Devotion

February 7th
3:00a – 12:00a  Eucharistic Adoration
8:30a – 9:00a  Morning Prayer & Rosary
8:30a –12:00p  Thursday Crew
3:00p – 3:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet
6:30p – 7:00p  Alpha
6:30p – 8:30p  Sacred Story
7:00p – 8:00p  Sacred Story
7:30p – 9:00p  Sacred Story
7:30p – 9:00p  Returning Catholics

February 8th
6:00a – 7:15a  Men’s Prayer & Reflection
8:30a – 9:00a  MASS
9:00a–10:00a  Reconciliation
9:00a – midnight  Eucharistic Adoration
9:45a –11:00a  Sacred Story
10:00 –11:45a  Food Bank
3:00p – 3:30p  Divine Mercy Chaplet

February 9th
12:00a-1:00a  Eucharistic Adoration
6:00a – 8:00a  Eucharistic Adoration
8:00a–10:00a  SSTM Men's Group
8:30a – 9:00a  MASS
9:00a – 4:30p  Eucharistic Adoration
9:00a–11:00a  Blood Drive
12:00p- 3:00p  Blood Drive
1:00p – 3:00p  Library
3:00p – 4:00p  Reconciliation
5:00p – 6:00p  Vigil MASS

February 10th
6:00a – 8:00a  Eucharistic Adoration
8:30a – 9:30a  MASS
9:45a – 11:00  Library
11:00- 12:00p  MASS
12:00p-1:00p  Eucharistic Adoration
5:00p – 5:30p  Library
5:30p – 6:30p  MASS

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**Alpha is Coming and You’re Invited!**

Do you know someone who doesn’t go to church and may wonder if there is more to life than this? Alpha is the place to introduce them to Jesus. Invite your friend or family member to have dinner, enjoy a 30 minute video, and talk about it in a non-judgmental environment.

Join us Thursday at 6:30pm for dinner and our session "Who Is Jesus?” Invite someone to join you or come yourself and learn about how to share your faith with others!

To sign-up or get more information visit [ststephenslife.com/alpha](http://ststephenslife.com/alpha) or call the Parish Office 253-631-1940

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**Have You Signed up for FORMED Yet? - It’s Free!**

FORMED provides amazing content 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. It’s **FREE and now EASIER THAN EVER to Register!**

Simply visit [ststephenslife.formed.org](http://ststephenslife.formed.org) and create your account!
Faith Formation Programs

Elementary Programs (K – 4th Grade) Wednesday Nights 6:00 to 7:15 pm
Feb. 06 - Religious Ed and 1st Eucharist Classes
Feb. 13 - Religious Ed and 1st Eucharist Classes
Feb. 20 – NO Religious Ed and 1st Eucharist Classes (President’s Week)

Youth Programs (5th – 12th Grade) Sunday Nights 6:45 to 8:30 pm
Feb. 03 – NO Connections Class (Super Bowl Weekend)
Feb. 10 - Connections Class
Feb. 17 – NO Connections Class (President’s Week)

(For Edge, Life Teen, CY1 and CY2 Check Your Calendars and Email for Program Dates.)

Adult Programs
Feb. 16 – Next Infant Baptismal Class (See Details Below)

Little Saints Preschool
Our Little Saints Preschool registration is now underway for Fall 2019-20. If you would like to enroll your child or for more information contact Abbie Nelson, our Program Director, at sstm.littlesaints@gmail.com.

BAPTISM

Our Next Infant Baptismal Class is February 16, 2019. From 9:00 am to 12:30 pm in classrooms 128-129. Please take class 3 months prior to desired month of baptism. A $10.00 donation per family is appreciated. Contact Teresa Wright; Contact Teresa Wright; (253) 631-6175, ext. 120 or sstm.baptism@gmail.com.

Important Confirmation Update:
The Archdiocese is moving the age of Confirming teens to a younger age. St. Stephen’s teens currently in 8th grade are now eligible to begin the Confirmation Year One program. For more information or to register your 8th grade or older teen, contact Debbie Blomquist at sstm.youth@gmail.com.

VALENTINE’S DINNER – SSTM Senior Citizens
Our Confirmation Year 2 candidates are hosting a Valentine Dinner for St. Stephen’s Senior Citizens (Age 65+) on Sunday, February 10th following the 11:00 am Mass. Reservations Are Required. Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex. For questions contact Debbie Blomquist at sstm.youth@gmail.com.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
This Super Bowl Weekend, February 2nd & 3rd, St. Stephen’s Youth will join with youth across the country this weekend to help raise money and collect canned food for the charity of their choice. Here at St. Stephen’s all donations will go to the St. Stephen’s Food Bank. Following all Masses Teens will be in the Narthex to accept your donation of $1.00 and/or a canned food item for our collection. Together we can help feed many in need here in our own neighborhood.

