St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish

November 24, 2019

Feast of Christ the King

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**

“... giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light.”

*(Colossians 1:12)*

God wants us to be happy! Instead of looking at the Ten Commandments as being restrictive and telling us what we can’t do, look at them as guides for living a joy-filled and peaceful life. Most of our problems arise when we put our own needs first or spend most of our time trying to acquire “things.” Instead, try putting God first in all things. Ask Him how He wants you to use your gifts.

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**SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 17 Contribution</td>
<td>$10,115.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online giving contribution</td>
<td>$2,507.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total weekly contribution</td>
<td>$12,622.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R &amp; I</td>
<td>$276.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Assistance</td>
<td>$1,964.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement Fund for Religious</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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**THANKSGIVING MASS**

We will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on Thursday, **Nov. 28, 2019, at 9 a.m.** All are invited to bring canned goods or other non-perishable food items to share in a special offertory.

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**ANNUAL TURKEY BOWL**

Our annual **Turkey Bowl** soccer match between the 8th grade and their parents will take place at Whitewall Field in Carondelet Park after the 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass on **Nov. 28, 2019**. All are welcome! Coffee, juice, and donuts will be served.

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**LECTORS**

Thanksgiving Day
9:00 a.m. — TBD

Saturday, November 30
4:00 p.m. — S. Gaydos, S. Gunter

Sunday, December 1
8:00 a.m. — C. Deeken, P. Cooper
10:30 a.m. — L. Driscoll, A. Borgmeyer

**SERVERS**

Thanksgiving Day
9:00 a.m. — Makenna S., Mary Kate C.

Saturday, November 30
4:00 p.m. — Anya J., Tommy G.,

Sunday, December 1
8:00 a.m. — Jack B., Hendrix F.
10:30 a.m. — Reagan M., Connor H.

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**Tuition Assistance**

Saturday, November 30
4:00 p.m. — Anya J., Tommy G.,

Sunday, December 1
8:00 a.m. — Jack B., Hendrix F.
10:30 a.m. — Reagan M., Connor H.

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**THIS WEEK’S READINGS**

**Monday:** Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4

**Tuesday:** Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11

**Wednesday:** Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67; Lk 21:12-19

**Thursday, Thanksgiving:** Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

**Friday:** Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33

**Saturday, St. Andrew:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22

**First Sunday of Advent:** Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Monday, November 25</th>
<th>Tuesday, November 26</th>
<th>Wednesday, November 27</th>
<th>Thursday, November 28</th>
<th>Friday, November 29</th>
<th>Saturday, November 30</th>
<th>Sunday, December 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy of the Word</td>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td>All-School Mass</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
<td>Mass 8 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quilters</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Perpetual Help Devotions</td>
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<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance Meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
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**DONUT SUNDAY**

Choir Practice
11:30 a.m.

Candlelight Concert
7 p.m.
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.

LETTER FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear School Families and Parishioners,

At this blessed time of Thanksgiving, I am reminded of all the blessings St. Stephen Protomartyr School has received and the source of these blessings.

We are fortunate to have a parish that is proud of its school and supports it in many ways. Our volunteers, parish organizations, and parishioners who support us through their weekly contributions are the reason we can continue to provide an excellent education to the children in our parish, neighborhood, and surrounding area.

The parish substantially subsidizes the operating expenses of the school. The amount of this subsidy for the three-month period of July-September 2019 alone has been $148,625.02, and that support will continue to accrue through the rest of the fiscal year. This subsidy helps keep the tuition rate as affordable as possible.

Our parents are grateful to the parishioners who offer time, talent, and tithes, and to our faculty and staff who are committed to the quality education St. Stephen Protomartyr provides.

I am so proud to be part of the St. Stephen Protomartyr community. Through its tradition of commitment to keeping the school viable, this parish plays a major role in keeping the Holly Hills neighborhood a thriving neighborhood.

On behalf of our school community, I thank you so much for your support.

With gratitude,
Michel Wendell, MA Ed.
Principal

ADVENT WREATHS AND JESSE TREES

All are invited to bring their Advent wreaths to church for blessing at all Masses next weekend, Nov. 30-Dec. 1.

After the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Dec. 1, all children are invited to gather in the Parish Hall to learn about and to create a Jesse Tree. A Jesse Tree follows the genealogy of Jesus from the creation story to His nativity. Twenty-four ornaments represent various figures; one ornament is placed on the Jesse Tree each day until Christmas. Our confirmandi will be present to help the younger children with the project.

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 this weekend and next. Donors can also visit https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=StStephenP to schedule an appointment.

Join us Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019, at The Stellar Hog for delicious food and fun in support of the St. Stephen Protomartyr Athletic Association. A portion of dine-in proceeds will help purchase new uniforms for the SSP boys’ and girls’ athletic teams.

Come by for lunch, dinner, or a drink. A guest bartender and hosts/hostesses from the SSP community will be on hand from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Will Borgmeyer will host Kickin’ Karaoke from 9 p.m. to midnight. Bring your family and friends!

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FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In the charity of your prayers, please remember the family of Dolores Meisemann, who died recently. May she rest in peace.

December 12 dine-in at the Stellar Hog!

SSP Athletic Assoc. UNIFORM FUNDRAISER!

SSP Athletic Assoc. UNIFORM FUNDRAISER!

Friends, Food & Fun for boys & girls new uniforms

9pm-Midnight Karaoke

Guest bartender & hosts/hostesses from the SSP community from 5-9 pm and Will Borgmeyer’s Kickin’ Karaoke!
UPCOMING SSP 50+ CLUB ACTIVITIES
Dec. 8 — Bus trip to see Christmas lights in the area
Please call Joyce Stockmann at 314-752-4827 for more information.

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION
South Grand Senior Ministry’s Advent Day of Reflection is Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019, at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse (6400 Minnesota Ave.). The program begins with Mass at 9 a.m. with Fr. Jerry Kleba and ends around 2 p.m. Deacon Jim Martin will be the facilitator. Lunch is included. There is no charge, but reservations are required.
Contact Diane at 314-772-1525 ext. 206 or spvparishnurse@gmail.com by Nov. 25.

GAME DAY
It's time to spread Christmas joy! Join the SGSM for our monthly Game Day on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Immaculate Heart of Mary rectory meeting room (4092 Blow St.). We will play card and board games, talk, eat, laugh, and have fun. All are welcome!

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 featuring vocalist Charles Glenn and pianist Pete Ruthenburg will be followed by lunch at Vito’s. Bus leaves at 8:15 a.m. from Immaculate Heart of Mary rectory meeting room (4092 Blow St.). We will play card and board games, talk, eat, laugh, and have fun. All are welcome!

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For further details, call Debbie at 314-481-9385.

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.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY
Don’t forget to sign up to have your portrait taken 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. There is no obligation to purchase anything. All registered parishioners will have their photo included in the directory.
Visit https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b2x8g022 to make an appointment. If you prefer to book your session in person, schedulers will be available after weekend Masses.

LAST CALL: “ONE WARM COAT” DRIVE
Donations to our One Warm Coat drive 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. For more information about One Warm Coat or to make a monetary donation to our effort, please visit https://tinyurl.com/yyxh8jfp.

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. Next weekend, participants are to choose an angel to take home, keeping that person or family in your prayers.

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.
November 1984: Margaret was a graduate student in Philadelphia. Winter break came so early that year that it made no sense to travel home to Alabama for Thanksgiving. As the dark nights grew longer and the winds blew colder, she began to waver. Was it too late? Could I still change my mind? But she knew it was too late — far, far too late. Besides, she had papers to write and papers to grade. Plus, she had no car; and forget trying to book a flight this close to the holiday — even if she had money to spare for a ticket. Amtrak was sold out and the long, long bus ride was too daunting to think about. So she resigned herself to spending Thanksgiving in Philadelphia, a thousand miles from home.

The Sunday before Thanksgiving, on her weekly call home to her parents, she admitted, “I don’t think I can stand it here. I don’t know if I can do this.”

“Just come home,” her father said. “It’s too late.” She was crying. “It’s way too late.”

“You can always come home, Sweet,” her dad said. “Even if you marry a [scoundrel], you can always leave him and come home.”

Thirty-five years later, she cherishes the memory of that phone call. Margaret Renkl writes in her book *Late Migrations: A Natural History of Love and Loss*:

“These were words of loving reassurance from a father to his child, a reminder that as long as he and my mother were alive, there would always be a place in the world for me, a place where I would always belong, even if I didn’t always believe that I belonged there ...”

“But I wonder now, decades later, if my father’s words were more than a reminder of my everlasting place in the family. I wonder now if they were an expression of his own longing for the days when all his chicks were still in the nest, the circle was still closed, and the family that he and my mother had made was complete ..."

“I gave no thought to it then, but I think of it all the time now. I think of my father’s words across a bad landline connection in 1984 that reached my homesick heart in cold Philadelphia. I think of the 26-hour bus ride into the heart of Greyhound darkness that followed, a desperate journey that got me home in time for the squash casserole and cranberry relish. I think most of my own happiness, of all the years with a good man and family we have made together and the absorbing work — everything that followed a single season of loss, and only because I listened to my father. Because I came home.”

This is the domain of Christ’s reign: home, the place where we are always welcomed, loved, forgiven, cared for and about. Christ’s love “reigns” in our ordinary, simple, well-lived-in houses. It is into that kingdom, that paradise, that the crucified Jesus welcomes the good thief. On this last Sunday of the Church year, we honor Christ the King whose rule is one of humble service; Christ the King whose power is compassion, whose scepter is humility, whose coin is forgiveness and reconciliation; Christ the King whose court welcomes the poor, the forgotten, the lost, the despairing. May we make our simple homes and dwellings places of humble welcome and grateful care, where the love of Christ joyfully reigns.

*Connections*, November 2019

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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!

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**HOME FOR THANKSGIVING**

**Feast of Christ the King**

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*Connections*, November 2019
ST. PATRICK CENTER ISO TARGET CARDS

St. Patrick Center Christmas Wishes assists those who have little or no money to purchase Christmas gifts for their children. 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.

SURVIVING DIVORCE

The holidays can be difficult for divorced and separated families. This 12-week program follows lay men and women on the journey to true healing. Immaculate Conception Parish–Dardenne is hosting the program beginning Jan. 8, 2020. There is a $25 fee to cover materials needed. Contact Debi at debijo@att.net.

OUR LADY’S INN TRIVIA NIGHT

Our Lady’s Inn Maternity Homes is having its annual Trivia Night on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2020, at Chaminade College Prep School (425 S. Lindbergh). Doors open at 6 p.m. and trivia begins at 7 p.m. Cost is $25 per person; tables of eight. For information or to register, visit www.ourladysinn.org or call Katrina at 314-736-1544.
**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, November 25**
8:00 a.m.— Liturgy of the Word

**Tuesday, November 26**
8:00 a.m.— LaVerne Gartner

**Wednesday, November 27**
8:00 a.m.— Rosa McBride

**Thursday, November 28**
9:00 a.m.— Kenneth Zitko, Arthur Gormley

**Friday, November 29**
8:00 a.m.— Jean Westrich, Harold Schlegel

**Saturday, November 30**
8:00 a.m.— Fran Crimi, Ted McBride
4:00 p.m.— Our Parishioners

**Sunday, December 1**
8:00 a.m.— Richard Meisemann
10:30 a.m.— Ron & Kathy Ulrich

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**PLEASE PRAY**

for our sick and recovering ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dave Asinger</th>
<th>Jan Haffer</th>
<th>Steve Moylan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suzi Beck</td>
<td>Paul Heidbrier</td>
<td>Dianne Neels</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liz Bentrup</td>
<td>Wence Kveton</td>
<td>Grace Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Dosenbach</td>
<td>Thomas Lorenz</td>
<td>Vince Stehlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Goedeker</td>
<td>Lois McClellan</td>
<td>Virginia Zenthoefer</td>
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for our homebound ...

| Albertine Honious | Art Petersen |

for family members serving in the military ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Derek Hirtz</th>
<th>Ryan O'Neil</th>
<th>Dylan Schulte</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tristan Moylan</td>
<td>Brian Schoellhorn</td>
<td>Mitch Sollmann</td>
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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** through **Saturday: Mass**
8:00 a.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.