

St. Stephen
Protomartyr Parish
Sixteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
July 22, 2018



WELCOME!

If you are new to St. Stephen Protomartyr parish or just visiting, Welcome!!
Visitors please sign the Guest Book found near the main entrance to the Church.
If you would like to register in the parish, please call or email the parish office.
Welcome to the neighborhood and parish community!!

PARISH

3949 Wilmington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116
314 481-1133
314 481-6036 fax
stephenprossp@gmail.com
www.saintstephenstl.org

Chapel of Sts. Mary and Joseph
6304 Minnesota
St. Louis, MO 63111

SCHOOL

3929 Wilmington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116
314-752-4700
314 752-5165 fax
michelwendellssp@gmail.com

Father Ron Hopmeir, Pastor

frron@saintstephenstl.org

Mrs. Mary Regan, Pastoral Associate

maryreganssp@gmail.com

Mrs. June Tessin, Office Manager / Bookkeeper,

junetessinssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Michel Wendell, Principal

michelwendellssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Mary Paule, Child Safety Coordinator, Secretary,

marypaulessp@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE and PRAYER

"...come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest awhile." MARK 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| July 15 Contribution | \$ 6,173.07 |
| On-line Giving Contribution | \$ 2,924.00 |
| Total weekly contribution | \$ 9,097.07 |
| R & I | \$ 208.00 |
| Tuition Assistance | \$ 884.00 |
| Mission Coop | \$ 10.00 |
| Peter's Pence | \$ 20.00 |

Special Collection for July is Peter's Pence

ST. PATRICK CENTER REQUEST

St. Patrick Center is in need of box fans and bottled water to provide care and comfort for our clients this summer. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday 8am-4pm at St. Patrick Center's donation dock on Hadley Street in downtown St. Louis, one block east of Tucker Blvd. Contact Kelly Peach at 314-802-0687 or kpeach@stpatrickcenter.org for more information.

PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATION

I would like to nominate:

Signed (optional): _____

Lectors

Saturday, July 28

4:00 PM - z. Mueller, B. McLain

Sunday, July 29

8:00 AM - C. Prag, T. Jenney

10:30 AM - R. Rone, L. Rahn

Servers

Saturday, July 28

4:00 PM - Sarah G., Audrey M.

Sunday, July 29

8:00 AM - Isaac J., Aaron V.

10:30 AM - Mark W., Stephanie W.



APPRECIATION MASS & BREAKFAST


At the May Pastoral Council meeting members discussed the idea of having an **Appreciation Sunday**.

We appreciate all our parishioners for the gifts they are to our parish. Each one of you is an important piece of who we are as a parish community.

Sunday Mass will be at 9 AM on August 5 followed by breakfast. Breakfast is free as a thank you for all parishioners.

All are invited and welcome!!

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

| Monday July 23 | Tuesday July 24 | Wednesday July 25 | Thursday July 26 | Friday July 27 | Saturday July 28 | Sunday July 29 |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Liturgy of the Word with Communion 8 AM Quilters 9 AM - 2 PM  | Mass 8 AM | Mass 8 AM | Mass 8 AM Arthritis Exercise 9 AM | Mass 8 AM | Mass 8 AM Vigil Mass 4PM | Mass 8 & 1030 AM |

Parish Mission Statement

"Following the example of our patron St. Stephen, we are called to be witnesses of God's love and to be a faith-filled, reconciling parish."

From the Pastor's Garden — Worth Repeating

We are in the process of filling two vacant positions on the parish staff; SSP Senior Ministry Coordinator and the Coordinator of Liturgical Music.

If you are aware of someone interested in either of these positions they are encouraged to send a resume to sspsearchcommittee@gmail.com. A job description will be sent upon request.

Senior Ministry Coordinator

St. Stephen Protomartyr is in search of a part-time Senior Ministry Coordinator. This position provides case management and supportive services to older adults in the parish. Work involves direct interaction with elders to promote safety and independence in the home, socialization, education of available community resources, and eligibility for benefits. Knowledge of older adult needs in the South City area, and an ability to communicate clearly with seniors in a manner that is respectful and confidential is necessary. Knowledge of legal areas concerning tax information, social security guidelines, health insurance and other government policies that will help guide our seniors in making complex decision that will enrich their lives. A Bachelor or Master Degree in Social Work is preferred but not required. Hours per week 8 to 12.

