



212 North Tulane Avenue Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
865-483-8497 www.StStephensOR.org

## eNews for January 24, 2025

### SERVICES

Sunday 8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite I  
Sunday 10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Live streamed on YouTube  
Tuesday 11:30 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite I  
and Healing Service in St. Alban's Chapel

### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 26 – First Monthly Parish Potluck of 2025  
Jan 31 – Spring Fun Run Early Sign-Up Deadline (see below)  
Feb 2 – Candlemas and La Chandeleur  
Feb 11 – Evangelism Committee Meeting 6PM Parish Hall  
Feb 16 – Parish Breakfast – 9:00 – 10:15 Parish Hall  
Feb 16 – Sweetheart Dance 5:30 – 7:30 Parish Hall  
Mar 1 – Mardi Gras Family Fete

### ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS

Sunday · *After Both Services* · Coffee and Conversation  
Parish Hall  
Sunday · 9:30 AM  
Lectionary Study for Adults · Pollard Room  
Advent Study · Room 209  
Sunday School · Aged Rooms  
Tuesday · 10:00 AM · Bible Study · Pollard Room  
Wednesday · 8:30 AM · Men's Group · Pollard Room  
Thursday · 4:00 PM · Contemplative Prayer · Via Zoom

### Got something for the St. Stephen's eNews?

Please send fully edited articles with all pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s), and contact information, to [editor@ststephensor.org](mailto:editor@ststephensor.org) by **NOON** on Wednesday. Content for the eNews is determined in consultation with clergy and staff.

### Candlemas Day

Next Sunday, February 2nd, is Candlemas Day--a tradition that goes back 1500 years! It is often considered the last "Feast Day" of the Christmas cycle of light: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, then Candlemas. Candlemas is actually a Mass where the candles used in the Church and in our households are blessed. If you would like to have your household candles blessed, please bring them to the service of your choice.

Following the 10:30 Service, the children and youth should join us in the Parish Hall for some "flipping good fun" as we celebrate the French tradition of La Chandeleur! To celebrate, the French prepare crepes. Medieval farmers believed that it was critically important to make crepes on that day to insure a healthy wheat harvest. This tradition continues today with people flipping crepes while holding a coin. If they catch their crepe, they will have good fortune. If the crepe sticks to the ceiling or falls to the floor, their fortune is in question! Crepes for flipping--and for eating--will be provided along with apple cider.

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### New Adult Ed - Instructed Eucharist Class

We will continue our wonderful Lectionary Study each Sunday! As an alternative, Fr. Bailey will be offering an extended Instructed Eucharist class beginning this Sunday at 9:30 in the chapel. What is an Instructed Eucharist? In years past, St. Stephen's has offered an "extended" Eucharist during regular service in which the priest pauses to teach and explain certain parts of the service and why we do things the way we do. In this class, we will take a piece of the Eucharist service each week, carry it out together, and then talk about the origins and meaning behind each part. Toward the end of the class (closer to Lent), we will host a Eucharist one evening with a dinner following that will emphasize what we have learned.

This class is open to everyone, especially to those newer to the Episcopal tradition. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Fr. Bailey at [rector@ststephensor.org](mailto:rector@ststephensor.org).

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### Daughters of the King Meeting

The Daughters of the King (DOK) will be meeting Sunday, Jan 26, from 12-1 pm in the Pollard Library. We will be focusing on the Spiritual Gifts we will strengthen for 2025 and celebrating the Feast of St. Agnes. All Daughters are encouraged wear blue and sit in one of the reserved pews in the front of the nave.

All women are invited to be involved with the Daughters and meetings are open to all. If you would like to learn more about the ministry of DOK or consider becoming a part of the order, please contact either of their co-chairs - Rebecca Cavender (rebecca.m.cavender@gmail.com) or Beth Reed (brussellreed@yahoo.com).

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### **Spring Fun Run!**

St. Stephen's Parishioners are invited to support Oak Ridge Civic Music Association at their 2nd annual Spring Fun Run at A.K. Bissell Park on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Stroll at your own pace, a one-mile loop around the Civic Center, while enjoying uplifting springtime classical music along the way. All proceeds support ORCMA's youth programs, including their Free Family Concert and Adolf Summer Strings Program. Come in your favorite costume and make it a festive celebration! If you are interested in participating, please contact Brittany Shassere at Brittany.Shassere@knoxschools.org by January 31<sup>th</sup> in order to receive the early bird special.

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### **St. Stephen's Support Group**

We are exploring whether there is sufficient interest to begin a grief support group at St. Stephen's later this month. The group is intended for anyone who has experienced the recent, or not-so-recent, death of a loved one.

The group will be structured similarly to the group held at St. Stephen's last summer. Participants would meet at the church for 90 minutes weekly on Tuesday afternoons for 7 weeks, from January 28 through March 11. As with the summer 2024 group, the group would be led by Steve Herbes, MSSW. Steve is a retired grief therapist who has led about 40 grief support groups during the past 25 years.

Many persons find a support group to be very helpful as one grieves the loss of a loved one. If you think you might be interested in attending or have questions, please contact either Fr. Norman or Steve, either via email (stephen.herbes@yahoo.com) or by text (865-250-9123).

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### **Loose Plate Offering**

For January, the Open Offering goes to Brysonn's Closet Food Pantry.

Some of you may be unfamiliar with Brysonn's Closet, located in the old Anderson's Hilltop Market at the corner of West Outer Drive and Illinois Avenue. In the back of the Brysonn's Closet Thrift Store is a small food bank that serves over 100 individuals a month from Anderson, Roane and Morgan Counties.

The folks who come to Brysonn's are some of the poorest of the poor. After meeting with a caring worker, essential food items as well as pet food (if needed) and hygiene/cleaning items are given to the family. Brysonn's Closet is a non-profit totally supported by donations. All donations will be used by several Outreach members to purchase food, hygiene items, pet food, and cleaning supplies. These will then be taken to the Brysonn's Closet Food Pantry for distribution.

We hope you will support this wonderful ministry. If donating by check, please designate in the left-hand corner: Brysonn's Food Pantry

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### **Parish Pizza & Pool Party**

Saturday, February 8th will be a free pizza and pool party. We will meet in the Parish Hall at 5:00 for pizza, and then make our way to the Civic Center indoor pool for swimming from 6:00-8:00. Lifeguards will be provided and 50 people may be in the water at a time. Please join us for food, fun and fellowship!

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### **♥St. Stephen's Sweetheart Dance♥**

Invite your neighbors and friends for St. Stephen's Sweetheart Dance hosted by the Evangelism Committee on February 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 PM in the Parish Hall! This fun-filled evening offers a chance for all ages to mingle with the Oak Ridge community and St. Stephen's parishioners. Enjoy a night of dancing, light refreshments, and great fellowship.

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### **Blessing Box Requested Items**

This week's requested items are: Canned Soup, Peanut Butter, and Crackers.