Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever.

— Revelation 1:18a

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish
Easter Sunday, April 21, 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 went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” (Acts 10:38)

On this Easter Sunday, open your hearts to receive God’s love, mercy and forgiveness. God is love and we are made in His image and likeness. Let our lives reflect His light to others. Pray for guidance on how to live your life and give thanks for all that He has given you.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 7 Contribution</td>
<td>$7,524.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$1,661.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total weekly contribution</td>
<td>$9,185.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$385.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$536.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candlesmas</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Home Missions</td>
<td>$201.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
<td>$54.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Land</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special collections in April are for Catholic Home Mission Appeal, Holy Land, and Collection for Retired Priests.

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

In response to our news about purchasing a new fryer for the cafeteria kitchen, we received a donation of $1,500 from a parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous.

We know your treasure is precious and it sometimes helps to donate toward a specific, named need.

Thanks again to all for your continued monetary support of the parish and school.

Easter blessings to each and every one on this blessed and holy day!

We gather as a people rejoicing and giving thanks for the gift of eternal life.

Wishing you a blessed and happy Easter!

Father Ron

NEXT WEEKEND AT MASS ...

On Saturday, April 27, 2019, at the 4 p.m. Mass, we welcome the Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band, who will be joyfully leading our music.

On April 9, seminarian Brandon Roth was instituted as a lector, which is the second step toward his priestly ordination. In celebration, Brandon will be lectoring at our 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday, April 28, 2019. This will be the last weekend Brandon will be joining us at St. Stephen. We thank him for the time he has spent here and wish him well!

Also at the 10:30 a.m. Mass next Sunday, our first communicants will present their family banners at the altar for blessing. They will be receiving the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday, May 5, 2019, at 2 p.m.

Let us keep Brandon and our first communicants in our prayers.

Forget to pick up a bulletin? Bulletins are posted on the parish website every Monday morning at www.saintstephenstl.org.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday April 22</th>
<th>Tuesday April 23</th>
<th>Wednesday April 24</th>
<th>Thursday April 25</th>
<th>Friday April 26</th>
<th>Saturday April 27</th>
<th>Sunday April 28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO LITURGY OF THE WORD</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. Perpetual Help Devotions</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Pastoral Council Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. 50+ Club Meeting 11 a.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH &amp; SCHOOL OFFICES CLOSED</td>
<td>SSP Night at the Ballpark</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Pastoral Council Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Adult Pickleball 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 4 p.m. Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band</td>
<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m.</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.”

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTORS
Saturday, April 27
4:00 p.m.— R. Moylan, B. McLain
Sunday, April 28
8:00 a.m.— P. O’Connell, S. Gunter
10:30 a.m.— Z. Mueller, E. Kovac

SERVERS
Saturday, April 27
4:00 p.m.— Colin M., Ben W.
Sunday, April 28
8:00 a.m.— Gabriel S., Meggie G.
10:30 a.m.— Elsa Y., Jovie M.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

As we close out another successful Fish Fry season, we’d like to thank Greg Venneman and Tom Roth for their leadership as well as the many, many volunteers who make it all possible — especially Chris Winfrey, a charter member of the Fish Fry crew who is hanging up his apron after 15 years of hot oil treatments at the fryer.

SSP NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK — THIS WEEK

Let’s go out to the ballpark! The SSP Choral Club will be singing at the ballpark again. All are invited to cheer on the Cardinals against the Milwaukee Brewers on this Monday, April 22, 2019, at 6:45 p.m. We are selling regularly priced $43 tickets for only $20. Tickets are available for purchase in the school and rectory offices.

ECO BOOK FAIR

Our school is having an Eco Book Fair to celebrate Earth Day and promote literacy. The fair will run Friday, April 26, 2019, through Sunday, April 28, 2019, and will be open after all Masses that weekend. We’re collecting used and new books, especially books for kids and young adults, to sell at low prices. You can call Ellen Kunkelmann at 314-322-8232 to arrange pickup or drop books off at school during office hours.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday in the Octave of Easter: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2 & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday in the Octave of Easter: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 & 22; Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday in the Octave of Easter: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 8:2 & 5, 6-7, 8-9; Lk 24:35-48
Saturday in the Octave of Easter: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 & 14-15, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15

SSP GOLF TOURNAMENT

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

FREE CONCERT

The University City Symphony Orchestra is closing its 58th season with a classical music concert themed “Celebrating Local Talent.” The performance will feature two original compositions by our own music director Stephen Jones. The concert is on Sunday, May 5, 2019, at 3 p.m. at All Saints Catholic Church (6403 Clemens Ave.). It is free of charge and open to the public.
A small chick begins the long journey to birth. The not-yet-a-bird weighs little more than air; its beak and claws are barely pin pricks. The bird-to-be is in its own little world: protected by the rigid shell, warmed by the mother hen’s body, nourished by the nutrients within the egg’s membrane.

But then the chick begins the work of life. Over several days the chick keeps picking and picking until it can break out from its narrow world — and into an incomparably wider one.

But for this to happen, the egg has to go to pieces. New life demands shattering the old. That’s the real Easter egg. Not a complete egg, dyed and painted with so many designs and colors.

Not an egg that has been hardboiled, impossible to shatter. Not an egg made of chocolate. The real Easter egg is shattered and destroyed. The real Easter egg exists in broken pieces. The real Easter egg is cracked opened, yielding new life that has taken flight.

