

ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR PARISH

Immaculate Heart of Mary † St. John the Baptist † St. Stephen Protomartyr

WEEKLY BULLETIN: June 29, 2025

Welcome!

We are so glad that you have joined us for Mass. You matter to God, and you matter to us.

If you haven't been to a Catholic Mass, before, know that we use several different postures for prayer: standing, sitting, and kneeling. You can follow along and do what everyone else does, standing when they stand, and so on.

We believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist, so we kneel to express adoration of God-With-Us. If it is hard for you to kneel, you can sit instead.

At Communion, if you are not Catholic or not ready to receive the Eucharist, you can come forward with your arms folded to receive a blessing instead

God Bless You!

Our Churches

St. Stephen Protomartyr (SSP) 3949 Wilmington, St. Louis, MO 63116
Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) 4092 Blow, St. Louis, MO 63116
St. John the Baptist (SJB) 4200 Delor, St. Louis, MO 63116

Masses

Saturdays 4pm @ SSP
Sundays 7am @ SJB • 10AM @ IHM • 4:30 @ SSP
Weekdays 6:30 @ SJB
Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 8am @ IHM
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8am @ SSP

Main Office

3949 WILMINGTON AVE., ST. LOUIS, MO 63116
MONDAY-THURSDAY 8AM-3PM
314-481-1133 • WWW.SSPSTL.ORG

St. Stephen Protomartyr School

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Maintenance Team

Jim Sciaroni, Maintenance Mgr
Arturo Cruz, Martha Quiroz, Nate Scott, Fidencio Tomas, Mercy Job

Please join us in singing the entrance hymn. The lyrics for the music chosen for 10 AM Mass are printed below, all other mass lyrics can be found in the Breaking Bread hymnal

ENTRANCE SONG

Please Stand

HOLY GOD WE PRAISE THY NAME

1. Holy God, we praise thy name!

Lord of all, we bow before thee!

All on Earth thy sceptre claim,

All in Heav'n above adore thee;

Infinite thy vast domain,

Everlasting is thy reign.

2. Hark! the loud celestial hymn

Angel choirs above are raising!

Cherubim and seraphim,

In unceasing chorus praising,

Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord;

Holy, holy, holy, Lord!

3. Holy Father, holy Son,

Holy Spirit, Three we name thee,

Though in essence only one,

Undivided God we claim thee;

And adoring bend the knee,

While we own the mystery.

GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Gloria to God in the highest, and on Earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you. We give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand

Continued

of the Father: have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Gloria to God in the highest, and on Earth peace to people of good will.

FIRST READING (ACTS 12) *Please Be Seated*

In those days, King Herod laid hands upon some members of the Church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also. –It was the feast of Unleavened Bread.– He had him taken into custody and put in prison under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each. He intended to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter thus was being kept in prison, but prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God on his behalf. On the very night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter, secured by double chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while outside the door guards kept watch on the prison. Suddenly the angel of the Lord stood by him and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and awakened him, saying, “Get up quickly.” The chains fell from his wrists. The angel said to him, “Put on your belt and your sandals.” He did so. Then he said to him, “Put on your cloak and follow me.” So he followed him out, not realizing that what was happening through the angel was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first guard, then the second, and came to the iron gate leading out to the city, which opened for them by itself. They emerged and made their way down an alley, and suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter recovered his senses and said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people had been expecting.”

Thanks be to God.

HOW WE PRAY

The opening procession at Mass symbolizes our earthly journey toward the heavenly banquet, led by the cross of Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PSALM 34)

The angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.

1. I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

2. Glorify the LORD with me, let us together extol his name. I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

3. Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame. When the poor one called out, the LORD heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

4. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. Taste and see how good the LORD is; blessed the man who takes refuge in him.

SECOND READING (TIMOTHY 4)

I, Paul, am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance. The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat and will bring me safe to his heavenly Kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please Stand

Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

GOSPEL (MATTHEW 16)

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Continued...

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

The priest will now preach the homily, explaining the day's Scriptures and applying them to life today.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Please Stand

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray to the Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY SONG

Please Be Seated

ABBA! FATHER!

Abba, Abba Father. You are the potter; we are the clay, the work of your hands.

1. Mold us, mold us and fashion us into the image of Jesus, your son, of Jesus your Son.
2. Father, may we be one in you. May we be one in you as he is in you, and you are in him.
3. Glory, glory and praise to you. Glory and praise to you forever, amen, forever, amen.

HOW WE PRAY

The Sanctus ("Holy, Holy, Holy") at Mass comes from the prophet Isaiah's vision of heaven and echoes the worship of angels before God's throne.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Please Stand

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

Pray, brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours, may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and Earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin, and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope, and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

For the Kingdom the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

SIGN OF PEACE

At this time the congregation will offer one another a sign of peace; some embracing, some shaking hands, ect. This gesture flows from Christ's teaching to make peace with others as we approach the altar.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world:

grant us, grant us peace

Please Kneel

Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world; blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION

At this time the congregation will come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament in communion. If you are not Catholic or are not prepared to receive the Eucharist you are invited to cross your hands over your chest and come forward for a blessing.

HOW WE PRAY

When the priest kisses the altar at the start of Mass, he honors Christ and the relics of saints often placed within the altar itself.

COMMUNION SONG

GOODNESS OF GOD

1. I love You, Lord
Oh, Your mercy never failed me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

**And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God**

2. I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
And in darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God, yeah

B. 'Cause Your goodness is running after, it's
running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
'Cause Your goodness is running after, it's running
after me

FINAL BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Bow your heads for the blessing.

The response after each prayer is: **Amen.**

The Mass is ended, go in peace.

Thanks be to God.



DAILY READINGS

MON-Genesis 18:16-33, Psalm 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11, Psalm 95:8, Matthew 8:18-22 TUES-Genesis 19:15-29, Psalm 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12, 1 Peter 1:8-12, Psalm 130:5; Matthew 8:23-27 WED Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13, James 1:18, Matthew 8:28-34, THURS Ephesians 2:19-22; Psalm 117:1bc, 2, John 20:29, John 20:24-29, FRI Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67 Psalm 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5, Matthew 11:28, Matthew 9:9-13 SAT Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29, John 10:27, Matthew 9:14-17

CLOSING SONG

GOD IS LOVE

1. God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let
earth rejoice; Let creation sing before him and exalt
him with one voice, God who laid the earth's
foundation, God who spread the heavens above,
God who breathes through all creation: God is love,
eternal Love.

2. God is Love; and love enfolds us, All the world in
one embrace; With unfailing grasp God holds us,
Every child of every race. And when human hearts
are breaking, under sorrows iron rod, Then we find
that self same aching deep within the heart of God.

3. God is Love, and though with blindness sin afflicts
all human life, God's eternal loving kindness guides
us through our earthly strife. Sin and death and hell
shall never over us final triumph again; God is love,
so Love forever over the universe reign.

HOW WE PRAY

The priest's vestments change color with the
liturgical seasons, visually reflecting the Church's
journey through joy, penance, and hope.

PASTOR'S NOTE



I thought you should know...

Our "Read That Bible!" recommendation for this
week is the Second Letter of Peter (2 Peter); it has a
great testimony on the power of scripture in
Chapter 1 and a fun reference to St. Paul in chapter
3. Our song for the weekend is Petruslied, the
oldest song in German, a medieval hymn praising
Saint Peter. You can find it googling "Petruslied
Fatzwerk". The Global Medieval Songbook has a
great English translation. Finally, I'd like to
recommend a great resource for continuing to learn
more about the bible: the Bible in a Year Podcast by
Fr. Mike Schmitz. You can find it using the QR code
to the left.

[https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/
ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/](https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/)



Anyone working with children, whether as an employee or a volunteer, must meet the requirements for Archdiocesan Safe Environment Compliance.

The program is designed to help protect the youth, elderly, and vulnerable adults of our parish as they participate in activities within our community. This process also provides a layer of protection against the possibility of false accusations for those adults who are involved in our many ministries.

New volunteers should begin this process by visiting www.preventandprotectstl.org. There, you will be invited to:

- Register on the site (The password is stlprotect)
- Submit a background check
- Sign up for a "Protecting God's Children" workshop (Zoom or in-person)
- Complete online Mandated Reporter training
- Complete online Code of Conduct training
- Sign the Code of Conduct

(Once you are registered, the Prevent and Protect site will walk you through all of the other steps.)

If you are under 18 years old or still in high school and wish to volunteer at St. Stephen Protomartyr Church and School, you are required to complete the Code of Ethical Conduct for Youth form, and return it to the parish office. The previous information can be found on SSP's website under the "PGC" tab.

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish covers the cost for this certification. Questions? Please contact Bridget Judge, Child Safety Coordinator, at the parish office 314-481-1133 X 307 or email: bridget.judge@sspstl.org.

Becoming Catholic

Would you like to know more about becoming Catholic? Or maybe you were baptized but didn't celebrate your First Communion or Confirmation? Any time is a great time to take the next step, but we do have a group of folks who will begin their journey together in September toward full reception into the church at Easter. Would you like to join them? Deacon Dana Engelhardt would love to talk to you more about it. You can catch him after weekend Mass, call 314-481-1133, x304, or send him an email at dana.engelhardt@sspstl.org.



LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

... for our sick and recovering and their caregivers — Mary Bentrup, Mary Ann Camache, Ann Dosenbach, Harley Gardner, Frank Gion, Buddy Horrell, Thomas Lorenz, Rosemarie Miller, Kathleen Moody, Denise Trull, Garry Winter, Felix Lopez, Rev Ronald Chochol, Quinn Mattingly, Cathy Tarillo, Marion Covington, Gary Stoff, Cassie Knightlingerm, Michael Sullivan... and those who are homebound or no longer living in their homes.

HAVE A BULLETIN SUBMISSION?

Email bulletin@sspstl.org or call 314-481-1133, x303. Items must be received by Monday before 8 a.m.



