

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

January 27, 2019 — Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Mr. Stephen Jones, Music Director
stephenjonesssp@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

“Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared.” (Nehemiah 8:10)

Ezra’s instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. God wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all that God has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need without expecting anything in return.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

January 20 Contribution	\$ 3,982.30
Online giving contribution	\$ 3,031.00
Total weekly contribution	\$ 7,013.30
R & I	\$ 361.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 1,059.00
<i>The St. Louis Review</i>	\$ 1,001.00
First Offering	\$ 20.00

Special collection for January is for *The St. Louis Review*.

Anyone needing a copy of their contribution statement for 2018 is asked to contact June Tessin at junetessinssp@gmail.com or 314-481-1133.

Unless you request to have it mailed, you can pick up your statement at the rectory during regular business hours anytime after Jan. 27.

Go green by using our Online Giving Program. Simply go to the parish website at www.saintstephenstl.org and click on “Ways to Give” and then on “Giving On-Line.” You can set up the amount that you would like to give on a schedule that meets your needs.

Accounts and dates can be changed at any time. Email reminders let you know that the giving is about to be deducted from your account. It’s safe and easy.

MASS MINISTERS

Lectors

Saturday, February 2

4:00 p.m. - S. Gunter, L. Driscoll

Sunday, February 3

8:00 a.m. - E. Aasgaard, A. Borgmeyer

10:30 a.m. - P. Cooper, C. Deeken

Servers

Saturday, February 2

4:00 p.m. - Elsa Y., Zach M.

Sunday, February 3

8:00 a.m. - TJ S., Brian B.

10:30 a.m. - Mary Kate C., Aaron V.



REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES AT MASS

Did you know that each time a priest celebrates Mass, he offers the celebration of the Eucharist for a particular person or intention? By doing so he applies special graces from God upon that person or intention.



To remember your loved ones in a special way here at St. Stephen Protomartyr, please contact the office at 314-481-1133. It is customary to offer a donation to the parish of \$5 per Mass.

The intentions for each Mass are not announced publicly, but we do publish them on the last page of the bulletin.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

Monday January 28	Tuesday January 29	Wednesday January 30	Thursday January 31	Friday February 1	Saturday February 2	Sunday February 3
Morning Prayer 8 a.m.	Mass 8 a.m.	All School Mass 8 a.m.	Mass 8 a.m.	All School Mass 8 a.m.	Mass 8 a.m.	Mass 8 & 10:30 a.m.
Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.		Pastoral Council 7 p.m.	Canned-goods drive at school	Family Trivia 6 p.m.	Mass 4 p.m.	
				NO PICKLEBALL		
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK						

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."

FEED THE HUNGRY AT STS. PETER & PAUL

One Saturday a month, volunteers from SSP cook and serve a meal for the homeless at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Souldard. More volunteers are needed — adults, teens, and seventh and eighth graders seeking service hours are all welcome!



For more information, contact Barbara Moore at 314-832-8725 or Gayle Chancellor at 314-752-2751.

FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT

The PTO is sponsoring the annual **Family Trivia** event to close out the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Please join us for this family-friendly **FREE** event held in the Parish Center on **Friday, Feb. 1**. Doors open at 6:00, and trivia begins at 6:30. Walk-in attendees are welcome, but reservations are encouraged. Each table must have school-aged children in attendance. Light snacks will be provided and the concession stand will be open. Check out the flyer on the parish and school Facebook pages for more details.

Contact Ann Marie Guntli, 314-283-1536 or amguntli@hotmail.com, with questions.

BREAD CO. FUNDRAISER NIGHT

SSP is having a fundraising night at the **St. Louis Bread Company** at Loughborough Commons on Thursday, **Jan. 31, from 4 p.m.-8 p.m.** Dine in or carry out for dinner, treat the kids to cookies after practice, or pick up bagels for the next day's breakfast at home or office! Be sure to present the paper or digital flyer when placing an order so that SSP School will receive 20% back. These restaurant fundraisers usually make \$200 to \$400 for the school and are a great way to support neighborhood businesses, too!



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AT SSP

This week we give thanks for the gift of Catholic education, particularly our own school. After celebrating our weekend Masses with student ministers, we open our doors on Sunday, Jan. 27, to visitors during our Open House from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



On Tuesday, students will attend a presentation on the wonders of sound from the St. Louis Science Center. The day will close with the traditional volleyball game between the eighth grade and school faculty and staff.

Thursday is our monthly canned-good drive. Students will compete in a spelling bee at 10 a.m. and then show their stuff in a talent show at 2 p.m.

On Friday, the school day ends with a concert from the band Fanfare. Doors open at 6 p.m. for Family Trivia that evening.

Speed and checkers tournaments will be played throughout the week.

And in the midst of all of this celebrating, we will also manage to do some schoolwork!

As always, the students will celebrate Morning Prayer on Monday, and Mass on Wednesday and Friday. All are welcome to join us at 8 a.m.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SPRING SPORTS

Registration is now open for the 2019 season of **tee-ball**, **CYC baseball/softball**, and **track** at <https://ezrosters.com/stl-ssp>.



Tee-ball is pre-K through 1st grade, CYC baseball/softball is 2nd grade through 8th grade, and track is 2nd grade through 8th grade.

Fees are \$40 for tee-ball and track and \$50 for CYC baseball or softball. Registration will remain open through Jan. 31. We will NOT be able to guarantee a spot for your child if you are not registered by Jan. 31.

If you have any questions, please email Athletic Association President Jason Joly or Treasurer Gretchen Simons at sspathletics@gmail.com.

“MY DAUGHTER’S SMILE”

In her book *Redeeming Ruth: Everything Life Takes, Love Restores*, Meadow Rue Merrill writes about her daughter Ruth and the powerful impact her brief life had on her family and community.

Meadow and her husband, Dana, adopted Ruth when the little girl was two. Ruth had cerebral palsy and was brought from her orphanage in Uganda to Maine for physical therapy. The Merrills met Ruth through friends. Everyone in the family fell in love with the little girl. Urged on by their three children, Meadow and Dana arranged the adoption.

Their time together was challenging: Ruth was also deaf, couldn’t sit up, talk, walk or use her hands to sign — but every moment with Ruth was a blessing. While Ruth was excelling in school, her health was more fragile than they imagined. Sixth months into her first year of school, Ruth unexpectedly died in her sleep.

“Psychologists often say that there is no greater loss than the loss of a child,” Meadow Rue Merrill writes, “but even in that overwhelming darkness, there were sparks of light, such as the boy with autism from Ruth’s bus who rang our doorbell clutching a bouquet of pink roses. ‘I miss her smile,’ he said, struggling to form each word. ‘Me, too,’ I said, accepting the gift.

“Only slowly did our family come to understand the many lives Ruth had touched.”

Ruth’s first-grade teacher told Ruth’s mom about Sean, a boy in the class. On day in the fall, Sean came home from school and announced that he had a girlfriend.

“Oh?” Sean’s mother asked. “What do you do together?”

“We don’t do anything,” Sean said.

“What do you talk about?” she asked.

“We don’t talk,” Sean said.

Sean’s mom thought he had imaginary friend. “Then what do you do?” she finally asked.

“When I jump up and down on the playground, she smiles at me and laughs!”

“I don’t think Sean ever saw Ruth’s disabilities,” the teacher said. “He saw her smile, and it made him feel so good that he loved her.”

Ruth’s mom reflects: “I touched my heart in wonder and marveled at the power of a smile to overcome even the most enormous differences. Not long after, when I returned to helping in Ruth’s class, Sean was gone. His

family had moved. I didn’t even know his last name, but I prayed that he would always remember the girl whose smile had been enough.”

A little girl’s smile is the very light of God to her Maine family, school, and community. Though confined to a wheelchair and totally dependent on others, Ruth brought out the best in everyone around her and, in doing so, revealed the Spirit of God’s love in their midst. That Spirit is “upon” us, as well; it has “anointed” us to the prophetic work of realizing God’s kingdom in our own time and place, be it Nazareth or Maine. We make Isaiah’s vision a reality in every act of hope we manage, in every simple and unremarkable kindness prompted by God’s grace. As witnesses of Christ’s resurrection, as baptized disciples of his church, we inherit the Spirit’s call to “bring glad tidings” and “proclaim the Lord’s favor” to the poor, the imprisoned, the blind, the oppressed and the helpless. Whatever gifts and graces we possess can work great and wondrous things when done in the Spirit of God.

