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.saintstephensstp.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@saintstephensstp.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

“Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, ‘Do you love me?’ and he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.’” (John 21:17)

All of us are challenged to show our love for Jesus and others. Discern how God is calling you to use your time in prayer, your talent in charitable works and your treasure to assist those who in need. Remember that giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Weekly Contribution ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>$3,940.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online giving</td>
<td>$1,391.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$5,331.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R & I $35.00
Tuition Assistance $185.00
Catholic Home Missions $10.00
Holy Land $51.00
Retired Priests $120.00

Special collection in May is for the Catholic Communication Campaign.

APRIL MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekend</th>
<th>Break Even Target</th>
<th>Actual Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 6 / 7</td>
<td>$8,504.43</td>
<td>$9,185.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13 / 14</td>
<td>$8,504.43</td>
<td>$6,568.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20 / 21</td>
<td>$8,504.43</td>
<td>$9,020.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 27 / 28</td>
<td>$8,504.43</td>
<td>$5,331.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April Total</td>
<td>$34,017.72</td>
<td><strong>$30,105.90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiscal Year to Date Total $373,690.41 $316,894.65

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTORS

Saturday, May 11
4:00 p.m.— G. Stoff, B. Stoff

Sunday, May 12
8:00 a.m.— P. Cooper, A. Borgmeyer
10:30 a.m.— C. Deeken, B. McLain

SERVERS

Saturday, May 11
4:00 p.m.— Connor H., Elsa Y.

Sunday, May 12
8:00 a.m.— Dayana N., Zach M.
10:30 a.m.— Mary Kate C., Jake L.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS


Tuesday in the Third Week of Easter: Acts 7:51—8:1a; Ps 31:3-4, 6-8, 17 & 21; Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday in the Third Week of Easter: Acts 8:1-8; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 6:35-40

Thursday in the Third Week of Easter: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51

Friday in the Third Week of Easter: Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1, 2; Jn 6:52-59

Saturday in the Third Week of Easter: Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69

Fourth Sunday of Easter: Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rv 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday May 6</th>
<th>Tuesday May 7</th>
<th>Wednesday May 8</th>
<th>Thursday May 9</th>
<th>Friday May 10</th>
<th>Saturday May 11</th>
<th>Sunday May 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy of the Word 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>All School Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 &amp; 10:30 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td>Perpetual Help Devotions</td>
<td>Razzle Dazzle Meeting 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>May Crowning 2 p.m.</td>
<td>SGSM Exercise 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Adult Pickleball 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Happy Mother’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Board of Ed Meeting 7 p.m.</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.”

FISH FRIES REELED IN RECORD PROFITS
The SSP Fish Fry Committee reports an all-time record profit of $30,661 during the 2019 season, with an average of 723 dinners served each night. Growth has been strong and steady since we resumed our fries after a hiatus of a few years. (As a point of reference, in 2007 we were averaging 225 dinners per night and the season’s profit was $13,021.)

Thanks to Greg Venneman, Tom Roth, Kevin Meyer, Pat Carosello, Angie Butz, and the 60-plus volunteers who devote their time and hard work to bring this experience together. The event continues to break records and sincere gratitude is extended to everyone involved, including our sponsors and patrons!

Looking forward to our 16th season in 2020!

DO YOU LOVE ME?
“Do you love me?” These are the words of Jesus to Peter after the resurrection. Over and over again, Jesus persists, “Do you love me?” Exasperated, Peter says, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you!” Jesus knew Peter believed, but he also knew how fragile his faith was. Jesus doesn’t demand an expression of faith, but encourages us to be confident when we say I believe.

The Annual Catholic Appeal asks the question, “Will you give?” In some ways, it is the same question as “Do you love me?” or even “Do you believe?” It is really one question, not three, to which the Christian is invited to respond. I believe, in short, means I love and I will give.

RAZZLE DAZZLE MEETING & SIGN-UP
The SSP Razzle Dazzle Musical Revue is holding a kickoff, sign-up, and audition meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. Anyone interested in singing, dancing, and acting in a musical revue should come for information.

Rehearsals will be Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings during May and early June. The performances will be June 21, 22, and 23 and will include music from Shrek: The Musical, Little Shop of Horrors, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Newsies.

Contact Will Borgmeyer at wbentertain@yahoo.com for more information.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED
In the charity of your prayers, please remember Rose Landholt, who died April 30, 2019. A memorial Mass will be scheduled this summer. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Born to a new life in Christ and joined to our faith community through the waters of baptism, we congratulate and welcome:

Mabel Lynn Holley
daughter of Patrick and Kathryn Holley
baptized on April 27, 2019

Lilah Rose Diederichsen
daughter of Robert and Kathryn Diedrichsen
baptized on April 28, 2019

Arthur Kingston Hackett
son of Jason and Elizabeth Hackett
baptized on April 28, 2019

FIRST QUILT RAFFLE WINNER
The first winner in the Every-Other-Month Quilt Raffle is Mary Ann Simon.

Chances for the remaining five drawings can still be purchased at the rectory office.
Her mother came to live with her and her husband and family. She suffered from Parkinson’s and her daughter wanted her to be cared for in the midst of her family, who loved her dearly.

It has been seven years since her mom died — and her daughter still can’t forget the “washcloth incident.”

It was seven months before her mother’s death. The day did not begin well, first with a crisis at work she had to deal with, then cleaning up the portable toilet that had overflowed. Finally, she was able to take a shower up in the third-floor bathroom of their home. Clean and ready to restart her day, she came downstairs. Her mother asked her for a washcloth. A simple, reasonable request — but that meant trekking back up to the third floor. In her mood, Mom might as well have asked her daughter to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Already late, this one more task put her over the edge. She suddenly lost it with her mother. She knew her fury was misplaced, but she was too overwhelmed to stop herself.

Seven years later, the daughter still feels the pain of that moment. She writes:

“The tears still sting and slosh over my pail of remorse. I know that if she could, my mother would grab that pail and toss it out the window. She would forgive me; in fact, I believe she has forgiven me. But in a way, that makes it harder. Knowing of her unfailing love and grace makes me feel worse about my own failure. Of course, I am envisioning her at her very best, now in heaven knowing [and] seeing me with the eyes of God, and I am remembering myself at one of my lowest moments ...

“We might envision regret like the giant stone that sits at the mouth of the tomb. The stone is rolled aside, not away. It’s still there, inches from the entrance, but it’s not blocking anyone’s resurrection. The stone that’s rolled aside allows for feeding sheep, baptisms, and hopeful love of every kind ... I hope to do the same — to leave the washcloth behind with the old grave clothes and inch my way forward in the light of Easter.”


In today’s Gospel, Jesus enables Peter and the others to leave their “washcloths” back at the empty tomb. Jesus asks Peter three times — the same number of times that Peter denied him on Good Friday morning — to profess his love for him. We can hear the pain and hurt in Peter’s voice, but also his conviction in his response after Jesus asks the third time: “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.” Jesus is not taunting Peter but calling him to move beyond the past to take on the challenges ahead. In forgiving Peter as he does, Jesus transforms Peter’s regret and shame into understanding and commitment to the Gospel the fisherman has witnessed. As the Risen One restores Peter and the others to friendship, as he puts aside their failing him to be reconciled with them in peace, this Easter season is an invitation for us to put aside those regrets for the times we have failed and to realize how much we have learned and how far we have come from our own “washcloth” moments.

