

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop
The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector
Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer
Esther Graham, Music Director
Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator
Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2022

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
Joanne Smithson, Clerk

Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

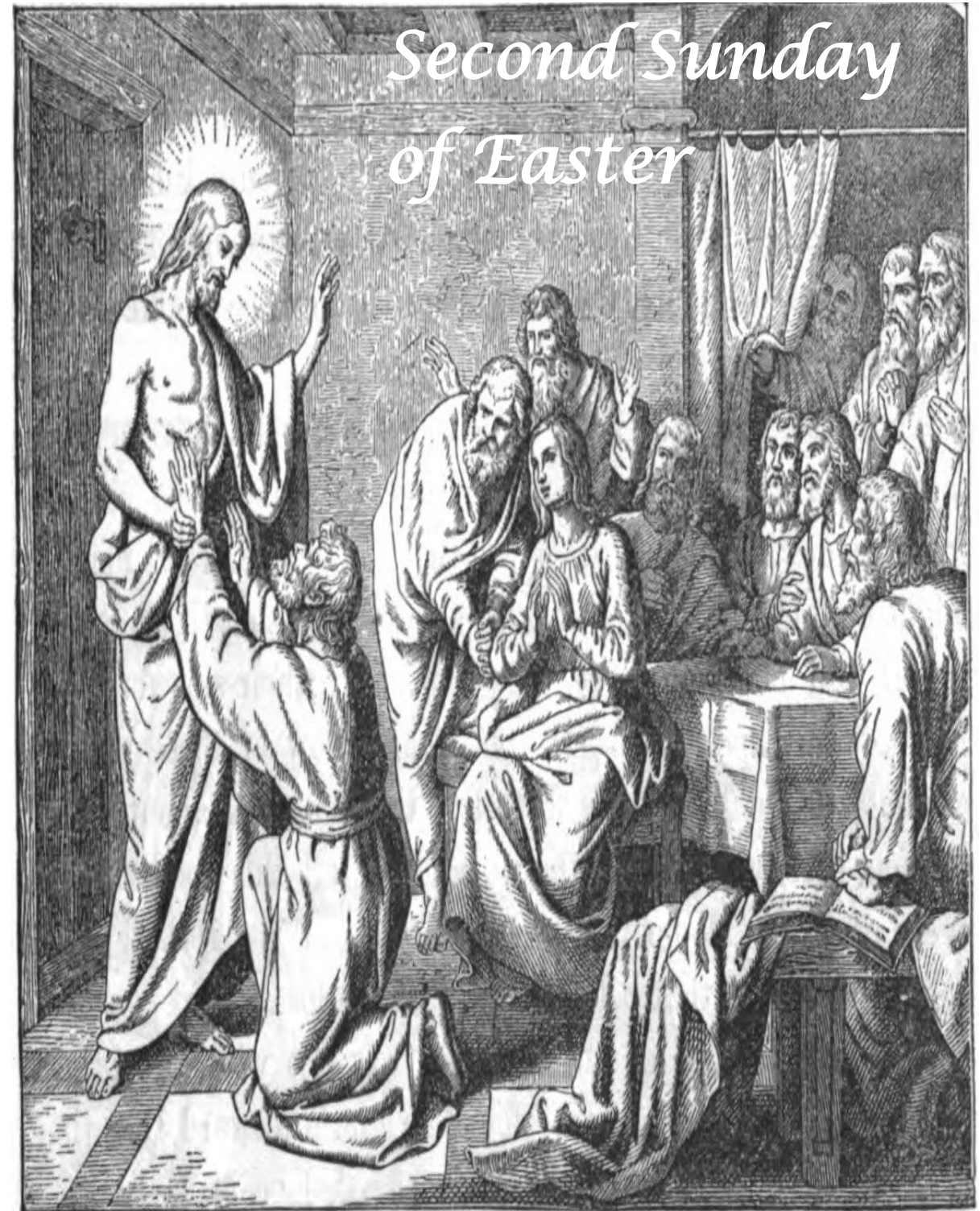
"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations. If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Hymnal

The Word of God

199 Processional Hymn: “Come ye faithful, raise the strain”

Easter Acclamation

S280 Gloria

Collect of the Day

First Lesson: **Acts 5:27-32**

Psalm 118

Second Lesson: **Revelation 1:4-8**

Gradual: “Word of God, Speak”

Gospel: **John 20:19-31**

Sermon — The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE

Examination of Candidate

The Baptismal Covenant

Prayers for the Candidate

Thanksgiving over the Water

THE BAPTISM

Welcoming the newly Baptized

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People Form VI

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Offertory Anthem

Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

S120 Sursum Corda

S125 Sanctus

S140 Memorial Acclamation

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

S151 Fraction Anthem

Communion Hymns:

325 “Let us break bread together”

Insert “Baptized in water”

191 “Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices Heavenword raise”

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Announcements

205 Recessional: “Good Christians all rejoice and sing”

Dismissal

APRIL 24, 2022

10:15 am

BCP

355

Insert

Insert

Insert

Insert

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Insert

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Save the Date on Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY GROUP-

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact *Roberta Mackey* at (917) 696-6863 **(No Bible study on April 18th)**

CHOIR PRACTICE-

Wednesdays at 10am

HEALING SERVICES-

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE-

2nd Thursday of each month, May 12th - after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING-

Monday, May 23rd @ 10am

WHITING GARDEN CLUB-

Whiting Garden Club meets next on May 4th at 10AM in the Parish Hall call Stefanie if you plan to attend.

