St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

December 29, 2019

Feast of the Holy Family

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
facebook.com/sspstl

Chapel of Sts. Mary and Joseph
6304 Minnesota, St. Louis, MO 63111
facebook.com/stsmaryandjosephchapel

SCHOOL
3929 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116
314-752-4700
314-752-5165 fax
michelwendellssp@gmail.com
facebook.com/SSPCatholicSchool

Father Ron Hopmeir, Pastor
frron@saintstephenstl.org

Mrs. Mary Regan, Pastoral Associate
maryreganssp@gmail.com

Mr. Stephen E. Jones, Music Director
stephenjonesssp@gmail.com

Mrs. June Tessin, Office Manager / Bookkeeper
juneil@sspstl.org

Mrs. Michel Wendell, Principal
michelwendellssp@gmail.com

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

Ms. Stephanie Oehler Wobbe, Communications Coordinator
stephaniewobbessp@gmail.com
**STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER**

“Wives, be subordinate to your husbands…Husbands, love your wives…Children, obey your parents in everything…Fathers, do not provoke your children …” (Colossians 3:18-21)

Pope Francis said that families, through their life of prayer and love, become "schools of true human growth." Being credible witnesses of Christian love, especially that of family members, exerts the most positive influence on our children. We are all children of God, let us pray and love each other as God, Our Father, does for us.

**SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 15 Contribution</td>
<td>$ 9,033.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$ 1,762.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total weekly contribution</td>
<td>$ 10,795.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$ 491.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$ 1,129.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminary</td>
<td>$ 35.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The special collection in December is for the Seminary.

Due to an early deadline by the bulletin publisher, the Sunday contribution amounts for December 22 were not available in time for this bulletin. They will be published in the January 5 bulletin.

**THIS WEEK’S READINGS**

**Monday, Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas:**
1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

**Tuesday, Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas:**
1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18

**Wednesday, Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God:**
Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

**Thursday, Sts. Basil and Gregory:**
1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28

**Friday:**
1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

**Saturday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton:**
1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

**Sunday, The Epiphany of the Lord:**
Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**LECTORS**

- **Tuesday, December 31**
  5:00 p.m. — C. McGeehan, B. McLain

- **Wednesday, January 1**
  9:00 a.m. — P. O’Connell, C. McGeehan

- **Saturday, January 4**
  4:00 p.m. — B. Stoff, G. Stoff

- **Sunday, January 5**
  8:00 a.m. — R. Rone, A. Rotermund
  10:30 a.m. — B. Borgmeyer, L. Rahn

**SERVERS**

- **Tuesday, December 31**
  5:00 p.m. — Hendrix F., Tommy G.

- **Wednesday, January 1**
  9:00 a.m. — Sophie W., Makenna S.

- **Saturday, January 4**
  4:00 p.m. — Aiden J., Meggie G.

- **Sunday, January 5**
  8:00 a.m. — Ellen K., Tara J.
  10:30 a.m. — Mark W., Stephanie W.

**HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Masses in observance of the Feast of Mary the Mother of God will be celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019, at 5 p.m., and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, at 9 a.m.
There will be no 8 a.m. Mass on either of those days.

**THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, Dec. 30</strong></td>
<td>Liturgy of the Word 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, Dec. 31</strong></td>
<td>NO MASS at 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, Jan. 1</strong></td>
<td>Mass 9 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, Jan. 2</strong></td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, Jan. 3</strong></td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, Jan. 4</strong></td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, Jan. 5</strong></td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. DONUT SUNDAY</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.

EPIPHANY PAGEANT & CHORAL CONCERT

Plan to join us in church on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020, at 2 p.m. for our annual Epiphany Pageant by our second graders, followed by a performance of Christmas music by our Choral Club.

NEW TO THE PARISH FAMILY

Please extend a warm welcome to Nick and Melissa Rettig, the newest members of our parish family.

Glad you’ve joined us!

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER

The winner of the final drawing of this year’s Every-Other-Month Quilt Raffle is Stephanie Wobbe. (Woot!) Thanks to all who bought chances, and thanks to all of our quilters for sharing their talents!

MIGRATION MASS

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has established the week of Jan. 5 to Jan. 11, 2020, as National Migration Week.

St. Pius V Parish (3310 S. Grand Blvd.) will celebrate its own migrations with the annual Migration Mass on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., followed by a reception featuring dishes from five continents. All are invited and encouraged to wear the ethnic dress of their heritage and to bring a dish to share at the luncheon.

Please consider participating in this commemoration of National Migration Week as an opportunity to contemplate the circumstances confronting today’s immigrants and refugees.

Contact Leslie Dao at 314-772-1525 x204 for more information.

TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The St. Louis Tax Assistance Program offers FREE electronic income tax return preparation and tax information for a family with income below $56,000. Must bring W-2s, 1099s, and 1098Ts, if applicable. The program benefits working families who are eligible for the earned income credit and child-care credit.

Location: St. Mary’s High School, 4701 S. Grand Blvd.

Dates: January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 2, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For more information, please contact Anne Skelton at 314-602-8622 or anneskelton@live.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan. 11 — Fishpot Creek Bluegrass Band, 4 p.m. Mass
Jan. 11 — Spaghetti Dinner benefitting SSMJ
Jan. 12 — Epiphany Pageant / Choral Club Concert
Feb. 1 — Sports Trivia Night
Feb. 8 — Gala
They travel at night. She nuzzles their infant daughter against her, he carries a bag with a few necessities for the baby; their only worldly possessions are in his backpack. They are desperate to escape this place that is no longer home. Violence has shattered their lives. They are marked by their tribe, their language, their social class, their poverty.