Coordinator of Liturgical Music

St. Stephen Protomartyr is in search of a part-time Coordinator of Liturgical Music. Qualifications include proficiency with organ and keyboard, and experience in Catholic Liturgical Music. Responsibilities include planning and coordinating liturgical celebrations, in consultation with our parish music ministers, accompanying three weekend Masses, two weekday school Masses, holydays, funerals and other sacramental liturgies throughout the year. Bachelor's Degree in Music or Liturgy required. Salary commensurate with education and experience.

We are at that time of year, once again, when our financial (fiscal) year comes to an end. One of my least favorite topics to discuss is money and I do try to keep such discussions to a minimum. But there is always a need to try to keep all informed with the financial progress of our parish.

All of our fundraising activity is well planned and supported by parishioners and our extended parish community. All the hard work is greatly appreciated and we do need every bit of the funds that we receive.

As we look at finances, we must always look ahead. To help present our financial picture on an ongoing pace, we put financial numbers in our Sunday bulletins. As you can see from the numbers we are in the negative \$60,786.43 for this fiscal year.

Where will we get this amount balance our budget? In years past we turned to our savings. This is not a long-term option. Taking out and not replenishing our savings is a dead end street and we do not want to go their. We have to increase our revenue in some way or else cut some of our expenses. As an active parish, I know we can cross this divide as we work and pray together. We need to come up with some fresh ideas and plans for the future.

This is an area we need to address now and make it a united effort for a bright future. This leaves us time for more discussion on fund raising ideas in the near future. I hope you will join in the conversation.

I would like to hear your ideas on what can be done.

Peace,
Fr. Ron

PICKLE BALL

Adult play only.
Every other Friday night
beginning Friday, August 17th
at 7 pm in the Parish Center.
If you are interested, please
email Tom Esswein
at pickleballssp@gmail.com to receive more information



AROUND TOWN

Faith--Music—Teenagers

This is a call to young people age 10 - 17 to share your vocal and/or instrumental musical talent in a faith-filled group of music ministers from 40 parishes and schools across the Archdiocese of St. Louis called **The Young Catholic Musicians**. These young people lead the music for Mass once a month at different churches. **Auditions are being held now through July**. To schedule an audition, contact Fr. Bruce Forman at 314-231-7464 or Mary Smith at smithycm@sbcglobal.net. Information on YCM at our web page: archstl.org/musicians.

Marriage on Tap STL - An Evening of Marriage Enrichment

You Mean We Won't Always Agree? Managing Conflict in Our Relationship

Featuring Scott & Karen Seaborn

Scott & Karen Seaborn have been married 34 years. They have four children and four grandchildren. Scott & Karen have served in many leadership roles with Worldwide Marriage Encounter, participated in an international conference in Rome hosted by the Vatican, and presented leadership workshops throughout the country.

Sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter

- Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 6 PM
 - The Pasta House Co. Party Rm., 8213 Delmar Blvd., University City, MO 63130
 - Dinner and Presentation: \$20 per person
- RSVP required by 9/14 to marriageontapstl@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND THE FAMILY TODAY

Topics

"The Family and Spiritual Warfare"

"The Impact of Violent Video Games"

Saturday, August 4, 2018

9 AM to 3 PM Cost: \$10 (lunch included)

Ascension Parish 230 Santa Maria Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63005

PRESENTER: ADAM BLAI

SOUTH CITY DEANERY PSR

Registration packets are available for the 2018-2019 school year. We are accepting students in grades PK - 8. It is the Board's policy that all students who are preparing for sacraments must be in our program for two years before receiving the sacrament; that means that students must be enrolled in our 1st grade class to receive First Communion in second grade. Students must be in our Pre-Confirmation class before the Confirmation preparation class.

There will be two on-site registration opportunities at the St. John the Baptist Parish Center: Sunday, August 12th from 11:00am to 1:00pm and Monday, August 20th from 6:00 - 8:00pm. Classes begin August 27th with a Parent/Student Orientation. Please contact the SCDPSR at 314-773-3070 or stl.scdpsr@gmail.com with any questions.

ATTENTION: SEPARATED, DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR REMARRIED OF ALL AGES

You are invited to join us for fun and to make new friends at the next meeting of the South County **Separated, Divorced, Widowed and Remarried Catholics** (SCDC) on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Saint Catherine Laboure parish cafeteria (next to the playground)

At this meeting Michael Ajero from the St. Louis County Government center, will speak about our Safety and Security. Then we will have refreshments including watermelon.