"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me"
Matthew 25:40

In the months of April and May, our SVdP conference received 267 calls, and helped 162 households. Assistance totaled \$15,244. We directly assisted 97 households with \$13269+ in utility payments and 20 households with furniture/Thrift store vouchers. **We can do nothing without your generous support.**

Hope and Healing

Ministering to women, men, and families impacted by abortion, the Abortion Healing Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Louis offers programs for individuals and couples, as well as support groups and retreats. Summer open office hours at the Catholic Renewal Center (6120 Pebble Hill Drive, St. Joseph Suite) are Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and Wednesdays from 9:00 AM to noon. Come for resources, prayer, and conversation with our ministry team. The ongoing Ladies' Abortion Healing Spiritual Support Group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:00 PM at the Catholic Renewal Center. The upcoming Holy Family Hope and Healing Weekend Retreat for men, women, and couples touched by abortion will be held on September 13 and 14. Registration is open through September 2. One-on-one mentoring is also available through the Men's Project Joseph Ministry. Visit archstl.org/hope-healing to learn more.

MASSES, CELEBRANTS & INTENTIONS

SSP = St. Stephen Protomartyr Church

IHM = Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

SJB = St. John the Baptist Church

Monday, June 30

SJB 6:30am Fr. Aaron Nord Becky Blake

IHM 8:00am Fr. Tim Foley Joe and Dorothy Orf+

Tuesday, July 1

SJB 6:30am Fr. Aaron Nord Intentions of Our Holy Father

SSP 8:00am Fr. Tim Foley Intentions of Our Holy Father

Wednesday, July 2

SJB 6:30am Fr. Aaron Nord Intentions of Our Holy Father

IHM 8:00am Fr. Tim Foley Kay Foley +

Thursday, July 3

SJB 6:30am Fr. Tim Foley Intentions of Our Holy Father

SSP 8:00am Fr. Aaron Nord Intentions of Our Holy Father

IHM 6:00pm Confessions

Friday, July 4

SJB 6:30am No Mass

IHM 6:00pm Confessions

SSP 8:00am Fr. Tim Foley Intentions of Our Holy Father

Saturday, July 5

IHM 8:00am Fr. Tim Foley James Buckler +

SSP 3:00pm Confessions

SSP 4:00pm Fr. Aaron Nord June Zitko +

Sunday, July 6

SJB 7:00am Fr. Aaron Nord Our Parish Family

SJB 7:45am Confessions

IHM 9:30am Confessions, 9:35am Rosary

IHM 10:00am Fr. Aaron Nord Ed Godde +

SSP 4:30pm Fr. Tim Foley Intentions of Our Holy Father



Stephen Ministers are people like you—caring Christians who want to make a difference in the lives of those going through difficult times. Through 50 hours of training, you will receive practical, hands-on learning and resources to provide Christ-centered care to meet the emotional and spiritual needs of others. Miss the Informational Meetings but want to learn more? Call Leigh Manalang at 314-486-0717 for more information and an upcoming training schedule. The next training session begins Tuesday, August 26th.

CALENDAR

For more information, please refer to — or subscribe to — our calendar at www.sspstl.org/ssp-calendars or call the parish office at 314-481-1133.

Mon. June 30	10am Quilters @ SSP 10am Weekly Bible Study Group #1 @ SJB 1pm Plarn Group @ IHM
Tues. July 1	9am Exercise and Balance Class @ IHM 10am Quilters @ IHM 1pm Men's Small Group Meeting @ IHM 6pm Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions @ IHM 6:15pm Lectio Divina @ IHM 7pm Boy Scout Troop 179 Meeting @ IHM 7pm Men's Club Executive Board Meeting @ SJB
Wed. July 2	10am Quilters @ SSP 10am New Monthly Bible Study @ IHM 7pm Prayer Group @ SJB
Thurs. July 3	8am Quilters @ SJB 6pm Eucharistic Adoration @ IHM 6pm Weekly Bible Study Group #2 @ SJB
Fri. July 4	9am Exercise @ IHM 6pm Eucharistic Procession & Rosary @ SJB 6pm First Friday Sacred Heart Devotion @ SJB
Sat. July 5	8:30 am First Saturday Devotions @ IHM
Sun. July 6	8am Small Faith-Sharing Group Meeting @ SJB 10am Children's Liturgy of the Word @ IHM 4:30pm Children's Liturgy of the Word @ SSP 5:30pm Sacred Sparks Youth Group @ SSP

Interested in more parish events and local opportunities? Join our Flocknote community: <https://saintstephenstl.org/> weekly-update



CONTRIBUTIONS

June 16- June 22, 2025

General Parish Funds.....\$10,882.00

Archdiocesan Collections.....\$511.00

St. Vincent de Paul Society\$410.00

44% of these funds were donated online

Sign up for online giving at www.osvhub.com/saint-stephen-stl

NEED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE?

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is here to help. Call 314-289-6101, x1181, if you or someone you know needs emergency assistance with utilities or food. A Vincentian will return your call within one to two days. All calls are confidential.