DO YOU NEED A PLEDGE CARD?

Please see our Treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX FOR THE BLESSING OF THE BIKES “FOOD”

Please sign up to bring foods and help out with serving. We are always looking help. And Thank you to all who have helped and given support with the planning and making this another successful event to Look forward to.

St Stephen’s Church Office will be closed from the 18th through the 23rd of April.

Happy Easter and have a wonderful week.



ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **You Tube and Zoom**. All are welcome!

COME AND SEE!!!



THE ENGLISH TEA HAS RETURNED

The ECW will again be presenting their American Version of the English Tea. The first one will be held on Thursday, May 19 from 2-4PM. Tables for four are set with linen tablecloths and napkins, real china plates, cups and saucers, sugar bowl, creamer, and flowers in the center of each table.

Two tables are set--one with dainty sandwiches including cucumber-- scones, jam, and butter. The other table has trifles, cookies, fruit, candy, pastries, and more. Upon arrival, tickets may be purchased for the treasure auction, and of course the 50/50. The door prizes are all brand new teapots. Tickets are \$15 per person. They may be purchased on Sundays in the Narthex, Monday through Thursday from 9AM-2PM from the church office, call the church office at (732) 350-2121; or by calling the chair, Stefanie Bodine at (732) 350-2904. Only 100 tickets are sold. and when they are sold out, that's it. NO REFUNDS. The teas were begun over 30 years ago by our English friend and ECW member Teresa Thurber. Men and women are welcome. So, gather your friends together so you do not miss this special event.

Stefanie

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

FATHER PAUL
WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

26th ANNUAL

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

SUNDAY MAY 1st 2022

HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR SHINE

BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2 pm

BY: *FATHER PAUL VAN SANT*

Donation \$15 per person

Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry

Today we welcome

Isabella Skye Nikolov

Into the body of Christ's Holy Catholic Church
through the sacrament of Baptism.

Let us all pray

that our Heavenly Father continues to strengthen her life
with the grace and power of the Holy Spirit
as she grows in the midst of this Christian Community.

- 14 **T**he LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! *
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting Winter clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear,* and other items. Our Summer clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN ~ is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732-350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS ~ We will be revisiting the Caregivers program soon after Lent. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. If you have any questions please feel free to contact JoAnn Smithson at 609-268-0821.

YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING

Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan. Contact our Treasurer, *Gerrie Vergona* if interested.



COFFEE HOUR   **help wanted**

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2022 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food. The **Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call: **Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table for donations



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month-- May 12th, after the Healing Service.

Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:

Celebrant: N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

Celebrant: Continues with a closing prayer.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines 1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am

The Arbors 2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm

The Pines 3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm



Second Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



Today the Church completes its three great days of celebrating redemption. Since Maundy Thursday, we have been involved in an extended liturgy which will be brought to its conclusion today.

This is the celebration of the Passover of Christ from death to life. It is also the celebration of our own Passover in Holy Baptism in which “we were buried with Christ in his death and raised with him.”

Throughout the fifty days of Easter, the first reading on Sundays is from the Acts of the Apostles rather than from the Old Testament. These weekly readings from Acts describe the life of the first Christians and their proclamation of Christ’s resurrection. Today we hear a portion of the sermon Peter preached to Cornelius, the first Gentile Christian. The second reading is Paul’s reflection on the meaning of the resurrection. Jesus has won out over death. Death is to be destroyed.

The Gospel reading is the account of the women at the tomb and Jesus’ appearance to Mary Magdalene.

As we rejoice in our new life in the risen Christ on this day, he comes among us and is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. We, like the women at the tomb and like Peter and the others, are sent forth to tell the world of his resurrection.

Please feel free to join us in this celebration of God’s victory over death. May you find in this gathering the assurance that God is even now raising you to new life.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 24, 2022

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Susan Quigley</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Peter Quigley</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Kay Karlick</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Barbara Marshall, Robert Virtue</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle is given to

The Glory of God

In Memory of

*My Father Charles Rotsaert,
by Stefanie Bodine*

In Memory of

*My Mother, Dorothy Dewland
by Joy Frey*



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the

Glory of God

In Memory of

*Our Granddaughter
Hope Gundecker,
by Bill & Dottie Kaster*

In Memory of

*Hope Gundecker
by Gerianne Murphy*

In Memory of

*Hope Gundecker
by Al & Valerie Thompson*

In Memory of

*Charles Rotsaert's Birthday by
Stefanie & Bill Bodine*

In Memory of

*Solaequi & Jorin Family
by Ann Solaequi*

