St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

Third Sunday of Lent

March 24, 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
stephenprosssp@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

Ms. Stephanie Oehler Wobbe, Communications Coordinator
stephaniewobbessp@gmail.com
**STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER**

“He said to the gardener, ‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.’” (Luke 13:7)

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.

### SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 17 Contribution</td>
<td>$2,946.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$2,026.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total weekly contribution</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,972.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$186.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$1,054.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black and Indian Missions</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Home Missions</td>
<td>$71.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
<td>$81.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central/Eastern Europe</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<td>Society for the Propagation of the Faith</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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Special collections in March are for Black and Indian Missions and Catholic Relief Services.

### THIS WEEK’S READINGS

**Monday, Annunciation of the Lord:** Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:** Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

**Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

**Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 11:14-23

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

**Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

**Fourth Sunday of Lent:** Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

### FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the charity of your prayers, please remember **Ed Federhofer, Dorothy Krehbiel, and George Morgan**, who died recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

### FISHPOT CREEK

The Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band, whose original date had to be rescheduled due to weather, will be leading the music at our 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, **April 27, 2019**. For more information, visit https://youtu.be/UYyCGI3mr-U.

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

**LECTORS**

**Saturday, March 30**
4:00 p.m. - C. Kveton, W. Kveton

**Sunday, March 31**
8:00 a.m. - L. Rahn, R. Rone
10:30 a.m. - A. Rotermund, T. Jenney

**SERVERS**

**Saturday, March 30**
4:00 p.m. - Connor H., Dayana N.

**Sunday, March 31**
8:00 a.m. - Abigail S., Brody Z.
10:30 a.m. - Jack S., Aidan J.

### THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday March 25</th>
<th>Tuesday March 26</th>
<th>Wednesday March 27</th>
<th>Thursday March 28</th>
<th>Friday March 29</th>
<th>Saturday March 30</th>
<th>Sunday March 31</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy of the Word 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. Perpetual Help Devotions</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m. Baptismal Service</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m. Stations of the Cross 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td>Parish Picnic Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Lenten Series: Fr. Sean Martin 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fish Fry 4 p.m.-7 p.m.</td>
<td>Pickleball 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Choir Practice 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Pastoral Council 7:30 p.m.</td>
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Hop on over to the park for Pizza With the Easter Bunny on Sunday, April 7, 2019, at Carondelet Park’s Pavilion #1. The event is sponsored by SSP Brownie Troop #248.

From noon to 1 p.m., enjoy pizza, crafts, and pictures with the Easter Bunny. The Easter egg hunt — for kids 12 and younger — begins at 1 p.m. Please don't forget to bring a basket and your own camera.

Tickets are $5 per person in advance ($20 max per family) or $8 per person on the day of the event ($25 max per family). Price includes two pieces of Cecil Whittaker’s pizza per person. Contact Jill Pace at 314-413-1349 or myemail9314@gmail.com.

The parish Liturgy Committee suggested that during the summer months — June, July, and August — we change our weekend Mass schedule. The suggestion is to have the Saturday afternoon Mass at 4 p.m. and one Sunday morning Mass. The suggested Sunday time would be a “middle of the road” time between the normal 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Mass times. The Pastoral Council agreed with this suggestion.

In the past, parishes had many Masses on Sunday because of the large number of people that belonged to the parish. All of the parishioners simply would not fit in the church at the same time. As parish populations have decreased, the number of Masses on a weekend has also changed. During the summer, many people are either on vacation, at the lake, or gone for the weekend.

Last August we had a “Fellowship Sunday” with one Mass. The feedback we received was positive. Parishioners like worshipping and visiting with others whom they don’t usually see because they attend another Mass. We also heard that parishioners liked the vibrant energy of a full church.

We would like your input as to the preferred time of this single Sunday Mass during the summer, including any comments, by March 25. Please complete the survey below and return it to the rectory or in the collection basket. If you prefer, you can fill out the survey online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QCNPHC5.

Thank you for your participation!

The annual SSP Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at Forest Park (Norman K. Probst) Golf Course.

The day begins with lunch at 12 p.m., tee-off at 1:30 p.m., and appetizers and dinner at the golf course after an afternoon of golf.

**Players or sponsors:** If you would like a flyer mailed / emailed to you or if you would like any information about the tournament, please email sspgolf@sbcglobal.net.

**Volunteers:** If you are available to help that day, please contact Mike Finney (314-210-9229) or Ted Hartzler (314-752-3631). There are many opportunities, even if you can only help for an hour or two.

**See our Facebook page:** 2019 SSP Golf Tournament
LENTEN LECTURES WITH FR. MARTIN

Please join Fr. Sean Charles Martin, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies and President of Aquinas Institute of Theology, to see how Jesus is understood in Judaism and in Islam, and how these understandings can deepen our own commitment to Jesus.

This is a series of four lectures, but you do not need to have attended the first two to enjoy the others. The remaining two are on Thursdays, March 28, and April 4, at 7 p.m. in our parish hall.