For centuries, the world has marked the Resurrection of the Lord with eggs. But the Easter meaning of the egg is found in the struggle of the chick to free itself from its confines so as to take flight into the much bigger world beyond it. We struggle to break out of a world that we perceive as going to pieces; we pick away at an existence that leaves us dissatisfied and unfulfilled. The promise of the Easter Christ is that we can break out of our self-contained little “shells” and take flight into a much bigger world: a world where peace and justice reign, a world illuminated by hope and warmed by love, a world that extends beyond time and place into the forever of God’s dwelling place.

[From a meditation by Br. David Steindl-Rast, O.S.B.]

From Connections, April 2019

**HELP WANTED — VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

We are still looking for that special someone who would be interested in coordinating our Vacation Bible School this summer. There are many worker-bee volunteers at the ready to help; we are in need of a person to manage the moving parts. Contact Mary Regan at 314-481-1133 or maryreganssp@gmail.com.

**OUR PICNIC IS AROUND THE CORNER**

The Parish Picnic Committee is in full swing, preparing for the big event on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks to come.

In the meantime, “Like” the Picnic page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sspppicnic.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- April 30: Finance Council Meeting
- May 1: Agape Dinner for First Communicants
- May 2: CPR / AED Certification
- May 4: SSP Golf Tournament
- May 5: First Communion
- May 16: Music Sharing
- May 22: 8th Grade Graduation
- May 24: Last Day of School
- June 12: Parish Picnic
UPCOMING AED / CPR CERTIFICATION

We have scheduled certification and recertification classes for AED and CPR for coaches, scout leaders, parishioners, ushers, and any others who are interested.

You have your choice of either Thursday, May 2, 2019, at 7 p.m., or Sunday, May 19, 2019, after 10:30 a.m. Mass. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. There is no charge to participate. Please contact Mary Regan at 314-481-1133 or maryreganssp@gmail.com to register.

If you are already certified through work or otherwise, please send us a copy of your card or bring it to the rectory for copying for our records.

ST. JOSEPH HOUSING INITIATIVE

St. Joseph Housing Initiative is a faith-based organization dedicated to helping St. Louis City residents build financial security through homeownership.

Currently focused in the Dutchtown / Bevo / Carondelet neighborhoods, the group renovates and sells houses at an affordable price to low- and moderate-income families, providing additional resources and support along the way.

If you are interested in becoming a homeowner, have a house to sell, or would like to donate, call Maureen at 314-919-6176 or visit www.stjosephhousing.org.

SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVOR GROUPS

FOR ADULT VICTIMS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

This ministry will be offered at no cost to the participant. The closed groups will meet at the Crestwood location of Saint Louis Counseling on Wednesday evenings beginning April 24.

Adult survivors of child sexual abuse who have previously participated in individual therapy may inquire at 314-544-3800.

SPONSORED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

GRANT’S FARM-SOLDIERS MEMORIAL TRIP

Join South Grand Senior Ministry on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, for a visit to Grant’s Farm and the newly renovated Soldiers Memorial.

We will depart from Immaculate Heart of Mary (4092 Blow St.) at 8 a.m. and head to Grant’s Farm, where we will spend the morning and have lunch. After lunch, we will get back on the bus and head to the Soldiers Memorial downtown. At the museum, you will have time to explore the general exhibits as well as the WWI at Soldiers Memorial exhibit. The bus will return to IHM at 3:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is $35 per person for parishioners of SGSM parishes and $40 per person for non-SGSM participants, which includes lunch at Grant’s Farm. To make reservations, please contact Heather at 314-351-1318, x201, before May 15. Mail a check payable to “South Grand Senior Ministry” and send to 5418 Louisiana Ave., 63111. Please include your name, phone number, parish, and emergency contact name and phone number.

THE CONVERSATION: A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE ON END-OF-LIFE ISSUES

Conversations about illness, death, and dying are never easy. Whether death comes suddenly or after prolonged illness, most of us are not comfortable discussing our medical wishes or end-of-life plans with our loved ones.

However, being prepared ensures that your final wishes are followed. It is important for you and your loved ones to understand the Church’s teachings on end-of-life decisions.

The Roman Catholic Foundation is hosting a free seminar on Saturday, April 27, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (5200 Glennon Dr.) for people of all ages and life situations.

Topics include: The Principles of Catholic Bioethics; Advance Directives & Estate Planning; Charitable Gift Planning; and Funeral & Cemetery Planning.

Lunch will be provided. To register, please call 314-918-2892 or visit rcfstl.org/the-conversation.
Our third graders are partnering with Loyola Academy in the Readers to Leaders (R2L) program. They met for the first time at SLU and will be meeting at our school on Tuesdays, with their culminating activity at Loyola. Thank you to Bryan Sokol for inviting us to be a part of R2L.
MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 22
8:00 a.m.— No Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, April 23
8:00 a.m.— Evelyn Walsh

Wednesday, April 24
8:00 a.m.— Marie Bocklage

Thursday, April 25
8:00 a.m.— Virginia Stough

Friday, April 26
8:00 a.m.— Dave Asinger

Saturday, April 27
8:00 a.m.— Tim Connors
4:00 p.m.— Our Parishioners

Sunday, April 28
8:00 a.m.— Leo Esswein
10:30 a.m.— Shirley Weathers

PLEASE PRAY

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

for our homebound ...
Jeanette Holmer  Art Petersen
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

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.