Or they’re crammed into a truck or car with far too many miles on it. His job moved somewhere else, so they’re on the move to find work and maybe settle into the life every parent wants for their children.

Or the “journey” is traveled not along a rocky road but within a broken heart: trying to find one’s way as a single parent after a spouse’s death or divorce, taking on a world difficult enough for a couple let alone a single woman or man. The journey is a painful juggling of emotions and practicalities in the course of a night that seems will never see dawn.

What drives them along this dangerous road is hope: hope for a safe harbor to raise their children, hope for work to support themselves and their families, hope that they might reclaim their dignity as human beings.

So they run from the brutality and cruelty of “Herod,” seeking to make a new life in whatever Egypt they can find.

A different place and time, but the same journey.

The Gospel of Mary and Joseph’s escape to Egypt has been lived by countless families in every place and time. This Christmas, Mary, Joseph, and the Child are escaping gangs in Guatemala, running from militant terrorist groups in Syria, fleeing government police in nations throughout Africa and Asia. The Holy Family is Christian, Jewish, Islam, and every religious and spiritual sect; the Holy Family is white, black, brown, yellow; the Holy Family speaks every tongue and dialect on earth. At Christmas, as we celebrate the gift of our own families, Matthew’s Gospel on this Feast of the Holy Family confronts us with the struggles of many families and God’s call to us, as their brothers and sisters, to make a place for them where they will find safety, justice, and dignity as God’s own.

From Connections, December 2019
The Marianist Retreat Conference Center (4000 Hwy. 109, Eureka, MO) is hosting its second annual Sunday Matinee Concert Series. All shows are held at MRCC with a 2 p.m. starting time. Donations will be accepted at the door. For more information, contact Julie Hickey at julie@mretreat.org or 636-938-5390.

Jan. 12 — “Spectacle, the Musical”
Feb. 9 — A Tribute to Broadway
April 5 — Palm Sunday Concert
May 3 — Praise and Worship Concert

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020
MASS AT 4:00PM WITH THE FISH POT CREEK BAND
DINNER FROM 5:00-7:00 IN THE CHURCH HALL
$10 SPAGHETTI, SALAD, BREAD, AND DESSERT - $5 KIDS 12 AND UNDER
BEER AND WINE SOLD SEPARATELY
St. Stephen Protomartyr | 3949 Wilmington Ave. 63116 | 314-481-1133

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
Join Christians from many traditions and from around the St. Louis region in prayer for unity in our faith at St. Monica Parish (12140 Olive Blvd.) on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020, at 7 p.m. A light reception will follow the prayer.

Archbishop Robert Carlson will preside, and Fr. James Mason, Rector of Kenrick Seminary, will offer the reflection on “Showing Unusual Kindness” (Acts 28:2).

For more information contact James at 314-792-7177 or jamescomninellis@archstl.org.
**NEW TWIST!**

**WINE & BOURBON DONATIONS**

The popular WINE RAFFLE returns to the Gala — $10 gets you a “mystery” bottle of wine worth at least that much — but this year we are adding a BOURBON RAFFLE! At this time, we are looking for donations of wine worth at least $10 a bottle and bourbon worth at least $25 a bottle (even if you buy them on sale for less). If you are gifted something at Christmas that maybe isn’t your cup of … tea, we would love to have it for the raffle! Put bottles in the back of church, marked with your name and the dollar value (regardless of sale price). Questions? Contact Mandy Borgmeyer at mborgmeyer80@gmail.com.

**LIMITED-EDITION RAFFLES!**

Only 300 chances to win each of two raffles! Tickets are $25 each. Buy them online at ssp2020.givesmart.com or after Masses.

- The LATE NIGHT RAFFLE — cash prizes of $1,000, $300, and $200!
- The BIG APPLE RAFFLE — Apple Watch 5 (GPS) with AirPods Pro!

**CAN YOU HELP?**

The auction committee is looking for St. Louis Cardinals tickets; Mizzou football tickets; downtown St. Louis restaurant gift cards (for themed package); golf-course passes; timeshares; bed-and-breakfast stays; brewery or winery tours; and concert or theater tickets.

Do you have special connections or interest in donating any of these items for auction? Contact the chairs at StStephenGala@gmail.com.

**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 are available where ACE cards are sold — 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.
**Mass Intentions**

Monday, December 30  
8:00 a.m. — Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, December 31  
5:00 p.m. — Mike More

Wednesday, January 1  
9:00 a.m. — Cecelia Hopmeir

Thursday, January 2  
8:00 a.m. — Rev. John Ditenhofer

Friday, January 3  
8:00 a.m. — Lavern Guntner

Saturday, January 4  
8:00 a.m. — Eugene Selser  
4:00 p.m. — Our Parishioners

Sunday, January 5  
8:00 a.m. — Bob Welby  
10:30 a.m. — Rev. Robert Manning

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**Please Pray**

for our sick and recovering ...

Dave Asinger  
Bob Beck  
Suzi Beck  
Liz Bentrup  
Ann Dosenbach

Erin Goedeker  
Jan Haffer  
Paul Heidbrier  
Thomas Lorenz  
Lois McClellan

Steve Moylan  
Dianne Neels  
Grace Phillips  
Virginia Zenthoefer

for our homebound ...

Albertine Honious  
Art Petersen

for family members serving in the military ...

Derek Hirtz  
Tristan Moylan

Ryan O’Neil  
Brian Schoellhorn

Steve Moylan  
Mitch Sollmann

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**Devotions**

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.

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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:  
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.