From *Connections*, January 2019

STEPHEN MINISTRY — TRAINING THIS FALL

Stephen Ministry training is **moving** to the fall of 2019. We would like a group large enough to benefit from experiential learning. So if the timing of the original training sessions did not work for you, perhaps later in the year may work.

Look for more detailed information in the bulletin during the summer, with classes to start in late August. Please consider joining us! For more information, call **Leigh Manalang** at 314-486-0717.

LAST CALL: BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

The school’s annual Box Tops for Education collection ends **Feb. 1**.

Send your clipped Box Tops to the school office, or put them in the marked bin in the back of church near the stairs to the rectory.

Last year, our school benefitted by more than \$800 from this collection.

Thanks for your support!



ENRICHMENT AT AQUINAS INSTITUTE

Violence Prevention: The Role of the Faith Community

The Department of Psychiatry at Washington University School of Medicine and the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri have developed an ecumenical program to educate on the prevention of violence and the care of victims in our community. The approach is practical, evidence-based, and pastoral. Presenters are Barry Hong, Ph.D., of Washington U. and Fr. Marc D. Smith, Ph.D.

Programs run from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at **Aquinas Institute of Theology** (23 S. Spring Ave.) on the following dates:

- Feb. 5: Violence in Scripture
Violence in American Culture
- Feb. 12: Bullying and Suicide
Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse
- Feb. 19: Transmission of Violence in Families, Peer
Groups, and Communities
Gun Violence as a Public Health Concern
- Feb. 26: The Nature of Evil
Reconciliation and Forgiveness

Aquinas Institute is pleased to offer this series **free of charge** to all. Call 314-256-8804 to reserve a place.

Encountering God: Sacraments and Sacramentality in Everyday Life

This first in a series of three lunchtime Spring Dialogues is presented by Rhodora Beaton, Ph.D. The event is at Il Monastero Banquet Center (3050 Olive St., 63103) on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$25, which includes lunch. For more information, contact Diane Henderson at 314-256-8856 or Henderson@ai.edu.

Upcoming topics and dates are "Mindful Discernment: Contemplative Prayer for Developing Practical Wisdom" on March 5, and "Straight Talk Today About the Real God" on April 9.

KIDS' INDOOR SOCCER

There will be an indoor soccer program for boys and girls of the parish aged 5 to 12. The program will be conducted at **Vetta Concord's** indoor soccer facility in South County and will begin in early February.

For more information, call Marty at 314-393-1164.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ◆ January 30: Pastoral Council Meeting
- ◆ January 31: St. Louis Bread Co. Fundraiser
- ◆ February 1: PTO Family Trivia
- ◆ February 3: Donut Sunday
- ◆ February 12: Holy Name Society Meeting

VIANNEY THEATRE PRODUCTION

Calling all elementary and preschool-aged kids! Vianney High School is inviting you to be our guest on **March 8** at 9 a.m. for *Bedtime Stories*. In this performance, it's Dad's turn to tell his three rambunctious kids their bedtime stories, but when he gets fuzzy on the details, the classics get creative. To make reservations for the complimentary performance, please email Monica Sabatino at msabatino@vianney.com before March 6. Please include the number attending. For additional information, call 314-965-4853, x134.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Today & Tomorrow Educational Foundation opens its application period for need-based scholarships on **Jan. 28,**



2019. Scholarships are available for students in Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, all Catholic high schools, and any private elementary school in the City of St. Louis. The deadline for application is Feb. 28, 2019. Visit www.ttef-stl.org for more details.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday, St. Thomas Aquinas: Heb 9:15, 24-28;
Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 10-11;
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday, St. John Bosco: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-4b,
5-6; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40;
Mk 4:26-34

Saturday, Presentation of the Lord: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-
10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19;
Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13; Lk 4:21-30



FREE INCOME TAX HELP

For those who file a federal or Missouri income tax return, AARP Tax-Aide will help individuals prepare tax forms 1040, 1040A, 1040EZ, Circuit Breakers, and other standard schedules. Call 1-888-AARP-NOW for locations near you. Listed below are a few of the neighboring AARP sites — call 314-525-1660 for an appointment.

