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
jumetessinsssp@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
stephaniewobbesssp@gmail.com
STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER

“Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’” (John 20:21)

Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be grateful and generous. Look for opportunities to share His peace, not only within our local parish boundaries, but outside of them as well. In giving, we receive the peace of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>R &amp; I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black and Indian Missions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Home Missions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central/Eastern Europe</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retired Priests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Society for the Propagation of the Faith</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Society for the Propagation of the Faith</td>
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</table>

April 21 Contribution

- Online giving contribution: $3,219.00
- Total weekly contribution: $9,020.50

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

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTORS

- Saturday, May 4
  4:00 p.m. — R. Rone, L. Rahn

- Sunday, May 5
  8:00 a.m. — B. Borgmeyer, A. Rotermund
  10:30 a.m. — E. Aasgaard, C. Aasgaard

SERVERS

- Saturday, May 4
  4:00 p.m. — Brian B., Aaron V.

- Sunday, May 5
  8:00 a.m. — Zach M., Maureen M.
  10:30 a.m. — Gregory F., Tommy G.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

- Monday, St. Catherine of Siena: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7, 7-9; Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday in the Second Week of Easter: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7-15
- Wednesday in the Second Week of Easter: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday, St. Athanasius: Acts 5:27-33, Ps 34:2 & 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36
- Friday, Sts. Philip & James: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14
- Saturday in the Second Week of Easter: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19
- Third Sunday of Easter: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 1-12, 13; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>May 5</td>
</tr>
<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.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. CPR / AED Certification 7 p.m.</td>
<td>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. Golf Tournament 12 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m. Donut Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>First Communicants' Agape Dinner</td>
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<td></td>
<td>First Communion 2 p.m.</td>
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</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.”

**Doubting, Stubborn, Weak Thomas**

In the Gospel reading this weekend, the apostle Thomas refuses to acknowledge that the Lord has risen from the dead. He asks to see the wounds of crucifixion and touch the flesh of Jesus for himself. He wanted proof. We all do at one time or another. It is a weak but all too human response.

Saying *I believe* is not always easy. Believing in the Resurrection of Jesus is a lifelong response by each Christian. Sometimes our faith is strong, sometimes weak. Through it all, giving is central to the Christian life. The Annual Catholic Appeal is one way we declare our faith in Jesus by sharing our gifts with others. Together we respond to Christ’s call to new life this Easter season, as we seek to overcome doubt, stubbornness, and weakness.

**NEW TO THE PARISH FAMILY**

Please extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our parish family, Zach and Emily Bess and their son Max, who registered last month.

**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/ssppicnic.

**Looking Ahead**

- May 9: May Crowning
- May 10: Adult Pickleball
- May 14: Holy Name Society
- 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.

**Vacation Bible School Is a Go!**

Many thanks to our eighth grade teacher Pamela Bruce, who has volunteered to head up our Vacation Bible School program this summer.

VBS is tentatively scheduled for the week of June 24. Pam is looking for adult volunteers to coordinate the various stations — crafts, snacks, outdoor games, etc. If you are an adult who is interested in helping out in this capacity, please contact Mary Regan at 314-481-1133 or maryreganssp@gmail.com.

High school and college students: Stand by. We will need your services as well!

**Celebrating Where We Live**

Our eighth graders have been working for several weeks on individual and group projects researching various aspects of the Carondelet and Holly Hills neighborhoods.

Their finished projects will be on display in the parish hall after all Masses next weekend, May 4-5, 2019.

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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.
We all bear some sort of scar or wound on our bodies: the bruise from the baseball that caromed into our cheek when we were a kid, the burn from getting too close to the grill at the summer barbeque, the scar — the beautiful scar — from the birth of our child.

Every scar has a story. Every wound teaches.

For example, wounds mark a break in the surface of things. A smooth surface goes unnoticed, for the most part, but a disruption of that smooth surface gives us pause to wonder. Scars are an invitation to become aware of how fragile the human body is, how easily it is penetrated. Wounds do violence to the tissues of a body, which puts into question how much we rely on things to be as they should be, but sometimes are not. That wounds can occur, that they can be deliberately inflicted, that what we rely on can fail us, makes us realize that our world can be a very unsafe place, that our capacity to trust is fragile, that we are all vulnerable to be hurt in body — and soul.

An open wound enables us to peer inside the body, below the surface of things, and discover that what is underneath is not like what first appears to the eye. We realize the complexity of our bodies. We also see the wonder of our very existence — and of the Creator of this incredible body of ours.

Wounds and scars also reveal wisdom. Wounds make us more aware of the stresses and tensions that affect us, of the outside forces that challenge us. When wounds are touched or when elements in the environment make them ache, the memories of their infliction instantly return. Wounds and scars, therefore, are teachers; they’re repositories of memories of trauma now past, but whose infliction has forever altered us and our thinking and understanding.

Wounds can be signs of blessing, revelations of healing, and teachers of the wisdom of our Creator.

[Adapted from “Jesus and his wounds” by Robert Schreiter, C.P.P.S., in The Ministry of Reconciliation, Orbis Books, 1998.]

On Easter night, Jesus shows his wounds and talks about them freely; they are no longer a source of pain and bitter memory, but now heal and teach and bless: they heal Thomas’ troubled soul, riddled with the loss of faith; they restore Peter and the Eleven to hope and communion with Jesus; they reveal God’s peace still in their midst despite the horror of the past three days. Our own wounds and scars can have a similar effect on our lives: they can teach us how fragile our lives are; they can reveal to us the love of God in the compassion and care of those who treated us; they can assure us of our ability to love by putting our bodies on the line for the protection and safety of others. Easter neither denies the effects of Good Friday nor erases the wounds of crucifixion; Easter is God’s compassion moving us beyond the scars of crucifixion to healing and wholeness. Jesus says to Thomas and his brothers, Don’t be afraid of the nail marks and the scars and the fractured bones and the crushed spirit and the broken heart. Compassion, forgiveness, justice — no matter how clumsily offered — can heal and mend. In the light of unwavering hope, with the assurance of God’s unlimited grace, every scar on our own bodies — the marks of courageous sacrifice, hard-earned wisdom, and selfless kindness — is the realization of the promise of Easter in our midst.

From Connections, April 2019

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**YOU’RE INVITED!**

**JOIN US FOR A UNIQUE TASTING EVENT**

**Discerning Spirits**

A TASTING EVENT

Discerning Spirits is a unique tasting event benefitting Contemplative Leaders in Action in St. Louis. Join us for an evening to celebrate CLA – St. Louis, as well as to support the program and learn how CLA forms young adults to be Ignatian leaders.

**THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2019**

7:00 PM

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, SI COMMONS
4970 OAKLAND AVE., ST. LOUIS, MO

COST: $20

**REGISTER TODAY!**

GRANT’S FARM-SOLDIERS MEMORIAL

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.

ST. LOUIS IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT

St. Francis Xavier College Church (3620 Lindell Blvd.) is hosting the Tony McDonald Just Faith Capstone Lecture on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. The speaker is Fr. Bill Creed, S.J., renowned spiritual director and founder of the Ignatian Spirituality Project (ISP).

All proceeds from the event will benefit the ISP, which offers life-changing retreats for homeless women and men in recovery. For more information on this ministry, visit www.spretreats.org.

For more information about the event, please contact Mark Kumming at kummingm@yahoo.com.

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.

AROUND TOWN

FESTIVE ROSARY

Do you love praying the rosary? The Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center (204 N.Main St., O’Fallon, Mo.) is hosting The Festive Rosary on the Luminous Mysteries on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Praying the festive rosary includes hymns, sacred scripture, and meditation built around the common recitation of the rosary. The day is facilitated by Sr. Theresa Jezl, CPPS. Cost is $35, which includes lunch. To register, contact Sr. Carol Orf at 314-560-1028 or corf@cpps-ofallon.org by Monday, April 29, 2019.

DAVID HAAS IN CONCERT

Sts. Joachim and Ann Parish (4112 McClay Rd. in St. Charles, Mo.) is hosting composer David Haas in concert on May 4, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at www.stsja.org/davidhaas ($10 general admission or max of $40 per family). The parish’s music ministry will host a reception following the concert.

CROWNING OF THE INFANT OF PRAGUE

St. John Nepomuk Chapel (1625 S. 11th St.) will be celebrating its annual crowning of the Infant Jesus of Prague on May 5, 2019, at 4 p.m. The event includes a novena, procession around church, crowning, and benediction, followed by a buffet dinner. Dinner tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for children aged 5-12. Cash bar will be available. Reservations are required. Call the rectory at 314-231-0141 by April 29, 2019.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Why not give yourselves a weekend away from it all? Time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. A chance to talk and grow closer to that special someone who loves you and whom you love. A special Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend away is June 21-23, 2019, at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Ill. Or Aug. 9-11, 2019, at the Courtyard Marriott in St. Peters, Mo. For more information, call 314-649-7317 or visit stl-wwme.org/schedule.php.
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT SSP
**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, April 29**
8:00 a.m.— Liturgy of the Word

**Tuesday, April 30**
8:00 a.m.— Bourisaw Family

**Wednesday, May 1**
8:00 a.m.— Pauline Guntli Schnable

**Thursday, May 2**
8:00 a.m.— Virginia Stough

**Friday, May 3**
8:00 a.m.— Bill Jost

**Saturday, May 4**
8:00 a.m.— Jean Westrich
4:00 p.m.— Ed Dosenbach

**Sunday, May 5**
8:00 a.m.— Our Parishioners
10:30 a.m.— Richard Meisemann

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**PLEASE PRAY**

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

**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

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**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

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**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 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.