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

“Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us.” (2 Thessalonians 3:9)

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don’t go around bragging about it. But through their actions and words, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and other people desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others have with our Catholic faith.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

| November 10 Contribution  | $ 4,700.00 |
| Online giving contribution | $ 1,856.00 |
| Total weekly contribution  | $ 6,556.00 |
| R & I                      | $ 545.00   |
| Tuition Assistance         | $ 235.00   |
| Campaign for Human Development | $ 35.00   |
| Permanent Diaconate        | $ 15.00    |
| Retirement Fund for Religious | $ 60.00   |
| Triennial Military Service | $ 463.00   |

Special collections in November are Retirement Fund for Religious and Campaign for Human Development.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

LECTORS

Saturday, November 23
4:00 p.m. — B. Borgmeyer, R. Rone

Sunday, November 24
8:00 a.m. — L. Rahn, A. Rotermund
10:30 a.m. — G. Stoff, B. Stoff

SERVERS

Saturday, November 23
4:00 p.m. — Ollie M., Gabriel S.

Sunday, November 24
8:00 a.m. — Sophie W., Brody Z.
10:30 a.m. — Joseph T., Abigail S.

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b & 15; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday, Presentation of Mary: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-3, 4 & 6, 16 & 19; Lk 20:27-40
Solemnity of Christ, King of the Universe: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5; 2 Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

Sts Mary and Joseph Chapel
presents
Candlelight Christmas Concert
featuring
Scott Kennebeck — Tenor
Emily Truckenbrod — Soprano
John P Walsh — Pianist
December 1 @7pm
Reception to Follow
Free Will Offering

6304 Minnesota Ave. St. Louis MO 63111 314-517-3998

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday November 18</th>
<th>Tuesday November 19</th>
<th>Wednesday November 20</th>
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<th>Friday November 22</th>
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<th>Sunday November 24</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>Mass 8 a.m. Baptismal Service</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. 50+ Club 11 a.m. CANNED GOODS DAY</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. 8th Grade Play 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. 8th Grade Play 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Choir Practice 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Quilters 9 a.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td>Finance Council 7 p.m.</td>
<td>School Mktg. Comm. 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Soccer Uniform Return 6:30 p.m.</td>
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St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish www.saintstephenstl.org

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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.

ADVENT ANGELS

Anyone wishing to participate in Advent Angels is asked to complete one of the purple slips of paper in the back of church and drop it in the collection basket with your or your family's name on it before Nov. 25, 2019. You may also email Mary Regan at maryreganssp@gmail.com. Names will be affixed to an angel on a wreath in the back of church. On the first weekend of Advent (Nov. 30-Dec. 1), participants are to choose an angel to take home, keeping that person or family in your prayers during the Advent season, while knowing that someone else will be praying for you.

“ONE WARM COAT” DRIVE

Do you have an extra coat or two? We are holding a One Warm Coat drive and collecting clean, gently worn coats of all types and sizes.

Coat donations will be accepted through Nov. 29, 2019. There are collection boxes at school and in the back of church.

The coats will be distributed in our local community. Do you know someone who needs a coat? Contact Mary Regan at 314-481-1133 with gender and size.

For more information about One Warm Coat or to make a monetary donation to our effort, please visit https://tinyurl.com/yyxh8jfp.

GIVING TREE

25 years! That’s how long St. Stephen’s has had the Giving Tree. Think of all of the people we have helped in those 25 years. You have all shown true stewardship and demonstrated a real example of how we bring Jesus to those in need.

The Giving Tree will be in church from Nov. 9 through Nov. 24. Please pick a leaf or two (or three!), and then return your unwrapped items to the back of church by 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2019. All donations will benefit St. Martha’s Hall for Abused Women and Children and the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

SOCcer uniform return

Soccer uniform return is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, in the school cafeteria. 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

All parishioners and school families are invited to have a portrait taken in our parish hall on one of seven dates in mid-December (Dec. 9-13 and 16-17, 2 p.m.-9 p.m.; Dec. 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.). Each family photographed will receive a free copy of the directory and a free 8x10 of their portrait with the opportunity to purchase various photo packages. There is no obligation to purchase anything. All registered parishioners will have their photo included in the directory. (This would be a great time to register with the parish, if you have not already done so.)

Visit https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b2x8g022 to reserve your time slot. If you prefer to book your session in person, schedulers will be available after weekend Masses.

EIGHTH GRADE PLAY

SSP’s Class of 2020 proudly presents: The Adventures of the Fearsome Pirate Frank! Shows are Friday, Nov. 22, and Saturday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 24, at 2 p.m., in the Parish Center. Tickets will be sold at the door.

BLOOD DRIVE

Boy Scout Troop 104 is sponsoring a blood drive to support the American Red Cross on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019, in the Parish Center from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Boy Scouts will be available to take appointments following all Masses on the weekend before and the weekend of Thanksgiving. Donors can also visit https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StStephenP to schedule an appointment.
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The SSP Girl Scouts invite you to their annual Breakfast With Santa on Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., in our parish hall. Festivities include a pancake and sausage breakfast, photo opp with Santa, Christmas arts & crafts, and reindeer games.

Cost is $5 per person (adults and children) in advance or $7 at the door, with a maximum charge of $20 per family (up to six family members). Additional diners are $5 each. Visit https://saintstephenstl.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/BWS-flyer-2019.pdf for details or to make a reservation.

QUILT WINNER

Congratulations to Trudy Jung, the October winner of the Quilt of the Every Other Month Club. Next drawing is in December.

ALPHABET CLUB RAFFLE

Don’t miss out on the 2020 Alphabet Club Raffle! Contact Michelle at michelleruschssp@gmail.com to see which letter-number combinations are still available. Tickets are $20 each for 360 chances to win!

LESSONS AND CAROLS WITH SSMJ

On Sunday, Dec. 8, 2019, at 2 p.m., the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet will host their annual Advent prayer service, Lessons and Carols, at their motherhouse (6400 Minnesota Ave.). A freewill donation will benefit the Migrant and Immigrant Community Action Project (MICA). Learn more and register at www.csjsl.org or call 314-481-8800 or email motherhousersvp@csjsl.org.

ST. PATRICK CENTER ISO TARGET CARDS

St. Patrick Center Christmas Wishes assists more than 500 individuals and families who have little or no money to purchase Christmas gifts for their children. Thanks to all who are sponsoring families this season! We currently need donations of $20 Target gift cards for single clients in our Shamrock Club Day Treatment Program. To donate gift cards, contact Katie Joseph at 314-802-1976 or kjoseph@stpatrickcenter.org.

UPCOMING SSP 50+ CLUB ACTIVITIES

Next meeting — Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019, at 11 a.m., followed by lunch and then bingo. See you there!

Dec. 8 — Bus trip to see Christmas lights in the area Please call Joyce Stockmann at 314-752-4827 for more information.

HAPPY HOUR!

Join South Grand Senior Ministry for Happy Hour on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019, from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at St. Mary Magdalen Parish Hall (4924 Bancroft). Appetizers, wine, and refreshments will be served. Dolores Guittar will lead a sing-a-long on the piano! To make a reservation, call Marilyn at 314-352-2111, ext. 5, by Nov. 12. There is no cost for this event.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION

The SGSM Advent Day of Reflection is Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph (6400 Minnesota). Fr. Jerry Kleba will celebrate Mass in the chapel at 9 a.m. The program, which includes lunch, begins at 10 a.m. and ends around 2 p.m. Deacon Jim Martin will be the facilitator. Thanks to a gift from the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, there is no charge; however, reservations are required. Contact Diane at 314-772-1525 ext. 206 or spvparishnurse@gmail.com by Nov. 25.

CONCERT AT THE SHELDON

Join SGSM for a Christmas Concert at The Sheldon (3648 Washington Blvd.) on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019, at 10 a.m. This coffee matinee features vocalist Charles Glenn and pianist Pete Ruthenburg. The concert is preceded by coffee and donuts at the theater, and will be followed by lunch at Vito’s. Bus leaves at 8:15 a.m. from Immaculate Heart of Mary, returning around 3 p.m. Cost is $50 for parishioners of SGSM member parishes and $55 for others. Send check payable to “SGSM” to IHM, 4092 Blow St., 63116. Include name, phone number, parish, and emergency contact name and phone number. You will receive a phone call when your check is received. For further details, call Debbie at 314-481-9385.

NOTE: South Grand Senior Ministry is no longer publishing a newsletter. Programs and events will be shared in the bulletin. Follow the SGSM Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SGSMStl.
Every so often she receives an e-mail or voice-mail or text or Facebook message: a quick message, a name and contact. The final sentence is always the same: “Do you remember me?”

“Oh of course I do,” she writes. “How could I forget you?”

For most, she can remember exactly where that person sat in her classroom and who sat next to them. She can picture their faces, maybe hear their voices. Some are wisps in her memory — maybe she’ll recall the year or grade or school.

She started teaching when she was 22. Teaching turned out to be more of a challenge than she realized. Every student required something different from her, and that could change by the hour. Problems at home, fights with friends, hunger, fear — they all showed themselves differently. Some students strove for excellence; some seemed intent on disruption. Some competed for the best grades; some refused to do any work at all. Some had tons of friends; some longed for one. She tried to notice all of it and manage it as best she could, while working on all that needed to be taught and learned.

There were the highly memorable hallway fights and fire drills and field trips, the field days and test days and assemblies. But it was the daily schedules, the mundane routines, that brought teacher and class together.


“For ten months a year, I’d revolve around them, circling their desks, saying their names, knowing their handwriting. We’d read together, crack up together, and bicker together. I learned when to push and when to be gentle. I knew who needed extra help and who could probably teach the class themselves. I’d try to calm the class clown and get the quiet ones to talk. Sometimes we laughed all day, and other times I drove home crying. As the year went on, we would function as a group, mostly accepting all of one another’s needs and quirks. Then June came, and they gleefully broke ties …”

She would welcome a new class in the fall and her now former students would move on to new grade levels and schools. She seldom saw them again. She occasionally reads or hears about them in the news. Sometimes it’s good; most times, devastating. Some are gone, others found trouble; some made their mark. She prays that most of them have made their way.

But when one contacts her, she tells them all the good things she remembers about them. She tells them that she could never forget. At one time they were in her class. But always, they are hers.

This good and dedicated teacher is the light that shines in the midst of violence and despair; she is the sign of God’s faithful presence in the wars and storms that Jesus foretells in today’s disturbing Gospel. Compassion and mercy, justice and forgiveness are the lasting treasures of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom that is created in our own homes and classrooms and churches. It is not our portfolios and resumes that matter in the end, but the simple good we do that transforms lives that is our true and lasting legacy. May God grant us the wisdom to realize what a great and lasting world we can build if we put aside our attitudes and avarice that limit our vision to the ephemeral to embrace God’s grace to build such a sacred world.

Connections, November 2019

Introducing …. Gift Cards for the Gala

Have you always wanted to help with the Gala and never knew how or didn’t have the time?

Consider grabbing a Statue of Liberty or Empire State Building with different gift cards and values to purchase and donate to the Gala.

Gift Cards for the Gala will be available where ACE cards are sold through the holidays — in the back of church after all Masses and at the parish office. Values range from $10 and $20, all the way to $100. All gift cards purchased in this way also give a percentage of the value back to St. Stephen.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!
On Thursday, December 12, 2019, come and support the St. Stephen Protomartyr Athletic Association by having lunch, dinner or a drink at The Stellar Hog, 5623 Leona St, St. Louis, MO 63116. Mingle over a meal with friends and the families of SSP, while you are welcomed by a guest bartender and hosts/hostesses from the SSP community between the hours of 5-9 pm.

St. Stephen Protomartyr Athletic Association Fundraiser - at The Stellar Hog
Thursday, December 12, 2019

Following dinner, stay for Karaoke presented by SSP’s own Will Bergmeyer between the hours of 9 pm - 12 am. The Stellar Hog has graciously agreed to donate a portion of the proceeds that day to the SSP Athletic Association to help purchase new uniforms for the boys and girls athletic teams. Valid for dine-in only. Please share the details of this event with family and friends.

For further details please contact Phil Cervantes (pacman68@charter.net) or Jim Wilson (jim.wilson100@gmail.com)
Tuesdays, after 8 a.m. Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

First Friday of the Month, after 8 a.m. Mass: Holy Hour and Benediction

Weekdays, 8:45 a.m.–4 p.m.: Church is available for prayer. Stop by the rectory for entry.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 18
8:00 a.m.— Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, November 19
8:00 a.m.— Villar Family

Wednesday, November 20
8:00 a.m.— Sr. Mary Moeller, CSJ, 70th Jubilee

Thursday, November 21
8:00 a.m.— John Lopez

Friday, November 22
8:00 a.m.— Margaret Ringkamp

Saturday, November 23
8:00 a.m.— Helen Stader
4:00 p.m.— Clarita Pauley

Sunday, November 24
8:00 a.m.— Our Parishioners
10:30 a.m.— Margaret Ringkamp, Ronald Ulrich

PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ... 
Dave Asinger  Jan Haifer  Steve Moylan
Suzi Beck  Paul Heidbrier  Dianne Neels
Liz Bentrup  Wence Kveton  Grace Phillips
Ann Dosenbach  Thomas Lorenz  Vince Stehlin
Erin Goedeker  Lois McClellan  Virginia Zenthoefer

for our homebound ... 
Albertine Honious  Art Petersen

for those in nursing homes ... 
Dolores Meisemann

for family members serving in the military ... 
Derek Hirtz  Ryan O’Neil  Dylan Schulte
Tristan Moylan  Brian Schoellhorn  Mitch Sollmann

DEVOTIONS

Tuesdays, after 8 a.m. Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

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 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 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 10:30 a.m.