SCDC is a support group for the separated, divorced, widowed and remarried of our community. SCDC offers social activities and a support group that provides the opportunity to share your personal story with caring people.

For more information please call Pat Lynch at (314) 537-5930 or Bill DeCoursey at (314) 894-0733.

All are invited to come to the **Holy Hour for Vocations**! This is for everyone, those who are discerning a vocation, and those who would like to pray for vocations. Our next Holy Hour for Vocations will be **August 17, 2018** at 7:30 pm at the Main Church of Ascension Parish, with Transitional Deacon George Staley preaching the homily. Confessions will also be available. A social will follow the Holy Hour in the Multi-Purpose Room attached to the school.

July 22, 2018

sIXteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“TAKE ME OUT TO THE BLACKBERRY PATCH...”

In his memoir **Unscripted**, NBC sportscaster Ernie Johnson Jr., writes about playing peewee baseball, a league for eight-year-olds. Young Ernie's team was leading by a couple of runs when the batter of the opposing team lined a fastball that bounced over Ernie's head and cleared the fence. Ground-rule double, scoring two and tying the game.

But before the game could continue, the ball had to be retrieved. Two outfielders took it upon themselves to climb the fence and get the ball. The other members of the team sprinted toward the fence to help them find it.

As it turns out, Ernie Johnson writes, "the ball had come to rest in plain sight about ten feet past the fence. Our two missing outfielders had seen it. But they had also discovered a blackberry bramble. It was filled with a motherlode of ripe and apparently delicious blackberries." While their coach was trying to explain to his infielders how to handle the next play, Johnson writes, "our leftfielder and centerfielder were stretching their skinny arms through the bramble, deftly avoiding the menacing thorns, rejoicing in their discovery, and testifying to another reason this game is our national pastime.

"I have no memory of how that game turned out. But a game that features a blackberry delay struck a chord . . . 'the blackberry moment.'"

A lifetime later, that story has become for the sportscaster "central to my perspective on work, relaxation - shoot, life. It's a kind of parable about not being afraid to step away from the game . . . to appreciate the unexpected, unscripted moment. We're all so focused on sticking to the script from one day to the next, one meeting to the next, one sales call to the next, that we blow right by the unscripted moments that can profoundly impact not just our lives but also the lives of those with whom we share the planet, the workplace, or a home."

† In today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to embrace our own "blackberry moments," to seek out our own "deserted" places and times where and when we allow ourselves to reconnect with the love and peace of God. We all need "desert" times and places to

escape the demands of our calendars and things-to-do lists in order to re-center our lives in the compassion and grace of God, to hear again the voice of Christ the Shepherd calling us to lives of joyful gratitude and fulfilling service. †

From: [Connections, July 2018](#)

LOOKING AHEAD

- ◆ August 5 - Mass at 9 AM followed by breakfast
- ◆ August 12 - Backpack blessing at 1030 Mass
- ◆ August 12 - Pre-K parent meeting after 1030 Mass
- ◆ August 12 - 6th, 7th, 8th grade parent meeting after 1030 Mass
- ◆ August 13 - Server's Appreciation Picnic
- ◆ August 13 - Back to School Night 6 PM
- ◆ August 15 - Feast of the Assumption, Holy day Masses at 8 AM, 2 PM (all school Mass) and 7 PM
- ◆ August 15 - First day of school - 9 AM start
- ◆ August 25 - Adult Dance Party
- ◆ September 14 - SSP Night at the Cardinals game
- ◆ September 22 - Mass in the Park

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8 Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 85:2-8 Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday, St. James the Apostle: 2 Cor 4:7-15
Ps 126:1-6 Mt 20:20-28

Thursday, Sts Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Ps 36:6-11
Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17 (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: Jer 7:1-11 Ps 84:3-6, 8, 11 Mt 13:24-30

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 2 Kgs 4:42-44
Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 Eph 4:1-6
Jn 6:1-15

MILITARY MEMBERS

We would like to update our list of those currently serving in the Military.

If you have a family member serving please let us know so we can add him or her to our list.

Or if your family member is no longer in the service, please notify the rectory, so that our information is up to date.



FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM—OH MY!



Are your children and grandchildren on social media? Would you like to be able to keep in touch and see their pictures, but aren't sure where to begin? Join us on **Thursday, July 26th** at 10:00 AM at St. Cecilia, 5418 Louisiana.