From Connections, May 2019

**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.

**EXERCISE CLASS**

The Friday morning **Balance and Exercise** class, which has been held at Immaculate Heart of Mary, will be held at St. Stephen beginning **May 6, 2019**, and continuing through the summer months.
May 5, 2019

LOOKING AHEAD

- May 15: 8th Grade Ribbon Mass
- May 16: Music Sharing
- May 16: 50+ Club Meeting
- May 16: Final Parish Picnic Meeting
- May 19: AED / CPR Training
- May 22: 8th Grade Graduation
- May 24: Last Day of School
- June 2: Summer Sunday Mass Schedule Begins

RESPECT LIFE” WRITING FINALISTS

Congratulations to 8th graders Lily Mattingly and Caroline Schrader, whose submissions to the Respect Life Apostolate’s annual creative writing contest were selected — from 1,103 entries — as finalists. The writing prompt for this year was: Explain why living the virtue of chastity protects us from abortion and blesses us with true holiness, health, and happiness. Lily and Caroline were honored at the Rigali Center on May 1, 2019.

SPARTAN SUMMER AT DE SMET HIGH

De Smet Jesuit High School (233 N. New Ballas Rd.) is offering a wide selection of academic and athletic summer camps for elementary and middle school boys. (There are some options for boys in grade 1-3.) Athletic camps include soccer, baseball, football, basketball, and more. Academic camps include chess, virtual gaming, coding, robotics, science, woodworking, and more. Visit www.desmet.org/spartansummer for more information.

PARISH PICNIC UPDATE

The second and final SSP picnic meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2019, at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. If you have an agenda item for the upcoming meeting, please contact Matt or Ann Marie Guntli at 314-283-1536 or ssppicnic@gmail.com.

If you have last year’s picnic yard sign, there will be stickers with the correct date available at the May 16 meeting to place on signs leftover from last year. New signs are also available.

Two of our favorite booths are collecting items again! Hopefully, your spring cleaning has turned up some goodies to donate to our Ring-A-Bottle Booth! This booth accepts toys, books, small household items (no glass, please). Contact Bridgette Fyvie at 314-477-9008 with questions. The Plant Booth is now the Garden Booth and is collecting plant startings, small garden tools & gloves (new), backyard ornaments. Pick up an extra six-pack of annuals while you’re getting your own garden started! Contact Ginny Wunderlich at 314-481-1643 with questions.

The committee has put together an envelope full of picnic goodies — detailed information, raffle tickets, volunteer opportunities, contacts — for each parish and school family. School families will receive their envelopes through school. Parishioners, please save us the cost of mailing to you by picking up your envelopes, which will be in the back of church after all Masses next weekend.

Thanks to our generous SSP Picnic Booth Sponsors who contributed more than $5,000 last year to help underwrite the cost of the picnic! If your family or business would like to be a picnic sponsor, please pick up a flyer located near all church doors. Complete the form on the back and return to the rectory. Contact Gina Joly at 314-882-8762 or jolygg@gmail.com.

UPCOMING AED / CPR CERTIFICATION

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

DESSERT DAYS

The desert has always been a symbol for a meeting place with God. Come to the quiet at Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center (204 N. Main, O’Fallon, Mo.) on Friday, May 10, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and let God speak to your heart.

The day will begin and end with prayer; the remainder of the day is solitude, quiet, reflection, and rest. The opportunity to talk with a spiritual director is available. Lunch is provided, and a free-will offering is requested.

To register, contact Sr. Carol Orf at 314-560-1028 or corf@cpps-ofallon.org.
MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, May 6
8:00 a.m.— Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, May 7
8:00 a.m.— Rose & Elmer Schuster

Wednesday, May 8
8:00 a.m.— Marie Bocklage

Thursday, May 9
8:00 a.m.— Michael Thibault

Friday, May 10
8:00 a.m.— Louis Oehler

Saturday, May 11
8:00 a.m.— F. & J. Crisafulli
4:00 p.m.— John & Cecelia Hopmeir

Sunday, May 12
8:00 a.m.— Mike Bauer, Rose McBride
10:30 a.m.— Our Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...
Dave Asinger
Suzi Beck
Ann Dosenbach
Wence Kveton

for our homebound ...
Jeanette Holmer
Albertine Honious

for those in nursing homes ...
Al Eckert
Ann Dosenbach

for family members serving in the military ...
Derek Hirtz
Tristan Moylan

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