Steubenville NW Youth Conference
July 25 to 28, 2019. Youth grades 8 to 12 are eligible to attend. Teens and adults will travel on a charter bus to Silverwood Theme Park in Idaho on Thursday and then back to Gonzaga where they will stay the weekend. Registration Forms for the conference are now available. For questions contact Debbie Blomquist at sstm.youth@gmail.com.

A BITE OF TRIVIA * FUNDRAISER!!
Edge Middle School Youth Fundraiser.
Sunday, February 10th, 2019, following the 5:30 pm Mass. Proceeds will go to help support Mary Bridge & the Child Abuse Intervention Department of the Courage Classic. Menu: Salad, Pizza and Ice Cream! Cost In Advance:
$8.00 a Person & $20.00 a Family of 4. Tickets Available after all Masses this weekend, Feb. 2nd & 3rd! Tickets At The Door: $10.00 a Person & $25.00 a Family of 4. Join us for a fun night of food and trivia games.
Human Life and Justice

If you are a pregnant mother in distress or know someone facing a crisis pregnancy, our Gabriel Angels are trained volunteers who walk beside Mom with spiritual, emotional, & practical support. Call 1-888-926-ANGEL to connect with an Angel. Questions? Contact Roberta Jorgensen: robertajorgensen@comcast.net


Legislative Advocacy - Thank you to all who joined in prayer, rallying, and visiting legislators January 22nd, for the 2019 March for Life in Olympia! Much new legislation continues being proposed since the 2019 Washington State legislative session began last month that, if passed into law, will seriously impact our families with Life and Marriage issues as well as our freedom to live the teachings of our Catholic Faith. Please see our website https://ststephenslife.com/legislative-advocacy today and continue to check back frequently as new legislation will continue being introduced in upcoming months. (More photos from our day in Olympia January 22nd at https://ststephenslife.com/march-for-life, scroll down to find photos at left.)

Respect Life - Please join St. Stephen Respect Life Ministry this Wednesday, February 6th, from 11 – 12 o’clock (or any hour you choose) for a prayer vigil in Renton at Cedar River Clinics. 6,277 babies were killed in King County in 2016, many of them at this late-term abortion facility. Details at https://ststephenslife.com/events

The Mental Health Ministry Committee invites you to find out how YOUR parish and faith community can provide understanding and support to those suffering from mental illness and their families. Attendees will receive specific tools and resources from parishes that have been offering this support to their parishioners and families impacted by mental illness. Come to one of following FREE workshop luncheon events. Wednesday February 13th at Holy Family Parish, Kirkland OR at Wednesday March 20th at St. Luke’s Parish in Shoreline from 11:30am – 1:30 pm. Lunch provided. Register for a luncheon by emailing ericac@seattlearch.org.

What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you were debt-free, investing and making wise spending decisions? With Dave Ramsey’s class Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future. If you’re interested in learning more about the class, go to https://fpu.com/1082563 or https://fpu.com/1083402 to message the coordinator or to sign up because we’re offering it here at St. Stephens starting Sunday, February 17, 2019 and Monday, February 18, 2019! There will be a preview on Sunday February 3rd after 11am Mass.

The Filipino-American Choir of St. Stephen’s is looking for a volunteer pianist. The choir practices every Monday at 6:30 to 8:00 pm. and sings at the 11:00 am Mass each Sunday of the month. Interested volunteers can email Grace Talic (Fil-Am Choir Director) at gbtalic@msn.com

Valentine Dinner - Our Confirmation Year 2 candidates will host a Valentine Dinner for the St. Stephen’s Senior Citizens (age 65 +) On Sunday, February 10th following the 11:00am Mass. Reservations are required. Sign up sheets will be available in the narthex on the weekends of January 27th and February 3rd. For more information contact Debbie Blomquist at 253-631-6175 ext . 113 or email sstm.youth@gmail.com

Grief Ministry - If you are grieving the death of a loved one, come find strength and compassion with the St. Stephen’s Grief Support Group on Sunday, February 17th from 1:00-2:30 pm in the Chapel. Our topic will be “Family and Friends Grieve, Too.” For more info, contact Sharon Rasmussen at 425-228-1437. “I am the Lord your God. I am holding your hand so don’t be afraid. I am here to help you.” Isaiah 41:13

