

Biography of Fr. Stephan Isaac

Fr. Stephan (Steve) Isaac was born on September 26, 1987 and is originally from Easton, PA. He is the son of Mrs. Rebecca Isaac and the late Dr. Mal B. Isaac (1944-2003). Fr. Isaac is the youngest of four children, with two older brothers, Jordan and Damien, and one sister, Jacinta, who's the oldest. Fr. Isaac is proudly 100% Lebanese with a huge dose of "Aussie" (Australian). His mother, Rebecca, was born and raised in Sydney, Australia and so she came from a large Lebanese community that settled in Australia. Fr. Isaac's entire maternal side of the family still resides in Australia.

Mrs. Isaac emigrated to the U.S. from Australia in 1978 when she married her beloved husband, Mal. Dr. Mal Isaac was a compassionate and caring physician – he was a gastroenterologist, specializing in the digestive system of the body. Dr. Isaac was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War, serving as a battalion surgeon with the 101st Airborne Division and as medical director of the voluntary drug rehabilitation program of South Vietnam. Dr. Isaac tragically passed away on October 28, 2003 from pancreatic cancer and is greatly missed by his family.

Fr. Isaac was baptized and confirmed in the Maronite rite of the Catholic Church but also grew up in the Roman rite of the Church. As a result, Fr. Isaac is blessed to call two parishes in Easton his home: Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church and St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church.

Father attended St. Jane's grade school in Easton and then Notre Dame High School-Green Pond, graduating from there in 2006. Father Isaac attended American University (AU) in Washington, DC and graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies and a second major in Political Science, concentrating on U.S. Foreign Policy, the Middle East, and American Government. After graduating from AU, he immediately entered St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, PA in the Fall of 2010.

Fr. Isaac was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Allentown on June 4, 2016 and has enjoyed being a priest ever since. His first assignment was as Parochial Vicar (Assistant Pastor) at St. Ignatius Loyola Church in Sinking Spring, PA where he spent 5 awesome years from 2016 to 2021. Fr. Isaac currently serves as the chaplain of Berks Catholic High School in Reading and he has been blessed to serve there since June 2018. He is also currently serving as the Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's Church and St. Catharine of Siena Church, both in Reading.

Father Isaac loves sports, especially volleyball, basketball, football, soccer, and tennis. He especially loves college basketball and his favorite team is the North Carolina Tar Heels. Fr. Isaac is an avid moviegoer and film buff and his favorites are *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy* and *Star Wars*. He also enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, working out doing P90X3, hiking, listening to music, learning foreign languages, traveling, and going to the beach.

Some other fun facts about Fr. Isaac are that he has a hopeless addiction to Chipotle Mexican Grill. His all-time favorite TV show is *LOST* and he was crowned the

Homecoming King his senior year in high school. Lastly, he studied abroad in Cairo, Egypt for the Fall semester of his senior year in college and that was one of the best four months of his life.