St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 2019

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

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!

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

“... the Gentiles are co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.” (Ephesians 3:6)

Today we celebrate that Christ came to all of us, not just the Hebrews. He has given each of us unique gifts. We all have different yet equally valuable roles to play in the Body of Christ.

**SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION**

| December 23 Contribution   | $ 3,766 |
| Online Giving Contribution  | $ 2,228 |
| Total weekly contribution   | $ 5,994 |

R & I  
Tuition Assistance  
Seminary  

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

**EPHANISHY CELEBRATION**

**January 6** will be a full day here at the parish! Join your fellow parishioners for our annual complimentary *pancake breakfast*. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, and coffee will be served from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At **3 p.m.**, you are invited to return to church for an *Epiphany Pageant* by our second graders. We will end the day with a performance of Christmas music by our *Choral Club* under the direction of Drs. Dave and Anne Borgmeyer.

**MASS MINISTERS**

**Lectors**

**Saturday, January 12**
4:00 p.m. - B. McLain, C. McGeehan

**Sunday, January 13**
8:00 a.m. - E. Goedeker, C. Kveton
10:30 a.m. - T. Jenney, P. O'Connell

**Servers**

**Saturday, January 12**
4:00 p.m. - Colin M., Aidan J.

**Sunday, January 13**
8:00 a.m. - Hendrix F., Bridgette F.
10:30 a.m. - Brody Z., Meggie G.

**BLUEGRASS AT MASS**

*Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band* will be leading the music at Mass on **Saturday, Jan. 12, at 4 p.m.** The band is a group of local Catholic music ministers who travel to parishes throughout the Archdiocese to provide prayer with a different flavor.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR**

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<td>Morning Prayer 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
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<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td>Holy Name Society Dinner at Feasting Fox 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>4 p.m. Mass Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Anniversary of Fr. Ron’s ordination</td>
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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.”

DINE TO DONATE

Help support Boy Scout Troop 104 as it raises funds to send the boys dog sledding!

Enjoy a great meal at Cecil Whittaker’s on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Mention “Troop 104” and the restaurant will donate 15% of all sales to the troop.

All day, dine-in or carryout, at any of these three locations:
- St. Louis City — 6018 S. Grand, 314-351-7277
- Affton/Lemay — 9040 Gravois, 314-544-2900
- St. Louis Hills — 3429 Watson, 314-644-0515

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

The school’s annual Box Tops for Education collection has been extended until 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!

MARCH FOR LIFE

Missouri Life Caravan is now accepting registrations for our bus trip to the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., Jan. 17-19, 2019. The trip is open to anyone ages 7 and up (chaperones not provided). We depart from several locations in the St. Louis area, and we do not stay in hotels as we sleep on the buses.

The cost, if received by Dec. 21, is $205. After Dec. 21, cost is $220. Registration deadline is Jan. 2, 2019.

For registration or more information, please contact us at: 314-434-4900 or mrl.eastern@yahoo.com. You are also welcome to download our registration form at www.easternregionmrl.org.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

The St. Stephen Holy Name Society wishes the families of the parish a wonderful and joyous Christmas season.

The Society’s annual dinner meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 8, at The Feasting Fox (4200 S. Grand). The bar will open at 6 p.m. with dinner shortly after 7 p.m. There will be a choice of two meats, a salad, sides, dessert, and coffee. Beer, wine, and soda will be served, with a cash bar available for other drinks.

Cost of the dinner is $35, which includes annual dues. Mail to Ted Hartzler, 3757 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116, or pay at the door. Given that the dinner is a few days away, please contact Ted as soon as possible (314-752-3631 or ted@tedhartzlersales.com) so that he has an accurate head count.

The annual Sports Trivia Night on Saturday, Jan. 26, is officially SOLD OUT. We are going to need help setting up and tearing down before and after the event. Any help would be appreciated.

Thanks, and we look forward to seeing the men of the parish on the 8th and the 26th!

Ted Hartzler, President
Andy Sciaroni, Spiritual Director
Tim O’Connell, Vice President
Matt Guntli, Secretary
Michael Lohff, Treasurer
Scott Reibe, Sergeant at Arms

SECURITY CAMERAS

Please be aware that for safety and security reasons, cameras are being installed in the Parish Center and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your cooperation!
A DREAM, A STAR, A JOURNEY

“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”
Matthew 2: 1-12

It may begin with a vision, a question, an unwillingness to accept or be satisfied with, or even an outright refusal. What would happen if ...? How come this is what it is ...? Is there a healthier, more constructive, more loving way to deal with ...? What would happen if I said no — and what would I do differently?

And so, a dream takes shape.

And that dream compels the dreamer to look for a source of light, of direction, of insight: a star, a star that illuminates the dreamer’s eyes to see both the possibilities for realizing the dream and the obstacles to its fulfillment. The “star” may be a sage or prophet who can point the way, a pilgrim who has already traveled that road, a saint who dreams the same dream.

And the star sets the dreamer on the journey: the road to fulfilling the dream, of making the hope a reality, of creating a new and better place for justice and peace and reconciliation to thrive. There will be discoveries along the way, changes in direction and understanding — even re-imagining the dream itself. Watch for unexpected turns and detours; steel yourself for confrontations with more than a few Herods: those who seek to derail the dreamer and destroy the dream for their own ends.

But, if the dreamer keeps faith with the dream, if the dreamer follows the right star, if the dreamer perseveres on the journey, the dreamer will eventually reach his or her Bethlehem.