- Carondelet Library, 6800 Michigan, Mondays 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Carpenter Library, 3309 S. Grand, Mondays 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Buder Library, 4401 Hampton, Mondays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

DO YOU KNOW A STUDENT STAYING IN ST. LOUIS TO ATTEND COLLEGE?

The University of Missouri-St. Louis **Catholic Newman Center** offers a warm and welcoming place to study, relax, pray, play, and hang out. We have student-centered evening Masses, socials, faith sharing groups, and service and leadership opportunities open to all college students and young adults. We have everything from barbeques, service trips, retreats, a stocked kitchen, a student computer lab, spiritual direction, and free WiFi.

If you can't make it to Sunday morning Mass, the Catholic Newman Center at UMSL celebrates **Mass Sunday evenings at 6 p.m.** on the south campus during the school year. Visitors are welcome!

For more information, visit www.cncumsl.org. If you know an UMSL or local community college student, send a note to frnick@cncumsl.org so we can personally invite them to Mass.

GAME DAY

Game day has become a real success!

For seven months, people from various parishes have been gathering together on the first Thursday of each month from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the rectory basement of Immaculate Heart of Mary (4092 Blow St.). It's the building connected to the back of the church; please go in the door next to the garage doors.

We break up into various groups and enjoy the afternoon playing a variety of games, enjoy snacks, talk, and laugh. What's not to love?

Feel free to bring a friend or relative. Any questions — call IHM pastoral associate **Debbie Gartner** at 314-481-9385.

(In the event of snow or ice, game day will be cancelled. Otherwise, even if it is cold outside, we will be there!)

ASSISTANCE WITH UTILITIES AND HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Individuals 60 years and older who are a resident of the city of St. Louis and earn up to \$18,210 in gross annual income or \$1,518 per month for a one-person household (increase based on the total number living in household), may be eligible to receive services through the Economic Security through Energy Resources (EASTER) program.

The program offers **utility payment assistance** as well as **minor and major home improvement assistance**.

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, January 28

8:00 a.m. - Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer

Tuesday, January 29

8:00 a.m. - Magdalena Mike

Wednesday, January 30

8:00 a.m. - Rev. Donald Dalton

Thursday, January 31

8:00 a.m. - Rev. David Walter

Friday, February 1

8:00 a.m. - Msgr. Donald Hogan

Saturday, February 2

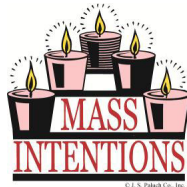
8:00 a.m. - Pauline Kveton

4:00 p.m. - Our Parishioners

Sunday, February 3

8:00 a.m. - Richard Meisemann

10:30 a.m. - Rev. Richard Wosman



PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...

Dave Asinger	Dwayne Hickey	Grace Phillips
Suzi Beck	Jack Jung	Vince Stehlin
Jerry Buchet	Thomas Lorenz	
Fran Campbell	Lois McClellan	
Ann Dosenbach	Steve Moylan	

for our homebound ...

Jeanette Holmer	Albertine Honious	Rose Schuster
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for those in nursing homes ...

Ellie Kearns	Olivia "Dee Dee" Owen	Shirley Weathers
Dolores Meisemann		

for family members serving in the military ...

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

DEVOTIONS

Tuesday - after 8 a.m. Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

Wednesday - 8:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.: 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 a.m. Mass.

Parish Office Hours 314-481-1133

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

Bulletin Article Deadline

Monday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the weekend bulletin.

Sacramental Celebrations

Eucharist

Saturday evening vigil:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. (nursery available)

Monday: Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday through Saturday: Mass

8:00 a.m.

Holy Day:

8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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 p.m.

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
Adobe Acrobat X
Windows 7

PRINTER

HP Laserjet Pro400

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TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday, 1300

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATON

January 27, 2019

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 8

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS