St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

July 21, 2019

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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
michelwendellsssp@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
juntessinssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Michel Wendell, Principal
michelwendellsssp@gmail.com

Mrs. Mary Paule, Child Safety Coordinator, Secretary
marypaulessp@gmail.com

Ms. Stephanie Oehler Wobbe, Communications Coordinator
stephaniewobbesssp@gmail.com

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**STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER**

“I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God.” (Col 1:25)

We are all called to evangelize – to continuously grow in our relationship with Jesus and to share it with others. We may not be called to evangelize like St. Paul, but we should look for opportunities to share our faith with those closest to us, like our family, friends, and neighbors. Pray for the courage to share your faith the next time the opportunity arises.

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**SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 14 Contribution</th>
<th>$ 3,333.00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$ 1,166.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total weekly contribution</td>
<td>$ 4,499.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$ 167.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$ 55.00</td>
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**BLESSING OF OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS**

At the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Aug. 4, 2019, there will be a blessing of all of the new and returning college students in our community. Hope to see you there! Spread the word!

**CALLING LANDSCAPE LOVERS**

We are looking for volunteers to help keep the parish grounds looking neat and lovely. Nancy Nafe has graciously volunteered to coordinate periodic cleanup days, on which gardens would be weeded, mulched, trimmed, raked, etc.

If you are interested in being on a call list for these events, please contact the rectory at 314-481-1133 or stephenprossp@gmail.com.

High school students seeking service hours are most welcome!

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**LECTORS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday, July 27</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.— L. Rahn, C. Prag</td>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday, July 28</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.— B. Borgmeyer, A. Borgmeyer</td>
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**SERVERS**

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<th>Saturday, July 27</th>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.— Hendrix F., Bridgette F.</td>
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<th>Sunday, July 28</th>
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<td>9:30 a.m.— Brian B., Ben W.</td>
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**THIS WEEK’S READINGS**

**Monday, St. Mary Magdalene:** Sgs 3:1-4b; Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Tuesday:** Ex 14:21—15:1; Ex 15:8-9, 10 & 12, 17; Mt 12:46-50

**Wednesday, St. James the Apostle:** Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28; Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Mt 20:20-28

**Friday, Sts. Joachim and Anne:** Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 13:18-23

**Saturday:** Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Mt 13:24-30

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Gn 18:20-32; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR**

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<th>Monday, July 22</th>
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<th>Wednesday, July 24</th>
<th>Thursday, July 25</th>
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<th>Saturday, July 27</th>
<th>Sunday, July 28</th>
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<tr>
<td>NO LITURGY OF THE WORD</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
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<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.</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.

BLESSINGS OF BEING A STEPHEN MINISTER

Why become a Stephen Minister? Consider these reasons from our current ministers:

“The idea that someone is happy to see you. You are accountable to someone again.”

“I am able to be spiritually present with someone.”

“It’s a call from God, and I feel privileged to be a part of this group.”

“I experience great satisfaction about being used by God to help others.”

Since 1975, more than 600,000 Christians from all walks of life have trained and served as Stephen Ministers. They became ministers as a way to help others who were hurting — but they quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways as well.

Come find out for yourself! Join our next training class starting Aug. 20, 2019. Contact Leigh Manalang at 314-486-0717 or leihgsgm@gmail.com for more information.

LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP CARLSON

To the Faithful of the Archdiocese of St. Louis,

We must all be deeply saddened by the devastation our brothers and sisters living along flooded rivers in our community are realizing, now that the near all-time historic high waters are receding. After an initial assessment, several hundred households mostly in St. Charles and Lincoln Counties have been affected with major damage or a complete loss. I ask the Lord to carry those who are suffering and who have lost so much.

To help provide immediate and long-term aid to those impacted by this most recent natural disaster, I am asking our nearly 200 parishes in 11 counties to donate to relief efforts.