Praying For Sick
Marie Peacock Albers, Nela Pacleb, Irene Bauman, JoAnna Bailey, Jim Dougherty, Brian W. French, Lydia Frana-da, Chad Horky, Mary Byersdorf, Leila Abada, Kelley Chazes, April Sedall, Nicole Paulsen, Shelby Talley, Christina Rafferty, Antonio San, Nicolas Nenita, San Nicolas, Rolf Ju, Emelita Joyosa, Leonora Bernabe, Johanna Abala, James Vaccaro, Amanda Hill, Marlene Hill, Teresa Wright, Precilla Del Rosario, Yvonne (Dawn) Kunkle, Jesse Boyovich, Jan Sykes, Phyllis Beaver, Joel Rivera, Julie Fernandez, Jennifer Perez, Saksithan Hak, Lan Buck, Judy Severis, Joshua Hecox, Charito Rubis Galin-do, Rose Hertya, Manny Gutierrez, JJ Conavad, Dionisio Paje, Alejandro Chavoya, Jim Steckler, Cam-Tu Fulong and Nga Nguyen, Adam Bynum

Serving in the Military

Funerals
Marietta Demagajies November
David Kauzlarich December

To add names to the box: please e-mail ourbulletin@gmail.com, or contact Betty Mencke, 253-631-1940. To contact the Prayer Chain please see Teresa Wright, at 425-255 0301 or teresa2pray@gmail.com
**Outreach Ministry**

Under the Patronage of Saint Teresa of Calcutta  
Contact: Darlene Simpson  
Office Phone: 253-631-1940 etc 103  
Email: darsimpson@gmail.com  

*It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving.* -St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

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**Food Bank In Outreach Building**  
**Needed this week:** Canned Fruit, CANNED FRUIT, Canned Fruit!  
**Served last week:** 16 families were served last week

**FYI:** People who are served by our food bank are only allowed to come once a month. You need to be a registered parishioner (min. 6 months) to receive financial aid from St. Stephens. The food bank is an exception.

**We are Out of Gift Cards!** We especially need general gift cards, i.e., Fred Meyer, Target gift cards, and gas cards. McDonald’s and Subway gift cards are always appreciated! Please support our food bank with prayers and donations so that we can support others! Thank you for your generosity! **NOTE:** Please take PERISHABLE FOOD items to Food Bank directly.

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**What does the Church say about Faith & Reason?** Can I be spiritual but not religious? The Apologetics discussion group extends to you an open invitation for your questions about the Catholic Church. FAQ Apologetics is open to all for lively, fun and informative discussions. Drop-ins encouraged, come for a visit Sundays 7pm-8:30pm in the Conference Room by the office area. Contact Sean Stewart tarses@ix.netcom.com with questions.

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**Catholic College Corner** -What kinds of brochures do we have in the kiosk at the bottom of the stairs? Pamphlets from affordable places like: Wyoming Catholic College (Lander), Franciscan Missionaries of our Lady University (Baton Rouge, LA) and Holy Apostles College and Seminary (Cromwell, CT). Check it out! "Life in the presence of God should be known to us in conscious experience. It is a life to be enjoyed every moment of every day." A.W. Tozer

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**St. Anthony School** -  
All families interested in sending their children to St. Anthony School for a quality, Catholic education, should call the school office at 425-255-0059 or e-mail Jill Eaton at Eaton@sasr.org. Pre-registration applications are due February 12, 2019. Please join us for our Open House on Sunday, February 10th from 10:30 am until 1:30 pm. Stop by to meeting our Principal and teachers, tour the school and get all of your questions answered.

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**Grief Ministry** - If you are grieving the death of a loved one, come find strength and compassion with the St. Stephen’s Grief Support Group on Sunday, January 20th from 1:00-2:30 pm in the Chapel. Our topic will be “Life On Hold/Returning to Normal”. For more info, contact Sharon Rasmussen at 425-228-1437. “The Lord heals the brokenhearted, binds up their wounds.” Psalm 147, 2-3

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**For Survivors of Abuse - Maria Goretti Network** A peer to peer self help support group for women and men focusing on healing and forgiveness. For information on monthly meetings please e-mail Debbie@mgoretti.org or 253-307-4526.

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**St. Vincent de Paul** -  
In the gospel today, Jesus shows us that we are called to place gospel values before any other values and to be willing to put our lives on the line for them. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values. Is God calling you to join our St. Stephen the Martyr Conference of St. Vincent de Paul? We are always welcoming new members. Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 13th at 7:15pm in the parish office conference room. Answer that call!

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**The American Wheelchair Mission** is a non-profit organization with a goal to deliver brand new, free wheelchairs and mobility aids to physically disabled children, teens and adults throughout the world who are without mobility or the means to acquire a wheelchair. The American Wheelchair Mission will continue to change the lives of entire families with the gifts of hope, dignity, freedom and independence. Please Join the St Stephen The Martyr Knights of Columbus On the Week-end of February 9th to donate to this great mission.

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**Our Jubilee Book Is Here!**  
**Parishioners who had photo portraits taken** are invited to pick up their copy in the Narthex after each Mass on February 2, 3, 9 and 10.  
**Parishioners who did not have a portrait taken**, but would like a copy of the book, will be able to purchase one for $20 through an additional printing. Please watch for more information on this opportunity in the bulletin and during announcements.
Parish Information

New to St. Stephen’s? Welcome! Learn more about our vibrant community by visiting our web site at www.ststephenslife.com or emailing us at WelcomeStStephens@gmail.com. Registration forms are online or may be obtained from the ushers and put in the collection basket or mailed in.

Parish Office Hours: Most weeks, Monday - Friday, 9 AM - Noon and 1-5 PM.

Bulletin Notices: The article deadline is 5 PM on the Monday before the weekend you wish it to appear. Notices about parish events or items of interest to the parish are welcome, however posting cannot be guaranteed. Email notices to: ourbulletin@gmail.com. Our bulletin is provided free of charge by the advertisers on the back of the bulletin. To place an ad, contact Nick Thoennes with Catholic Printery at 425-466-1378.

Main Office Phone: TEL 253-631-1940 / FAX 425-255-2943

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<tr>
<td>Pastor Fr Edward G. White</td>
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<td>Parochial Vicar Fr Jaya Kumar Embeti</td>
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<td>Deacon Dec. Carl Chilo</td>
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<td>Pastoral Associate Anne Merklin</td>
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<td>Pastoral Assistant for Outreach Darlene Simpson</td>
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<td>Office Manager/Pastor’s Assistant Betty Mencke</td>
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<td>Liturgy Coordinator Janet Denby-Stewart</td>
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<td>Music Director Giuliano Grisi</td>
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<td>PA Administration/Bookkeeper Eric Miller</td>
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<td>Facilities &amp; Parish Life Coordinator Kim Anderson</td>
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<td>Director of Faith Formation Shannon Battles</td>
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<td>Youth Ministry Debbie Blomquist</td>
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<td>Preschool Director Abbie Nelson</td>
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<td>Faith Formation Support Coordinator Maria Trejo</td>
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<td>Child Care Nursery Liese Diachenko</td>
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Marriage: Couples seeking Marriage must contact the church 9 months before their wedding date. Some preparation and Parish Registration are required before a date can be set. Contact Teresa Wright for details concerning marriage at (253) 631-6175, Ext. 120.

Annulments: (for those who are divorced): For compassionate and confidential answers to your questions and for help through the annulment process, please contact our parish Tribunal Advocate, Veronica Smith-Casem, at vsmithcasem@gmail.com or 425-301-0356.

Baptism: Preparation and Parish Registration are required for both Parents and Godparents/Sponsors. Baptisms are held monthly. Contact the Faith Formation Office for details (253-631-6175).

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) For adults to become Catholic & be baptized. Contact Anne Merklin 253-631-1940 ext 126. sstmassociate@gmail.com

Bloodmobile Blood Drive at St. Stephen the Martyr
Next Saturday, February 9th 2019
Blood drive hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (closed 11:00 – 12:00 pm)
Sign up at www.bloodworksnw.org (sponsor code for St. Stephen the Martyr is 1840) Need help? E-mail schedule@bloodworksnw.org or download the new Bloodworks Northwest app to sign up!
Walk-ins welcome around scheduled donors

Parish Stewardship Giving

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<tr>
<td>To Our Parish: Budget</td>
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<td>Last Weekend</td>
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Rachel’s Corner: Hope and Healing After Abortion “Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord: Though your signs be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they may become white as wool. If you are willing, and obey, you shall eat the good things of the land.” - Isaiah 1:18-19. Come on a Rachel’s Vineyard™ retreat and experience the mercy and “good things” of Our Lord. He is waiting for you. Call Aleah at 206-920-6413 Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community Services. www.ccsww.org/projectrachel You are loved with an everlasting Love!
We believe everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view.

Perhaps you, or someone you know doesn’t go to church and may wonder if there is more to life than this? **Alpha** is the place to encounter Jesus! Come for dinner, enjoy a 30 minute video, and talk about it in a non-judgmental environment. Take an invite from your pew and invite someone to join you or come yourself and learn about how to share your faith with others!

Location: St Stephen the Martyr Church (Social Hall)
13055 SE 192nd St, Renton, WA 98058

When: Thursdays, Starting January 31st at 6:30 PM

To sign up visit: https://ststephenslife.com/alpha