

ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR PARISH

September 13, 2020 • Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray,
your own sins will be forgiven.

— Sirach 28:2

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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
info@saintstephenstl.org
www.saintstephenstl.org

 @sspstl

 ststephenprotomartyr.flocknote.com

 youtube.com/StStephenProtomartyr

Chapel of Sts. Mary and Joseph

6304 Minnesota, St. Louis, MO 63111

 @stsmariandjosephchapel

SCHOOL

3929 Wilmington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116
314-752-4700 ... 314-752-5165 fax
greg.sturgill@saintstephenstl.org

 @SSPCatholicSchool

Father Ron Hopmeir, Pastor

info@saintstephenstl.org

Mrs. Mary Regan, Pastoral Associate

mary.regan@saintstephenstl.org

Mr. Stephen E. Jones, Music Director

stephen.jones@saintstephenstl.org

Mrs. June Tessin, Office Manager / Bookkeeper

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Mr. Greg Sturgill, Principal

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Mr. Bob Wiley, Facilities Manager

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Mrs. Mary Paule, Child Safety Coordinator / Secretary

mary.paule@saintstephenstl.org

Ms. Stephanie Oehler Wobbe, Communications Coordinator

stephanie.wobbe@saintstephenstl.org

STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE, and PRAYER

***"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." (Romans 14:8)***

**This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God.
We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts
that God has given us, especially our very own lives.
Pray to God daily and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.**

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION

Giving for the week ending September 6 will be reported in a future bulletin.

CHECK DEPOSITS

Please note: June is out of the office for the first part of September, so there will be no posting or depositing of checks during that time.

She will return on Wednesday, Sept. 15, and checks will be deposited the following Monday, Sept. 21. Thanks for your understanding.



**Thank You!!
For Your Support
of**

The 2021

Alphabet Club Raffle

To Benefit



STS. MARY & JOSEPH CHAPEL

We have SOLD OUT!!

Your generosity and support of the Chapel at SSMJ
is greatly appreciated!!

September 2020

Alphabet Club Raffle Winners:

Y/2: Carol Sestric ~ \$100.00

Y/1: Gene Voss ~ \$25.00

Y/3: Carol Sestric ~ \$25.00

Congratulations!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Monday, Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Nm 21:4b-9;

Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday, Our Lady of Sorrows: 1 Cor 12:12-14,

27-31a; Ps 10:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 19:25-27

Wednesday, Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian: 1 Cor 12:31-

13:13; Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 & 22; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28;

Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14;

Lk 8:4-15

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18;

Lk 6:43-49

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3,

8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a

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.

SSP IN THE NEWS

We hope you saw the story in a recent issue of the *St. Louis Review* highlighting our Holy Name Society's involvement with the St. Joseph Housing Initiative. Great work, men!



Contact HNS president **Ted Hartzler** at tcdhars@mindspring.com for information about how to help with this project.



Rich Nigro, with St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish's Holy Name Society, and other workers organized by St. Joseph Housing construct a backyard fence Saturday at a house on Mount Pleasant Street in south St. Louis. Photo Credit: Jerry Naunheim Jr.



Gary Nipper, left, with St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish's Holy Name Society, and Ron Decker with First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, joined other workers organized by St. Joseph Housing Initiative to construct a backyard fence Saturday at a house in the Dutchtown neighborhood of St. Louis on Aug. 29. Photo Credit: Jerry Naunheim Jr.

MARRIAGE NEWS

Best wishes to **Dennis Poepsel**, Ph.D., who married **Staceyann Doobar**, DVM, on **July 29, 2020**, in Buffalo, New York. The prayers of the St. Stephen community are with them as they begin their new life together!



SCDC MEETING

All who are separated, divorced, widowed, or remarried are invited to join the next meeting of the South County Separated, Divorced, Widowed, and Remarried Catholics (SCDC) on Thursday, **Sept. 24, 2020**, at 6 p.m., at Sylvan Springs Park Artillery Shelter House (across from the Jefferson Barracks Cemetery) located near Sherman and Boundary Roads by the playground. There are clean bathrooms, and the tables will be socially distanced. We also have access to lights if we need them. Please bring a lawn chair and your own drink and snack.

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.

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

DID SOMEONE SAY 'UPCOMING EVENTS'???

Save the date for a **virtual PTO Trivia Night** event on the evening of **Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020**. It's happening! We'll have more information next week.



Put these events on your calendar **in pencil**; they are tentatively scheduled, and what they will look like is still largely undetermined:

- **Trunkless Trunk or Treat** — Friday, Oct. 23, 2020
- **PTO Holiday Boutique** — Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020
- **Breakfast With Santa** — Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020

THE ONCE AND FUTURE HOARDER

If you've been to a grocery store since March, chances are you had this experience, or something similar to it:

You were looking for a particular brand or product that the store just could not keep in stock — staples like milk, eggs, tuna fish, soap. And who will ever forget the Great Toilet Paper Crisis of 2020? Part of the problem was the supply chain could not keep up with the new demands of so many people suddenly being home all day — but a big part of the problem were the “hoarders”: people who stockpiled many of these staples, managing to snap them up as soon as clerks could restock the shelves.

So you complained — too loudly and angrily, perhaps — to the manager of the store. You went through the entire litany: how you have been a loyal customer of this store for years, that this pandemic has been difficult for you and your family, that it's unfair that a few people should be able to snap up everything, etc. The manager listened politely and apologized profusely. Maybe he or she would save you a roll of TP or a dozen eggs.

Then, the next time you shopped, you found a product that had been out of stock for weeks. Your heart leapt for joy! Never could you imagine that hand sanitizer could be the cause of such elation; you grabbed the tomato soup as if you had found the Holy Grail. You resolved that you would not do without this again, so you filled your cart with as many cans or boxes or bags of the product as you could push.

Did it ever dawn on you that someone else would now do without because of your “stocking up”?

Or you may have experienced this: You're at the bank to conduct some business and the customer ahead of you seems to be renegotiating the debt of a small European country; he or she has managed to tie up not just one but several tellers and an assistant manager while you and others wait. It's finally your turn and, without realizing it, you take up more than your fair share of their time with *One more thing ... Before I forget ... and As long as I'm here ...*

Or you're looking for help at the hardware store or home center and you wait and wait while another customer has collared a clerk in search of the right nut and bolt. Finally — finally! — it's your turn. And you found that you had more questions about your project than you thought — as other customers waited. You had become the kind of shopper you had complained about, the would-be do-it-yourselfer who needed more help than you realized.

It's not much of a leap from being the forgiver to the forgiven. The servant's cruel treatment of his fellow servant begins with his forgetting that he was once indebted and forgiven. Such forgiveness does not come easily. It requires overcoming our own anger and outrage at the hurt we have suffered and refocusing our concern, instead, on the person who wronged us. It means possessing the humility to face the hurt we have inflicted on others as a result of our insensitivity and self-centeredness. But only in such forgiving and seeking forgiveness are we able to realize the possibility of bringing healing and new life to a pained and grieving situation. Christ calls us to create within our families and communities that kind of environment in which forgiveness is joyfully offered and humbly but confidently sought. It begins by recognizing our own indebtedness, our own failings that divide and hurt — often without our realizing it.

Connections, September 2020

CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

In *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis calls Catholics and all people of good will to unite in caring for the future of our planet.

Join others from the Archdiocese as we learn how to advocate in our homes, parishes, schools, and legislatures for the care of our common home. This panel discussion will include a climate scientist, a student activist, an ecumenical partner, lay parish leaders, and a religious sister.

The gathering will happen via **Zoom** on Thursday, **Oct. 1, 2020**, at 7 p.m. RSVP and get more details at www.archstl.org/laudato-si, or call **James Fowlkes-Comninellis** at 314-792-7177.



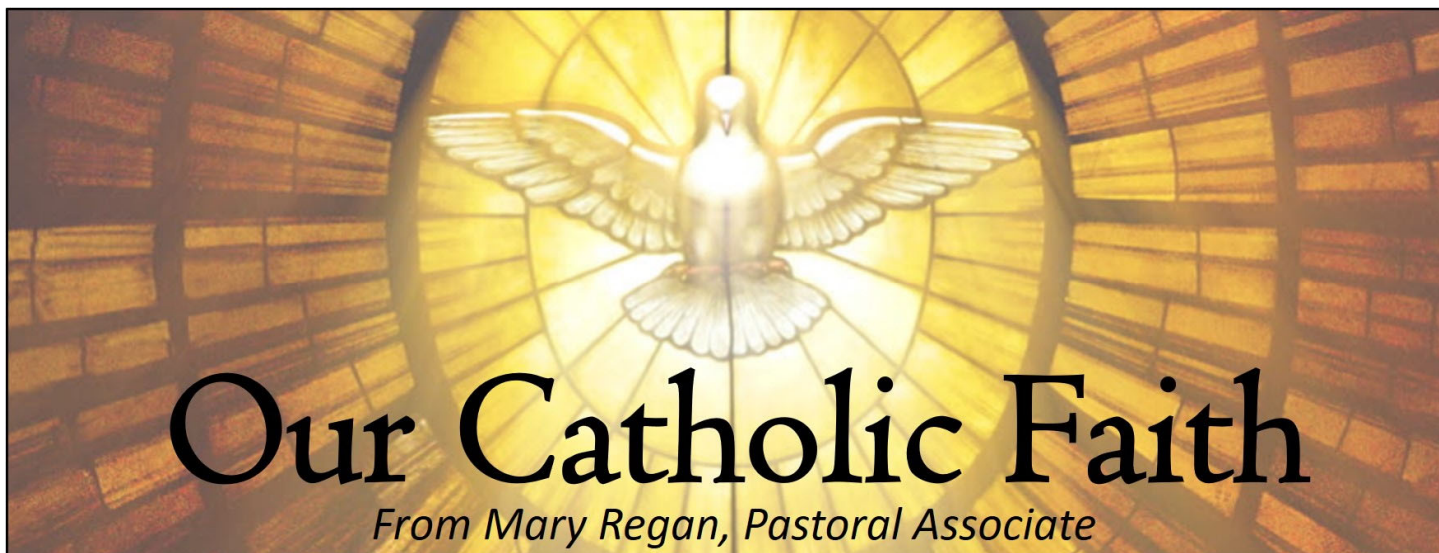
LAUDATO SI'

TEE OFF FOR LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our Lady's Inn will hold its 17th Annual Tee Off for Life Golf Tournament On Monday, **Oct. 19, 2020**, at Greenbriar Hills Country Club, featuring 18 holes of golf, two boxed meals, gift, and contests.

Proceeds support the moms, babies, and kids who call OLI home. OLI provides shelter and supportive care to 150 families per year.

Registration and more info at ourladysinn.org/17th-annual-golf.



Way back in the middle of March (that seems so long ago), we created our Nightly News Flocknote to consolidate communication to the parish in a time of news from many directions. Since then, we have offered not only news but prayers, pictures, and videos to keep the parish community connected.

We would like to inaugurate another new feature: Our Catholic Faith. It will appear weekly in Nightly News and also in the bulletin. It will include a buffet of Catholic faith tidbits – information on a saint whose feast day is approaching, the history of what might be happening at the time a particular scripture was written, why we do XYZ, and the like.

If you have a question you might like addressed, email **Mary Regan** at mary.regan@saintstephenstl.org. If Mary doesn't know the answer, she'll try to find it. All questions will respect the privacy of the questioner, who will remain anonymous.

Saint Teresa of Kolkata

DATES: 1910–1997

FEAST DAY: SEPTEMBER 7

Raised in a deeply Catholic family in Albania, Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu joined the Sisters of Loreto in 1928 and took the name Teresa. The community sent her to Kolkata, India, where she taught children for two decades. In 1946 Teresa heard God's call to quench the thirst of Jesus by caring for the poorest of the poor. She left the Sisters of Loreto to rescue the sick and destitute in the slums of Kolkata -- one at a time. Many volunteers soon joined her and she formed them into her religious order, the Missionaries of Charity. Teresa's manifest goodness and her unique media savvy attracted global attention, drawing many people to God. Many regard her as the greatest Catholic evangelist of the 20th century. She was beatified in 2003 and canonized in 2016.



CNS photo/Nancy Wieche

Stay tuned in to our COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS

WEBSITE www.saintstephenstl.org

- **School:** www.saintstephenstl.org/school

FACTS is our parents' main source of the nitty-gritty, but here you can find more general information.

- **Livestream:** www.saintstephenstl.org/live-stream

Go here to see any of our live streams in real time, including Masses and other events; after their live airing, all videos are available in the archive, at the bottom of the page.

YOUTUBE www.youtube.com/ststephenprotomartyr

Includes all live-streamed videos, as well as prayers / songs / meditations, school-related videos, and past Masses. Subscribe to be notified of new videos.

FLOCKNOTE StStephenProtomartyr.flocknote.com

Our main parish communication tool. Sign up for whichever groups are of interest; unsubscribe at any time. Receive notes via email and/or text.

- **Daily Reflections:** Reflections on the day's readings from Mary Regan and parishioners.
- **Nightly News:** Born of sheltering in place, parish news and a reflection.
- **Weekly Bulletin:** Our weekly church bulletin.
- **Monthly Update:** Encapsulation of news & happenings over the past month.
- **News Alerts:** Urgent news; used rarely.
- **Prayer Tree:** Prayer requests from our community.

FACEBOOK

- **Parish:** www.facebook.com/sspstl
- **School:** www.facebook.com/SSPCatholicSchool
- **Alumni:** www.facebook.com/groups/StStephenAlumni
Public group of graduates of St. Stephen and anyone else who's interested.
- **PTO:** www.facebook.com/groups/SSPPTO
Private group limited to current school parents and staff. Go to group to request to join.

Questions? Contact **Stephanie Wobbe** at stephaniewobbe@saintstephenstl.org or 314-660-1548.



September 13, 2020

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 14

Private Mass

Tuesday, September 15

8 a.m. — SSP Class of 1961, Lucille Ogar

Wednesday, September 16

8 a.m. — Norine Guill

Thursday, September 17

8 a.m. — Charles Stough

Friday, September 18

8 a.m. — Norine Guill

Saturday, September 19

4 p.m. — Evelyn Borgmeyer

Sunday, September 20

9 a.m. — Helen Keeton, Our Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY

for our sick and recovering ...

Suzie Beck	Paul Heidbrier	Lois McClellan
Liz Bentrup	Tim Krueger	Steve Moylan
Ann Dosenbach	Thomas Lorenz	Grace Phillips
Steve Gaydos	Joe Mahfood	Laurie Rahn
Jan Haffer	Bob Marx	Virginia Zenthoefer

for our homebound ...

Jack Heffernan	Albertine Honious	Art Petersen
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for family members serving in the military ...

Derek Hirtz	Ryan O'Neil	Dylan Schulte
Sam May	Brian Schoellhorn	Mitch Sollmann
Tristan Moylan	Chris Schrader	

DEVOTIONS

Please contact the parish office if you would like to pray privately in the church.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SAINT  STEPHEN
Saint Stephen Protomartyr Parish

Parish Office Hours

314-481-1133

Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays

Bulletin Article Deadline

Monday at 12 p.m. prior to the weekend bulletin.

Sacramental Celebrations

Eucharist

Make a reservation to attend **weekend** Masses via the link on our parish website or call Mary at 314-481-1133, option 2

Saturday: Mass, 4 p.m.

Sunday: Mass, 9 a.m.

Tuesday-Friday: Mass, 8 a.m. (no reservations required)

Reconciliation

Please call Father Ron to make an appointment.

Infant and Child Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated at any weekend liturgy or on the last Sunday of the month following the latest Mass. 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.

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 office.

Parish School of Religion

PSR 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.

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Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.
For further information, please call the Parish Office.

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cathymann.stlouisareahomesearch.com

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