Donations can be made directly to Catholic Charities of St. Louis, PO Box 952393, St. Louis, MO 63195-2393 (please note Disaster Relief Fund) or to Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service, 4116 McClay Road, St. Charles, MO 63304 (please note Flood Recovery). You are also welcome to put appropriately labeled donations in your own parish’s collection basket.

I will be offering Mass for those who have been impacted in this natural disaster. I ask you to please join your prayers to mine for our neighbors who must now rebuild their lives.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis

SVDP STUDENT CONFERENCE

STLCC-Forest Park Students: The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, one of the oldest and largest Catholic organizations for serving the needy in the world, is looking to establish a student chapter at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park.

The group will team with another St. Vincent de Paul Society chapter to visit the needy in the city, providing utility, rent, and resource referral assistance.

If you are interested in helping set up such an outreach, please contact Bryan Kirchoff at bryankirchoff@att.net.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS

Are you thinking about your summer vacation? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, away from all the distractions and pressures in your life right now, would be the best vacation of your life. You and your spouse will always remember this WWME Weekend away as a great time together that strengthened your marriage. The next weekends are Aug. 9-11, 2019, or Sept. 27-29, 2019, at the Courtyard Marriott in St. Peters, Mo.

If you would like to apply or get more information, call 314-649-7317 or visit stl-wwme.org/schedule.php.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Aug. 4: Blessing of College Students, 9:30 a.m. Mass
- Aug. 11: Backpack Blessing / Ice Cream Social
- Aug. 14: First Day of School
The Mildred Mysteries

Jon Volkmer is a literature professor and author. In a beautiful essay in *Commonweal* [May 17, 2019], he writes about his father’s rosary.

Volkmer inherited the beads sixteen years ago, after his dad’s funeral. Only recently Volkmer noticed that the rosary was broken — broken several times, in fact. His dad’s rosary is a mass of contrived wiring, repaired beads and “whispers of thread.” Jon imagines his dad — who built grain elevators in Nebraska — hunched over the beads in the basement, improvising the repairs. Somewhere along the line, beads were lost: one Our Father, four Hail Marys — five beads short of whole.

There’s also a “dangler” in the last full decade. Volkmer thinks it was a bead that was overlooked during a repair job that Dad added quickly to a convenient link. The dangling bead sticks out sideways from the end of the last full decade.

But the missing and miscounted beads did not slow his dad down. Jon remembers his father praying those beads every morning following the death of Jon’s mother. Those rosaries, Volkmer writes, “allow[ed] himself the space to think on her, to miss her, to mourn her, while his speech was knotted safely inside this circle of prayers.”

So, in honor of his mother, Mildred, Volkmer has adapted the ancient rite of the rosary. He suggests “The Mildred Mysteries, to be prayed on a broken and mended rosary.” Jon Volkmer explains how “The Mildred Mysteries” are to be prayed:

**The First Mystery: Humility.** We pray ten Hail Marys to remind us to take strength in normality, to cherish the [everyday], to give thanks for surviving times of dry fields, little food.

**The Second Mystery: Humor.** We pray ten Hail Marys to contemplate the grace in making each other to grin. Oh, Mildred, daughter of Irish affability, teach us to laugh.

**The Third Mystery: Learning.** Ten Hail Marys to contemplate the mystery of contemplation itself. Embrace the book, figure out the problem, fear not the Other.

**The Fourth Mystery: Acceptance.** Nine Hail Marys on coming to terms with sorrow and regrets. Pause on the number ten, half-attached, the [dangling] ‘Mom’ Bead. “We are all broken and mended, but we are graced with joy. Making this turn, we are left with six Hail Marys to dwell in gratitude for all that we are, for all that has been given to us, for the gift of each other.

“Recite the closing prayer of your choice. Put rosary away. Go out and live in humility and gratitude. Amen.”

“The Mildred Mysteries” — humility, humor, learning, acceptance — are also the “better part” that Mary chooses in today’s Gospel. We are all like Martha in our conscientiousness to the demands of work and family. But “the better part” embraced by Mary transcends the mundane and empty pursuits of the everyday and sees the hand of God in all things; the “better part” is to realize the gratitude that all creation owes its loving Creator for the very gift of life itself. Jesus invites each one of us make a place and time in our lives for the “better part”: the grace of humility, humor, learning and acceptance that can only be discovered and lived within the circle of our family and friends where the love of God dwells.

From *Connections*, July 2019

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**CYC REFEREES NEEDED**

The South Central CYC is in need of soccer referees for the upcoming fall soccer season.

The requirements for NEW referees for this paid position are as follows:

- Must be 14 years of age by Aug. 1, 2019.
- Attend one of the classroom training clinic sessions — Sacred Heart-Valley Park on July 24 or Aug. 4 from 6 p.m. 10 p.m., or St. Gabriel on Aug. 14 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- At training session, purchase referee jersey, whistle, lanyard, and red/yellow cards. Referee socks are also available for purchase.
- Score of at least 92% on 2019 Soccer Official’s test.
- Anyone 18 or older must meet additional archdiocesan requirements (www.cycstl.net/officials).

RETURNING refs must also receive a score of at least 92% on the Official’s test and are encouraged to attend a classroom clinic and on-field training. (Clinic is required for those scoring below 92% on the test.)

The pay is $20 per game for K-4th grade, $25 per game for 5th and 6th, and $30 per game for 7th and 8th. All refs must also purchase the $5 CYC-SOA insurance.

Find more information at [www.cycsouthcentral.net](http://www.cycsouthcentral.net) (select “Soccer” and then “Officiating”). To register, contact referee coordinator Melanie Sullivan at 314-783-6249 or melaniesullivan9135@gmail.com.
MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI & CALHOUN COUNTY TRIP

Join South Grand Senior Ministry on Monday, July 29, 2019, as we explore the Mighty Mississippi and search Calhoun County for delicious peaches!

The bus departs from St. John the Baptist (4200 Delor St.) at 8 a.m. First up is the National Great Rivers Museum and the Melvin Price Locks and Dam for a private tour and movie. Next you will be able to search the local produce stands in Calhoun County for the perfect peaches and vegetables. Lunch is served at the historic Wittmond Hotel in Brussels, Ill. Then after lunch, we will stop at the Audubon Center at Riverlands before heading back. We will return around 2:30 p.m.

The cost of the trip is $50 per person for parishioners of SGSM parishes and $55 per person for non-SGSM participants. The fee includes bus transportation and a delicious family-style lunch. To make reservations, please contact Heather at 314-351-1318, ext. 201, before Wednesday, July 24, 2019. Make check payable to “South Grand Senior Ministry” and mail to St. Cecilia, SGSM Trip, 5418 Louisiana Ave., St. Louis, MO 63111. Please include your name, phone number, parish, and emergency contact name and phone number.

ST. MARY MAGDALEN PARISH IS NEWEST MEMBER OF SGSM

SGSM welcomes St. Mary Magdalen Parish (4323 S. Kingshighway Blvd.) to our membership! St. Mary Magdalen’s senior minister Marilyn Muegge will serve as the contact for the parish. “We at St. Mary Magdalen are looking forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with South Grand Senior Ministry,” says Marilyn. “Besides taking part in the offerings of the organization, we have our unique ideas, ministries, and facilities to add to what has been in place for many years.”

MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEMS

Falls are a major cause of injury, hospitalization, and loss of independence for our elders. SGSM partners with Blue Star Seniortech to keep seniors safe, healthy, and connected with a medical alert system. Seniors of the SGSM parishes may be eligible for assistance in payment for the easy-to-use mobile system. For more information, contact St. John the Baptist senior minister Diane Huck at 314-353-1255, ext. 106.