A dream, a star, a journey: the story of the magi’s quest for the Christ Child mirrors our own constant search for meaning and purpose in our lives. Every human life is a journey through the time God has given us, a journey marked by signs of God’s love in our midst. Mirroring our own journeys, the story of the magi challenges us to consider the “stars” we follow in the course of our lives: Do we navigate by the “stars” that lead us to wealth, to power, to prestige — stars that will eventually flame out of the sky altogether? Or do we fix our lives on the great “star” of God’s Christ: peace, compassion, mercy, justice, forgiveness? On our journey through this New Year, may we recommit ourselves to following the “star” that leads us to a sense of meaning and hope as we seek to transform our own Bethlehems and Jerusalems in the dream of the kingdom of God.

From Connections, January 2019

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the charity of your prayers, please remember Richard Sollmann, an alumnus of the St. Stephen class of 1938 and the father of Jane Barber and Rick Sollmann, who died recently. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

CHURCH NURSERY FOR TODDLERS

There are loving church members available to watch your active toddlers and preschoolers during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays.

If you would like some peaceful prayer time, come to St. Stephen’s nursery program located in the rectory basement, which can be reached from the alley door at the west transept of the church.

A parent or high school student volunteer watches one- to four-year-olds during the hour of Mass. There are many age-appropriate toys and books for the children. We also play Bible and nursery rhyme music, and enjoy a light snack.

LOOKING AHEAD

♦ January 8: Holy Name Society Annual Dinner
♦ January 12: Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band
♦ January 15: Finance Committee Meeting
♦ January 18: Adult Pickleball
♦ January 26: Sports Trivia
♦ January 27-February 1: Catholic Schools Week
♦ January 30: Pastoral Council Meeting
January 6, 2019

AROUND TOWN

Annual Migration Mass
The parish of St. Pius V (3310 S. Grand) will celebrate the migrations of our own with the annual Migration Mass on Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019. Mass at 10 a.m. is followed by a reception featuring dishes from five continents.

All are invited and encouraged to wear the ethnic dress of their heritage and to bring a dish to share at the luncheon.

Invitation to Surviving Divorce
Find comfort in a new ministry to Catholics who have suffered from divorce: The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide. The 12-week DVD program features Catholic experts who present Church teaching along with lay men and women who share their challenges on the way to true healing. Immaculate Conception Parish – Dardenne is hosting the program beginning Jan. 10.

Marriage on Tap
Married couples are invited to an evening out — just call it a date night! Be with other couples who care about a good marriage growing better and want to enrich themselves.

Join us Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019, at the Pasta House at 8231 Delmar. A buffet dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed at 7 p.m. by a talk, “This Is My Body, Given for You” by Fr. Paul Hoesing, Dean of Seminarians and Direction of Human Formation at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. Enjoy his insights on how a faithful priesthood needs the witness of faithful marriage.

Cost is $20 per person (includes dinner, tax, and tip). RSVP before Jan. 11 to marriageontapstl@gmail.com.

Trivia Night to Benefit Our Lady’s Inn
Our Lady’s Inn Maternity Homes is having its annual Trivia Night on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019, at Chaminade College Prep School (425 S. Lindbergh). Doors open at 6 p.m., and trivia begins at 7 p.m. Cost is $25 per person or $200 for a full table of 10.

For more information or to register, visit www.ourladysinn.org or call Katrina at 314-736-1544.

Our Lady’s Inn provides shelter to pregnant women and their children.

TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The St. Louis Tax Assistance Program offers FREE electronic income tax return preparation and tax information for a family with income below $55,000. Must bring W-2s, 1099s, and 1098T’s, if applicable. The program benefits working families who are eligible for the earned income credit and child-care credit.

Location: St. Mary’s High School, 4701 S. Grand Blvd.
Dates: January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish this past year with their time, talent, and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead.

As the pace of life speed up — especially around the holidays — you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions.

Contact the parish office at 314-481-1133 for more information or visit www.osvonlinegiving.com/809.

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 2:7b-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday, The Baptism of the Lord: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
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.

Utility payment assistance — assistance covering costs associated with outstanding gas or electric bills as well as utilities disconnection associated with missing back payments on accounts.

Minor home improvement assistance — equipment, including installation and / or contractor services to improve living conditions and / or reduce energy costs.

Major home improvement assistance — crucial repairs to existing heating / cooling equipment or installation of equipment designed to reduce energy costs. This category of service is only available to homeowners.

For more information, call 314-918-2258.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: DO IT ALL IN JESUS’S NAME
Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those in need. They use both words and deeds to express Christ’s care for others — listening and comforting, calling on the training they have received, and employing the tools of faith. If this job description fits your personal goals for ministry, consider becoming a Stephen Minister. A training class is starting in January 2019.
MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 7
8:00 a.m. - Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer

Tuesday, January 8
8:00 a.m. - Nancy Marty, Ryan Fitch

Wednesday, January 9
8:00 a.m. - Marie Bocklage

Thursday, January 10
8:00 a.m. - Mike Bauer

Friday, January 11
8:00 a.m. - Jean Westrich

Saturday, January 12
8:00 a.m. - Tom Kutis Family
4:00 p.m. - Our Parishioners

Sunday, January 13
8:00 a.m. - John & Cecilia Hopmeir
10:30 a.m. - N. Edward Forti, Polo & Karmela Vushaj

PRAISE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...
Suzi Beck  Jack Jung  Mary Regan
Jerry Buchet  Thomas Lorenz  Vince Stehlin
Fran Campbell  Lois McClellan
Ann Dosenbach  Steve Moylan
Dwayne Hickey  Grace Phillips

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