



Principal Post #24: A Message from Dr. Kozlowski
February 18, 2026

Today we officially begin the liturgical season of Lent. Please be sure to read the [Lent 2026 communication](#) that you received yesterday to see how this season will look and feel different for our students and families. All students received ashes today as an outward sign of the start of Lent and as a reminder of repentance. We encourage you to check social media throughout each week in Lent so that you can see how our community is going to “Live Lent” over the next 40 days.

In your inbox this morning you received an invitation to complete the annual stakeholder survey. This survey from the Archdiocese of Baltimore seeks to gather information from families regarding the school’s Catholic identity, culture and climate. The survey for parents is now open and closes on Friday, March 6, 2026. When you complete the survey, you will see a screen that thanks you for your participation and that your response has been submitted. Please print this page/screen, write your child/children's names on it and submit it to their homeroom teacher. Your child will receive a special pass for use in school by following the above directions. Thank you in advance for your support and for your time to help enhance all aspects of St. Stephen School. You can access the survey here: [St Stephen Family Survey 2026](#).

Grace & Peace,
Dr. Marianne Kozlowski

Additional Information:

Getting Ready for Mass: You can access the videos related to the readings below.

Feb. 18: Ash Wednesday: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7FegtliFbs>

Feb. 21/22: 1st Sunday of Lent: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvLiXio6I9E&t=13s>

Riptide Dash Shirt Sponsors Needed

The Riptide Dash is set for April 24, and we are now securing shirt sponsors. Sponsors receive their logo on every student and staff event shirt, along with recognition in event promotions and on our donation platform. It is a great way to support our students while gaining meaningful visibility in our community. The sponsorship deadline is March 9th. The [sponsorship form](#) is attached here. If you or a business you know would like to participate, please contact Mary McKernan at mmckernan@ssschool.org with any questions.

Upcoming Dates:

February 19: Grade 8 high school acceptances emailed out to families after 4:00pm

February 20: First collection of bagged lunches for Beans & Bread at morning arrival

February 20: Stations of the Cross begin

Students in kindergarten through grade 8 will participate in Stations of the Cross each Friday throughout Lent in St. Stephen Church. Parents will be invited to attend when your child's class is hosting the Stations. Your child's homeroom teacher will let you know the date/time the grade level is hosting.

February 26: SSS Spirit Wear Day and/or Winter sports uniform day. Students can wear SSS spiritwear with SSS PE sweatpants/spiritwear pants OR winter athletes can wear their SSS jersey (basketball) with SSS PE sweatpants. There is no cost for participation. This is also the last day of the second trimester.

February 27: Asynchronous Work Day for Students

This means that students will NOT be present on campus this day, but will have some short assignments to complete at home. All assignments and directions for work that needs to be completed will come home with your child on Wednesday, February 25. All work will be due to teachers on Monday, March 2. The purpose of this day is to allow teachers to be on campus to complete grading, update Powerschool and prepare report cards for the end of the second trimester. Report cards will be distributed electronically at the beginning of March.

February 27: Financial aid applications for the 2026/27 school year due. Please see Mrs. McKernan or Mrs. Anoaia if you need assistance

Looking Ahead:**Summer Camps 2026 at St. Stephen School**

We are pleased to share with you our Summer Camp 2026 offerings here at St. Stephen School. You can follow the link [HERE](#) to see the camps that are being offered by our faculty members throughout June and July. Registration is now open by clicking on the links within the document. If you have any questions regarding the camps, please contact the faculty member that is hosting the camp.

Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!

We're gathering stories and accomplishments from our incredible alumni to share on social media. Whether it's you, your child, or another Eagle you know, we'd love to hear about it! Share your update or nominate a fellow alum here: <https://forms.gle/mx3jGMMEPBJEckcJA> Let's celebrate the amazing things our Eagles are doing out in the world!

Parish News:

St. Stephen Church is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on March 1, 2026 from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm in the gym. Eat-in options or carryouts are available with adult tickets for \$15.00 and children under 10 for \$10.00. There will be raffles, a cake wheel, and games too! Please contact the church office for additional details and tickets.