ONGOING EVENTS

Game Day — Held the first Thursday of every month, 1 p.m.-4 p.m., at the rectory meeting room at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (4092 Blow St.). A variety of card and board games are available. Light refreshments are provided. Contact Debbie at 314-481-9385 for more details.

Chair Yoga — Non-stress yoga classes, every Wednesday, 8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. at the school building at Immaculate Heart of Mary. Cost is $3 per person. Call Debbie at 314-481-9385 for more information.

Low-Impact Exercise — Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m., held in the cafeteria at Immaculate Heart of Mary. A small fee is charged.

Balance Classes — Every Friday from 9 a.m.-10 a.m. in the St. Stephen Protomartyr parish hall.
SCDC MEETING
You are invited to join us for fun and to make new friends at the meeting of the South County Separated, Divorced, Widowed and Remarried Catholics (SCDC) on Thursday, July 25, 2019, at 7 p.m., at the St. Catherine Laboure parish cafeteria (9740 Sappington Rd.). SCDC is a support group for the separated, divorced, widowed and remarried of our community. SCDC offers social activities and a support group that provides the opportunity to share your personal story with caring people.

Don Wandless and Dodie Nelke will play well-known show tunes to entertain us at this get-together and then we will have refreshments and a short meeting afterward.

For more information, call Michelle Wack at 314-540-7400 or Bill DeCoursey at 314-894-0733.

GIRLFRIEND RETREAT
Ladies, gather your closest girlfriends for a very special event on Aug. 3-4, 2019. Girlfriends in Grace is a 28-hour overnight retreat designed just for you and those incredible women you’re blessed to call friends. Treat yourselves to this relaxing, prayerful, and fun getaway at the Marianist Retreat & Conference Center, with its 120 acres of rolling hills and trails on the banks of the Meramec River in Eureka, Mo.

The retreat will include some large group presentations, but each group of friends will function as its own small group for discussions. There will be a variety of activities and plenty of down time. Time for prayer will be available, and Mass will be celebrated on Sunday.

The retreat starts on Saturday at 1 p.m. and ends Sunday at 5 p.m. The cost is $111 per person and includes a private room with a bathroom and shower, linens, towels, three meals, and snacks.

For more information, email julie@mretreat.org or register online at www.mretreat.org.

WHEN MENTAL ILLNESS HITS HOME
The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows (442 S. Demazenod Dr., Belleville, Ill.) is presenting its 13th annual When Mental Illness Hits Home Conference on Friday, Aug. 23, 2019. The event is designed to help those journeying with people with mental illness (families, friends, and professionals). This year’s theme is “Resiliency: Bouncing Forward,” and the keynote speaker is Gary Behrman, Ph.D. For more information, contact Bette Meyer at bette.meyer@snows.org.
**MASS INTENTIONS**

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

**Tuesday, July 23**
8:00 a.m. — The Hoh Family

**Wednesday, July 24**
8:00 a.m. — Frank Bohac

**Thursday, July 25**
8:00 a.m. — Jerry & Liz Guillot

**Friday, July 26**
8:00 a.m. — Matthew Kimsey

**Saturday, July 27**
8:00 a.m. — Anna Vlahovljak
4:00 p.m. — Our Parishioners

**Sunday, July 28**
9:30 a.m. — Rose & Ted McBride, Anne Johnson, Ruth Flanagan

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**PLEASE PRAY**

for our sick and recovering ...  
Florence Arcipowski  Paul Heidbrier  Grace Phillips  
Dave Asinger  Wence Kveton  Vince Stehlin  
Suzi Beck  Thomas Lorenz  Ron Thenhaus  
Liz Bentrup  Lois McClellan  Alan Varga  
Ann Dosenbach  Steve Moylan  Virginia Zenthoefer

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  Jack Renick  Mitch Sollmann  
Tristan Moylan  Brian Schoellhorn  
Ryan O'Neil  Dylan Schulte

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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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**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:  
9:30 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 9:30 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 9:30 a.m. 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. During our Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m., excluding holidays.