

St. Stephen's, Niagara Falls

What are some significant moments in the history of your church that have shaped its identity today?

St. Stephen's Church, Niagara Falls, New York, was organized as a parish mission of St. Peter's Church Niagara Falls in 1917. Sunday school met in the Town Hall with about six children while services were held in the Oddfellows Hall. In 1920/21 two lots were purchased largely through the efforts of the Women's Guild for a church building. Their mission was named St. Stephen's Episcopal Mission of LaSalle, New York. A petition



requesting union of St. Stephen's mission with the Diocese of Western New York was presented to the Diocese and approved in 1922. A church building was erected and ready for occupancy on October 1, 1923. The building was completed in detail early 1924 with formal opening November 1923, and dedication of the Johnson Memorial window. The Mission voted to incorporate and was incorporated as a parish on February 25, 1925. As the congregation grew need for new church surfaced. New church was built and opened on November 6, 1960.

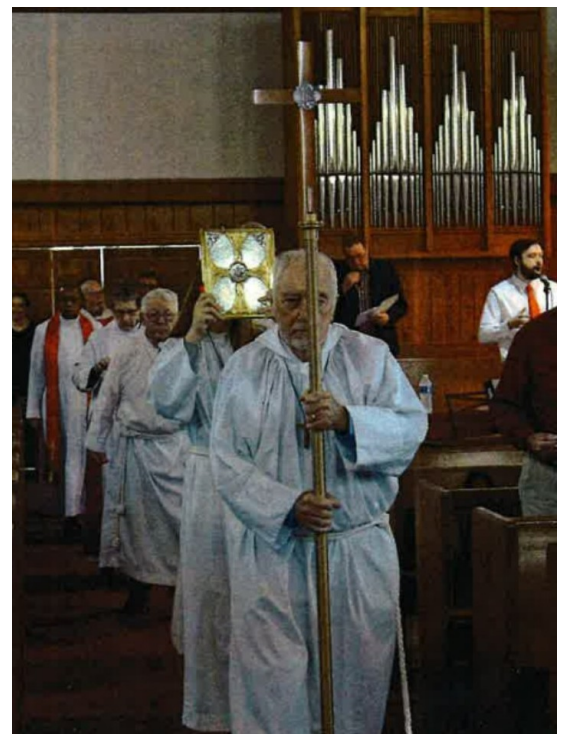
What makes your church unique in the region and the diocese?

The Mission of St. Stephen's is to proclaim the Good News through spiritual development and to reach out into the community, share the good news of Jesus Christ and keep our doors open to those in need.

We recognize the needs of the community are great and support three programs in the community by collecting items each month for a program on rotating basis. Throughout our history St. Stephen's Church has always valued outreach beyond its walls as the cornerstone of its ministry. St. Stephen's Church is one of two remaining Episcopal Church (out of several closed churches) in the City of Niagara Falls. We consider ourselves a very welcoming parish.

What are the most vibrant ministries or strengths of your parish today?

The most vibrant ministries or strengths of our parish today are our three outreach programs: Heart, Love, and Soul; Community Missions; and Niagara Gospel Mission, that we participate in. In addition, we do annual Back-to-School collections for a local school.



Describe a moment in your community's life when you felt the presence of the Holy Spirit moving among you. What made that moment possible?

On May 17, 2025, St. Stephen's Church celebrated 100 Years Anniversary of our ministry as a parish in Niagara Falls and the Diocese. It was a great day of thanksgiving and celebration; and we all felt the Holy Spirit moving among us.

How does your church engage with the local neighborhood, the civic life of your community, or diocesan and/or Episcopal Church-wide initiatives?

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What are the hopes and dreams of your congregation for its next chapter?

Our hopes and dreams are to be able to attract younger families and new members. We're all getting old and tired. We also hope and pray that we'll be able to maintain our physical plant or buildings.