We will help you open an account on Facebook or Instagram and show you some basic navigation skills of the sites. You need to bring your own device (smart phone, tablet, laptop). You will be able to connect to our Wi-Fi. We will meet in the Parish Center off the parking lot (some steps required). Snacks will be provided. To reserve your spot, contact Heather at 314-351-1318 ext. 201 by Monday, July 23rd.

PLANNING COMMITTEE FORMING

Come be a part of the SGSM Planning Committee! We are looking for help with suggestions and planning for upcoming day trips and educational workshops. If you like planning events, coordinating details, and working with other team members, this will be a great committee for you! Please call Heather at 351-1318 ext. 201 to let us know of your interest. All seniors are welcome to join us!

GAME DAY WAS A SUCCESS!

Twenty people from various parishes arrived ready to play games and have fun at our first monthly game day in July! Tripoli, Dominoes, Gulf, Yahtzee and Pinochle were the games of choice. Hope you can join SGSM next month. **ALL are Welcome!** First Thursday of each month: **Thursday, August 2nd 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.** in the IHM rectory basement, 4092 Blow Street. (The Tripoli game has extra-large print on the cards and the Scrabble Game has white tiles with large black letters -- to help with vision.)



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, July 23

8:00 - Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Tuesday, July 24

8:00 AM - Carol L. Kopff

Wednesday, July 25

8:00 AM - Liz & Jerry Guillot

Thursday, July 26

8:00 AM - Mike Letz

Friday, July 27

8:00 AM - Sean Kelly

Saturday, July 28

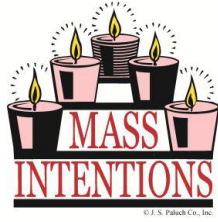
8:00 AM - Elmer Schuster

4:00 PM - Our Parishioners

Sunday, July 29

8:00 AM - Gene VanderPluym

10:30 AM - Anna Johnson



PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering

Suzi Beck - Fran Campbell - Ann Dosenbach -
 Harley Gardner - Patricia Jost - Thomas Lorenz -
 Marianne Marx - Lois McClellan - Robert Morse -
 Steve Moylan - Marcella Mueth - Margaret
 Ringkamp

for our homebound

Jeanette Holmer - Albertine Honious -
 Rose Schuster

for those in nursing homes

Lorraine Burke - Ellie Kearns

for family members serving in the military

Derek Hirtz - Tristan Moylan - Ryan O'Neil -
 Jack Renick - Brian Schoellhorn - Mitch Sollmann

DEVOTIONS

Tuesday - after 8 AM Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

Wednesday - 8:45 AM - 4:00 PM: Church is available for Eucharistic Adoration. Stop by the rectory for entry

First Friday of the month Holy Hour and Benediction after the 8:00 AM Mass.

Christmas Novena - December 17 - December 23 at 7 PM

Parish Office Hours 314-481-1133

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Bulletin Article Deadline

Monday at 12:00 PM. prior to the weekend bulletin.

Sacramental Celebrations

Eucharist

Saturday evening Vigil:

4:00 PM

Sunday:

8:00 AM

10:30 AM (nursery available)

Monday: Liturgy of the Word with Communion

8:00 AM

Tuesday through Saturday: Mass

8:00 AM

Holy Day:

8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Infant and Child Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated at any weekend liturgy or on the last Sunday of the month following the 10:30 am.

Eucharist. Parents are asked to call the parish office to arrange a Baptism.

Adult Initiation / Reception into the Catholic Church

Any adult who would like to know more about our Catholic faith, and/or who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, please call the parish office.

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00 - 3:30 PM

Marriage

Please contact one of the clergy at least six months prior to the planned date of marriage.

Anointing of the Sick

We have a communal celebration of this sacrament at the weekend liturgies in the fall and in the spring.

If you would like to be anointed before entering the hospital or if you are homebound, please call the parish office.

Parish School of Religion

Parish School of Religion formal classes in our Catholic Faith

Children: 4 yrs. through 8th grade and high school

Located on the campus of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Call the PSR Director at 314-773-3070.

Church Nursery

Located in the rectory basement during 10:30 AM Mass.

Enter by way of the alley. Staffed by parents.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children ages 4 through second grade are invited to participate and hear the scriptures in a way meaningful to their age. Held the first Sunday in September through Mother's Day excluding holidays.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Stephen Protomartyr #902450
3949 Wilmington Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63116

TELEPHONE

314 481-1133

CONTACT PERSON

Mary Regan

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2007
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TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 1500

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATON

July 22, 2018

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 8

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS