St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 20, 2019

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
jnetessinsssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Michel Wendell, Principal
michelwendellssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Mary Paule, Child Safety Coordinator, Secretary
marypaulesssp@gmail.com

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.”

John 2:3–5

His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.”
STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER

“To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.” (1 Corinthians 12:7)

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God’s plan? How are you helping to build God’s kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don’t do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you, feel His love, peace, and joy!

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13 Contribution</td>
<td>$ 4,097.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$ 1,101.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total weekly contribution</td>
<td>$ 5,198.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$ 130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$ 1,456.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The St. Louis Review</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Offering</td>
<td>$ 45.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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](http://www.saintstephenstl.org) and click on “Ways to Give” and then on “Giving Online.” 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectors</td>
<td>Saturday, January 26</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. - TBA (Catholic Schools Week)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday, January 27</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - TBA (Catholic Schools Week)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m. - TBA (Catholic Schools Week)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servers</td>
<td>Saturday, January 26</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. - Mark W., Stephanie W.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday, January 27</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - Brody Z., Meggie G.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m. - Tara J., Ellen K.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and thoughts on my behalf these past weeks. I cannot begin to tell you how much they helped me through my surgery and recovery.

I have a clean bill of health from the cardiologist and surgeon. I will be working half days for an undetermined length of time to make sure my strength is back. I also need to participate in a cardiac rehab program until the end of March. The best time to reach me at the parish will be in the mornings during this time period.

It is very good to be back.

Blessings,

Mary

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday January 21</th>
<th>Tuesday January 22</th>
<th>Wednesday January 23</th>
<th>Thursday January 24</th>
<th>Friday January 25</th>
<th>Saturday January 26</th>
<th>Sunday January 27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO MORNING PRAYER</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilters</td>
<td>9 a.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.”

BOY SCOUTS: SPAGHETTI LUNCH

On Sunday, Jan. 20, the Boy Scouts are serving up a tasty spaghetti lunch after 10:30 a.m. Mass in the parish hall.

Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is $7 for adults and kids aged 11 and up, $5 for kids 4-10, free for kids under 3. The plate includes spaghetti with meatballs, salad, bread, and a beverage. Dessert is available for an extra charge. There will be gluten-free options for pasta, salad dressing, bread, and desserts.

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.

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.


MEN’S ANNUAL WHITE HOUSE RETREAT

All men of the parish are invited to attend our annual retreat at White House. This will be a silent, guided retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. It’s a peaceful break from the chaos and confusion of everyday life. It’s like a three-day vacation with Christ on a beautiful 80-acre campus on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. Meals and private lodging are provided.

Our retreat begins the evening of March 21 and concludes March 24. There is no set fee to attend a retreat at White House. White House operates on a free-will offering basis, asking those in attendance to simply give what they feel they can at the conclusion of the retreat. To register, contact Ron Thenhaus at ronthenhaus@gmail.com or 314-609-2565. Visit www.whretreat.org to find out more.

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.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday, St. Agnes: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday, St. Francis de Sales: Heb 7:25—8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday, Conversion of St. Paul: Acts 22:3-16; Ps 117:1b-2; Mk 16:15-18
Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:20-21
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21
WHEN STURDY LOVE IS WHAT YOU NEED

“Everyone serves good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.”

John 2: 1-11

Michelle was at work when a friend texted the link to a newspaper article from her hometown newspaper. It included a photo of an icy Montana highway, a pickup with the hood smashed in and a blue Subaru Outback that had been cut cleanly in half. According to the story, the woman who had been driving the Outback was their former high school classmate Deirdre. Deirdre survived, but her three-year-old daughter Zoe was killed.

The tragedy dredged up painful memories for Michelle. Three years before, Michelle and her husband, Eric, lost their 22-month son, Seamus, when they were struck in a crosswalk by a careless driver. Michelle writes that their marriage became “like a ship that had weathered a bad storm — grateful and relieved to be afloat, but the damage was extensive.”

The couple had just become parents again. The twins, a boy and a girl, had just turned one, and the family was about to celebrate Christmas for the first time in three years. “Having more children did not reduce the sadness that had become the identifying feature of our marriage, but it did force our hearts to expand to accommodate other, happier emotions,” Michelle remembers.

Michelle had not talked to Deirdre in 20 years. Michelle wasn’t sure what to do. One afternoon, while the twins were napping, Michelle retrieved from the basement a wicker basket of cards they had received when Seamus died. There are no words ... You are in our hearts ... I cannot imagine your pain. No one can think of the perfect thing to say at such times. But Michelle remembered the comfort the notes had brought her and so decided to send Deirdre a note. To her surprise, Deirdre replied by e-mail and the two were soon regularly exchanging texts. In April, Michelle had a trip planned to Montana, and they arranged to meet.

Michelle and Deirdre greeted each other with a hug. There was no small talk. Walking together through the streets of Deirdre’s neighborhood, they talked about watching their children die, moving easily between medical terms and “mother” terms. Michelle asked Deirdre how her marriage was holding up. And Deirdre opened up about the struggle her husband was having over the decision to withdraw care for Zoe. Michelle listened, giving Deirdre space to voice her fears, and then offering the assurance of a wife and mother who had been through the same devastating experience herself, and found the way to move on.

Michelle later wrote that she hoped Deirdre would discover what she learned: “that grief is exactly as painful as you think it will be, but with time you will learn to love your sadness because of the tiny shoots of joy and gratitude that sprout around it, like new growth on scorched earth. As she drove home from Deirdre’s, Michelle “thought about the comfort of sturdy, unglamorous things, my marriage among them. Ours may not be a great love story, but set against a backdrop of cruel nature and boundless beauty, I didn’t need it to be.”


Good marriages, imperfect but “sturdy,” manifest the love of God at its most powerful: love that enables spouses to navigate together life’s hard roads of fear, heartache, and illness. As ministers of the marriage sacrament, wives and husbands, in their love for one another, help all of us to recognize the great love of God the Father made real for us in the person of his Christ, the Bridegroom. Throughout Scripture, God speaks of his love for humanity in terms of espousal; Christ, who performed his first miracle at a wedding, called himself “the Bridegroom” who comes to bring his people to the wedding feast of the Father.

Spouses, in their “sturdy” love centered in selfless trust, are living signs to all of us of the hope of God’s great wedding banquet.

From Connections, January 2019
AROUND TOWN

Trivia Party to Benefit St. Patrick Center
Join in the fun at the St. Patrick Center Trivia Party on Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, at Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark.

Gather your team for eight rounds of trivia. Register your table of eight for $500 and enjoy a super-sized party that includes food, beer, wine, soda, and parking.

Visit www.stpatrickcenter.org/triviaparty for more information.

St. Patrick Center provides opportunities for self-sufficiency and dignity to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Individuals and families build permanent, positive change in their lives through safe and affordable housing, sound mental and physical health, and employment and financial stability.

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 interested people 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
- Feb. 12: Bullying and Suicide
- Feb. 19: Transmission of Violence in Families, Peer Groups, and Communities
- Feb. 26: The Nature of Evil

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

St. Vincent de Paul Trivia Night
Two young adult chapters of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul will host their annual trivia night on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at St. Vincent Parish Hall in Soulard. Cost is $25 per person for tables up to eight, with proceeds going to support the food, rent, and utility assistance work of those young adult chapters. Individual registrants are accepted and will assign to teams. To find out more or register, email svdptrivianight@gmail.com.

Book Fair at St. Matthias
St. Matthias the Apostle Parish (800 Buckley Rd.) is hosting a book fair the weekend of Feb. 15-17.

- Friday, Feb. 15, 4 p.m.-9 p.m., Preview Night — $5 admission
- Saturday, Feb. 16, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. — FREE ADMISSION
- Sunday, Feb. 17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. — FREE ADMISSION (noon-4 p.m. — $5 for a bag of books)

Books, CDs, vinyl albums, DVDs, VHS tapes, puzzles and games. Most paperbacks 50 cents and hardcovers $1. Questions? Call Sandy at 314-560-2792 after 3 p.m. or email smaevents2017@yahoo.com.

Parking lot is large and wheelchair-accessible.

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.

CALLING YOUNG ADULTS

Twenty- and thirty-somethings: Looking to volunteer? The Society of St. Vincent De Paul has numerous opportunities for young adults, including home visitation in teams to the needy via 100+ parish chapters, to provide material assistance and a listening ear; four young adult chapters offering those same services; nine thrift stores; food pantries; and clerical and professional work.

For more information, contact Bryan Kirchoff at bryankirchoff@att.net or 314-640-4366.
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 fnick@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.

For more information, call 314-918-2258.
**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, January 21**
8:00 a.m. - Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer

**Tuesday, January 22**
8:00 a.m. - Leo Esswein

**Wednesday, January 23**
8:00 a.m. - Rev. Ted Pieper

**Thursday, January 24**
8:00 a.m. - Cece Driscoll

**Friday, January 25**
8:00 a.m. - Rev. David Dalton

**Saturday, January 26**
8:00 a.m. - Catherine Malini
4:00 p.m. - Frank Gibala, Fran Crimi

**Sunday, January 27**
8:00 a.m. - Our Parishioners
10:30 a.m. - Marcella Mueth, Joseph Heaghney

---

**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

**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.

---

**SAINT STEPHEN**

**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**
  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.