




## Important Dates: January - February 2024

- ▶ **ORCMA Coffee Concert at St. Stephen's, Sunday, January 28, 2024:**  
Held in the Nave at 3:00 PM - Doors open at 2:30 PM
- ▶ **Tuesday Bible Study Begins - Tuesday, January 30, 2024**  
Held in the Pollard Room at 10:00 AM - First class!
- ▶ **Adult Christian Education Committee - Tuesday, January 30, 2024**  
Held in the Pollard Room at 4:30 PM
- ▶ **Children's Education Committee - Tuesday, January 30, 2024**  
Held in the Pollard Room at 6:00 PM
- ▶ **Camino de Santiago Deposit Deadline - Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
Please contact Father Ashton for more details
- ▶ **Inquirers' Class Begins - Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
Held in the Parish Hall starting at 5:30 PM
- ▶ **Mardi Gras Family Fete, Saturday, February 3, 2024**  
Held in the Parish Hall from 5:30 - 8:30 PM
- ▶ **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - Tuesday, February 13, 2024**  
Held in the Parish Hall from 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- ▶ **Lenten Fair, Sunday, February 18, 2024:**  
Held in the Parish Hall following the 10:00 AM Service. More information soon!

## This Week's Highlight - Sunday ORCMA Concert

Warm up with an  
**ORCMA Coffee Concert**  
Musical Language, Meaning, and Expression:  
Chamber Music with Philosophy of Music

**Sunday Jan 28 @ 3:00 p.m. (Doors open 2.30 pm)**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

 **Margaret Moore, violin, flute**    **Ruth Bacon, violin**  
**Noelle Harb, voice**                      **Marcelo Urias, piano**

Works by Telemann, Schoenberg, Mendelssohn,  
Rachmaninoff and Vaughan Williams

Music is often said to be a universal language. But is music really a language? How do composers create different forms of expression in their music? We are thrilled to invite you to the latest Coffee Concert sponsored by the Oak Ridge Civic Music Association (ORCMA) - being held here at St. Stephen's Church this Sunday, January 28, 2024. Dr. Margaret Moore from UT's Department of Philosophy will discuss these questions, using live chamber music to illustrate her examples.

**Please plan to arrive after 2:30 pm.** This allows us to set up for the recital, and to begin on time. After the concert, Calamity's Coffee from Jackson Square in Oak Ridge will be hosting the reception in the Parish Hall. See you there!

Peace, Simon Ballintoy, St. Stephen's Director of Music

## **2nd Annual Mardi Gras Family Fete - Saturday, February 3, 2024**

***Laissez les bons temps rouler!***

*Now that the snow has melted, it's time to celebrate!*

*Sign up for Gumbo and King's Cake!*

Click [here](#) to sign up so that we will have enough Gumbo - deadline is Thursday, February 1, 2024.



The menu will include Gumbo with rice, Jambalaya, and King's Cake, along with other Cajun and Creole dishes. When you sign up, you can feel free to add your favorite Cajun/Creole dish to the list! We can't wait to see you and ***Laissez les bons temps rouler!***

## Ongoing Church Events

Tuesday Bible Study - Pollard Room, 10:30 AM  
Wednesday WOW for ORHS Students - Parish Hall, 10:00 AM  
Wednesday Men's Group - Pollard Room, 8:30 AM  
Thursday Contemplative Prayer (Zoom) - 4:00 PM

## St. Stephen's Website Links

Download printable copy: [St. Stephen's E-News for January 26, 2024](#)  
Download the bulletins for this week's services: [Home](#) | [St. Stephen's](#)

## This Week in Our Faith - January 28, 2024

### Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

#### **This Sunday, January 28, 2024:**

- ▶ 7:45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I (spoken) Location: St. Stephen's Nave
  - ▶ 10:00am Choral Eucharist Rite II Location: St. Stephen's Nave
- You can watch the 10:00 AM service on our [YouTube channel](#).

### Epiphany: The Divinity of Jesus



Epiphany means several things: a gift is received; the gift must be shared. We go inward to be with God, to receive; we go out in the world to share what we have been given – still with God. We are called to balance the pouring out of our love with the resting in God. Jesus came to show us that each of us is welcome in the Kingdom of God that is right here - right now.

### Sunday - Adult Education

#### **All classes are held in the Pollard Room.**

We invite you to join us after a service, to learn more about the Christian faith and the Episcopal way of life.

- ▶ 9:00 AM - Lectionary Study

We take a deep dive in the gospel passage for the week, seeking to enlighten our understanding of the Gospel and the message of the good news of Christ.

- ▶ 11:15 AM - The Animate Group

Join us to dive into dynamic conversation as we gain perspectives from contemporary Christian voices. Through discussion, multimedia, and the Animate Practices Journal, we explore core practices of the Christian faith together. This week's topic will be Food: "Eating, with Jesus" with Sara Miles.

## Sunday - Children's Christian Education

**1<sup>st</sup> Semester of 2024 Continues!**  
**Children's Sunday School is held after the 10:00 AM Services**

Room 202: Grades 1-3 (Primary)  
Room 204: Grades 4-6 (Primary)  
Room 209: Grades 6-8 (Intermediate)

## Tuesday - Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM

Join us in the St. Alban's Chapel for Holy Eucharist - Rite I / Healing Service.

## Tuesday - Bible Study 10:00 AM

Greetings! We are FINALLY getting started after the last two weeks of snow and ice. Join the Tuesday Bible Study group on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Pollard Library.

We are following a 12-session study entitled "Twelve Women of the Bible: Life-Changing Stories for Women Today" and using the book and DVD of the same name. This Tuesday, we focus on Eve who struggled with temptation. She had difficulty distinguishing between her wants and needs. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Rousey at [james.rousey@aol.com](mailto:james.rousey@aol.com).

## Tuesday - Christian Education Committee Meeting

The Adult Christian Education Committee is scheduled to meet next Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 4:30 PM in the Pollard Room. We invite you to come and be a part of this important ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Emily Bruner at [fernwoodonthehill@gmail.com](mailto:fernwoodonthehill@gmail.com).

## Tuesday - Children's Education Committee Meeting



The Children's Education Committee is scheduled to meet next Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the Pollard Room. All are welcome to join us! If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Burchfield at [mommaburch@gmail.com](mailto:mommaburch@gmail.com).

## Camino De Santiago Trip Deadline - Wednesday, January 31, 2024

This year Leah Bailey and Father Ashton are currently planning a youth (middle school age and up) pilgrimage to Spain over Oak Ridge School's Fall Break 2024. **The deposit deadline is this Wednesday. Scholarship money is available for the youth to defray costs.** If you and your child/children are interested, please contact Father Ashton to discuss details.

## Inquirers' Class Begins - Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Got questions?



Looking for answers?

Starting this week! We will meet in the Parish Hall. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:00, with classes beginning **promptly at 6:00 PM**. Childcare will be available - parents, if you request childcare and are unable to attend a classes, please let us know ahead of time so that we can plan appropriately.

The Inquirer's Class is for newcomers, visitors, or basically ANYONE who is looking to "inquire" about the Episcopal Church and how we worship and serve as stewards here at St. Stephen's. This will be an 11-week course, leading up to the visitation from Bishop Brian Cole on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Classes will meet every Wednesday, will no class on February 14 (Ash Wednesday) and March 27 (Holy Week).

I ask that, **if you are planning to attend dinner**, please sign up using the signup sheet available in the narthex or side entrance to the nave. (We'll have the signup sheet posted online by next week.)

**For those that cannot attend:** we are making arrangements to capture the classes and make them available online. More information and a link to come next week! I hope to see many of you there - Blessings, Father Bailey

### **Week 1 (January 31, 2024)**

INTRODUCTIONS; STORIES; WHAT DO WE WANT TO LEARN?  
With a closing message from Sr. Warden Courtney Manrod

## Loose Plate Offering

This week's loose plate offering is designated for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

## This Week's Outreach Spotlight - Blessing Box

► Please keep the Blessing Box needs on your shopping list. This week we are requesting canned chicken, canned tuna, canned fruit, and fruit cups. Please be aware of size limitations inside the Box - thank you!

## Outreach - Warming Center

St. Stephen's Outreach provided a complete meal last Thursday night (a BIG "thank you" to Cameron who ordered, picked up and delivered it in challenging weather). Also, "thank you" to those of you who were able to volunteer at the Warming Center. It was comforting to know that a warm safe place was being provided to the homeless in our area.

You can read more about this community ministry here: [The Oak Ridger](#)

## Outreach - Sleep in Heavenly Peace

The loose offering recipient for January is for "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" (SHP), a nonprofit organization that works to build and provide comfortable beds to children. Their mission is a simple one - that no kid sleeps on a floor, couch, or chair - and instead, has a bed to call their own. The volunteers who build the bed get a gift as well - learning what it's like to literally give the gift of a good night's sleep to a child. St. Stephen's Outreach is grateful to be a part of this national ministry, and we invite you to help us support their efforts.

- ▶ Please donate through the loose plate offering.
- ▶ You can donate online at [SHP - Knoxville TN Chapter](#). Please click on the "I would like to dedicate this donation" and put "St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Oak Ridge" in the tribute name box.
- ▶ You can volunteer to build beds or help with bed distribution by visiting the SHP Knoxville website [here](#).

The Outreach Committee is so grateful for our parish, and the incredible support we receive! Blessings always -

## A Thank-You from the Johnson Family

The family of Etsuko Johnson would like to express our appreciation to all of the people that participated in her memorial service Saturday, January 20, 2024. For those who assisted in the planning, those who conducted the service, those who cleared the grounds, those who planned and prepared the reception to all those who attended the service, all in the face of extremely adverse weather conditions, a very grateful and heartfelt THANK YOU. It was a very moving service, made more memorable by the conditions that were overcome. - Sincerely, the Johnson Family

## Focus on the Parish

### St Stephen's Financial Status - January 2024 - as of 1/25/24

Last Week's Offering: \$ 752  
2024 YTD Offering: \$ 54,254  
2024 YTD Budget: \$ 39,264  
Over/Under: \$ 14,991

## Rescheduled Community Event - MLK events

Due to the snow, last week's events to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. that were scheduled here in Oak Ridge were cancelled and have now been rescheduled:

**It Begins with Me: Creating a Beloved Community**  
**Saturday, January 27 at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Oak Valley Baptist Church**  
**194 Hampton Road, Oak Ridge**

Join community members to enjoy wonderful music, thoughtful presentations, and to consider Dr. King's goal to create a Beloved Community. This inspiring, music-and-spirit-filled event was organized by the members of Oak Ridge Solutions on Racism (local organization addressing race-related inequities) and supported by the local branch of the NAACP and Joyful Reconcilers. There will be community speakers, and two choirs will share their uplifting music. All are welcome, and a reception follows. We hope to see you there!

## Upcoming Community Event - Scarboro 85 Story

Master storyteller Sheila Arnold will return to Oak Ridge to tell her story of the Scarboro 85 in schools and in four free public performances the third week of February 2024:

- ▶ Feb. 20, 3:00 pm, Scarboro Community Center, 148 Carver Avenue;
- ▶ Feb. 21, 11:00 am, ORICL, RSCC, Goff Bldg., Room 107;
- ▶ Feb. 21, 7:00 pm, Oak Valley Baptist Church, 194 Hampton Rd.;
- ▶ Feb.22, 7:00 pm, AMSE, 115 E. Main St.

## Helpful Links

[Those Who Serve](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News and Events from the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee](#)

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**The church's office hours** are 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Offices are closed on Fridays and weekends.



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oak Ridge, Tennessee  
[Website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)