QUILT TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Tickets are still available for St. Stephen’s Every-Other-Month Quilt Raffle. The first drawing is in April 2019. Five dollars gets you six chances for all six drawings.

Tickets are available after all Sunday Masses and at the rectory.

SUMMER AT SLUH

St. Louis University High School (4970 Oakland Ave.) offers a variety of summer programs that might be of interest to grade school students.

Visit www.sluh.org/summer for more information about robotics classes, athletic camps, and more.

PERFORMING ARTS YOUTH RETREAT

Current high school students are invited to apply for Youth Sing Praise, a unique musical theatre and retreat camp held June 15-23, 2019, at Our Lady of the Snows (Belleville, Ill.). Students audition, learn, and perform a faith-based musical. This year, the show is Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. The performance is June 22.

Visit www.youthsingpraise.com to apply by April 15.

LOOKING AHEAD

- April 6: Parish Reconciliation Service
- April 7: Easter Egg Hunt
- April 9: Holy Name Society Meeting
- April 10: Board of Education Meeting
- April 21: Easter
- April 22: Night at the Ballpark
- April 27: Fishpot Creek Band at 4 p.m. Mass
- May 4: Golf Tournament
- May 5: First Communion
- June 12: Parish Picnic

DRESS-DOWN FUNDRAISER

The school children were invited to dress down on Friday, March 15, in exchange for a donation to the St. Patrick Center. They raised $575.15 in support of programs to help those at risk of homelessness.

RECENT HAPPENINGS

Archdiocesan Elementary Song Festival
The award-winning film “The Green Book” is the true story of the unlikely friendship between a black world-class pianist and the white Bronx nightclub bouncer he hires to drive him on a tour of cities in the segregated South of the 1950s.

But what about the title — “The Green Book”? The Green Book was actually called The Negro Motorist Green Book, a listing of businesses across the country that welcomed African American travelers. The first edition was published in 1936 by Victor Green, a postal worker who lived in Harlem. The Green Book included restaurants and motels that would serve black motorists. It also warned of towns and cities that were hostile to African Americans, who were taking to the road in record numbers in the 1930s and early 40s, as more jobs for blacks were opening up around the country. And they kept The Green Book at hand. If there were no Green Book listings along the route they were driving, they didn’t stop.

Often a safe place to stay was a room in someone’s house, like Harriet Cornwell’s house in Columbia, S.C. The Rossonian Hotel and Lounge was one of 80 such accommodating businesses listed in the Denver area. Great musicians like Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday stayed at the Rossonian — these legendary artists were welcome to play downtown, but not welcomed to stay. And South Boston can boast of Charlie’s Sandwich Shop, opened by two Greek immigrants, Charlie Poulos and Christi Manjourides, in 1927. Charlie’s was the first restaurant in Boston that served all races.

In the 1948 edition of The Green Book, publisher Victor Green wrote: “There will come a day sometime in the near future when this guide will not be published. This is when we as a race will have equal opportunities and privileges in the United States.”

Green, who died in 1960, didn’t live to see that day come, when the Civil Rights Act passed in 1964 mandated the end of segregation. Publication of The Green Book ended in 1967. It’s largely forgotten now, its legacy underestimated: that there were, during this ugly part of American history, business men and women who refused to buckle to racism and welcomed all to their establishments.

The first part of today’s Gospel points to the evil of segregating or isolating classes of people by race or religion because of a false sense of superiority or fear of social pressure. God “rides” with those who are rejected and scorned by the self-righteous and the avaricious; God “stops” at those places who welcome all his daughters and sons with respect and peace.

From Connections, March 2019

AROUND TOWN

RUMMAGE SALE
St. John Nepomuk Church (at Tucker and Lafayette in Soulard) is having a rummage sale on Saturday, March 30, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the church parking lot and on the second floor of the parish hall.

BULLYING 101
How can parents help teenagers prevent and fight bullying — physical, mental, verbal, and cyber? The Parent Network of Catholic High Schools in St. Louis is sponsoring a presentation by CHADS (Communities Healing Adolescent Depression and Suicide) at Villa Duchesne (801 S. Spoede Rd.) on Thursday, March 28, 2019, at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

BINGO AT ST. JOAN OF ARC
St. Joan of Arc Parish (5800 Oleatha Ave.) is hosting bingo on Sunday, March 31, 2019, at 1 p.m. (Doors open at 11:30 a.m.) Admission is $20 per person (18 and older), which includes books for 15 rounds with a $100 prize every round. Food, raffles, pull-tabs, 50/50. Call Cathy Mertens at 314-353-3893 to make a reservation.

ECUMENICAL TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE
Enter into the spirit of Lent with song, silence, and scripture in the style of Taize at Mercy Retreat Center (2039 N. Geyer Rd.) on Sunday, March 31, 2019, at 7 p.m. The simple and beautiful chant music is dedicated to the renewal of spirits and the healing of our planet.

LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER
Sr. Theresa Jezl, CPPS, will lead participants in a meditation on the Beatitudes on Wednesday, April 3, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center (204 N. Main, O’Fallon, Mo.) Cost is $35 and includes lunch.
Register before March 29 by contacting Sr. Carol at 314-560-1028 or corf@cpps-ofallon.org.
ANNUAL LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION
Please join us for the South Grand Senior Ministry’s annual Lenten Day of Reflection on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

The event is taking place at the White House Retreat Center (7400 Christopher) in Oakville, Mo. We will gather at 8:30 a.m. for registration and welcome.

The day will include three conferences led by Fr. Ralph Huse, S.J. There will be time for the sacrament of reconciliation. We will conclude with Mass at 1:45 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Thanks to the generosity of The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O’Fallon, there is no charge for this event. Please contact Heather at 314-351-1318, x201, to make reservations by April 3. If you are interested in carpooling to this event, please let Heather know when you make your reservation.

SPIRITUALITY OF THE WISDOM YEARS
The Marianist Retreat Center (4000 Hwy. 109, Eureka, Mo.) is hosting a Day of Recollection on Thursday, April 25, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Like every stage of life, the “wisdom years” present their own unique challenges and blessings. They are a time of transition, of redefining who we are and who we’re called to be.

This Day of Recollection will look to our Blessed Mother, Mary, as our model in discerning God’s will and responding to it, learning to ponder in our hearts as she did. Through this process participants will learn to move through knowledge to wisdom, through uncertainty to acceptance and peace.

The day will include presentations, discussion, journaling, and time for quiet reflection and walking the grounds, culminating in a prayer service.

Cost is $45 per person and includes lunch and snacks. Visit www.mretreat.org for more information. Call Immaculate Heart of Mary’s pastoral associate Debbie at 314-481-9385 about reservations and carpooling.

TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND
Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Lent and Easter? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass can bring spiritual comfort. Broadcast television airings are Sundays at 8:30 a.m. on KPLR (The CW) or KTVI (2.2 on AntennaTV). Check your cable or satellite provider for other options. The Mass is also available for online streaming at www.heartofthenation.org/online-mass/sunday-mass.

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS
The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) invites faith-motivated volunteers to serve with the poor and marginalized. Volunteers are aged 50 and better, retired or semi-retired. Volunteers reflect and pray in the Ignatian tradition on their service, meet monthly with other IVC volunteers and with a spiritual reflector. Visit the IVC website at www.ivcusa.org for more information. Find “St. Louis” under the locations tab.

If service, prayer, and reflection interest you, contact Sr. Amy Diesen, OSF, at 314-758-7147 or ivcstl@jesuits.org. Or come to an information session with current volunteers at 10 a.m. on April 11, 2019, at the Monastero Banquet Center (3050 Olive St.). Please RSVP to Sr. Amy.

We were all reared in a world that concentrated on sin and sinfulness, but I believe that when we come into the eternal world we won’t so much be checked for our failures, but we will be asked whether we honored the possibilities that were placed inside us when we were so carefully fashioned out of the clay. … A kind, encouraging word or a helping hand can bring many a person through dark valleys in their lives. We weren’t put here to make money or to acquire status or reputation. We were sent here to search for the light of Easter in our hearts, and when we find it we are meant to give it away generously.

—John O’Donohue
March 24, 2019

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 25
8:00 a.m. - Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, March 26
8:00 a.m. - John Louis

Wednesday, March 27
8:00 a.m. - Marie Bocklage

Thursday, March 28
8:00 a.m. - Msgr. David Hagon

Friday, March 29
8:00 a.m. - Mike Letz

Saturday, March 30
8:00 a.m. - Rev. John Blomberg
4:00 p.m. - Fran Crimi, Mary Schweiger

Sunday, March 31
8:00 a.m. - Our Parishioners
10:30 a.m. - Raymond & Helen Stader

PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...
Dave Asinger  Thomas Lorenz  Grace Phillips
Suzi Beck  Lois McClellan  Vince Stehlin
Ann Dosenbach  Steve Moylan  Virginia Zenthoefer

for our homebound ...
Jeanette Holmer  Albertine Honious  Rose Schuster

for those in nursing homes ...
Al Eckert  Ellie Kearns  Dolores Meisemann

for family members serving in the military ...
Derek Hirtz  Ryan O'Neil  Brian Schoellhorn
Tristan Moylan  Jack Renick  Mitch Sollmann

DEVOTIONS

Tuesdays, after 8 a.m. Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions
Wednesdays, 8:45 a.m.-4 p.m.: Church is available for Eucharistic Adoration. Stop by the rectory for entry.
First Friday of the Month, after 8 a.m. Mass: Holy Hour and Benediction
Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 2 p.m.

SAINT STEPHEN
Saint Stephen Protomartyr Parish

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 Word
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.