

WELCOME!

We welcome all of our visitors and guests to St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish. If you would be so kind as to sign the Guest Book found in the vestibule of the Chapel or near the main entrance to the Church, we would appreciate it.

If you would like to register or find out more information about us, please call the parish office at 481-1133 or visit our website at www.saintstephenstl.org.

Our mission statement is: "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."

Transfigured grace within you

A young husband and wife learn they are about to become parents for the first time. They are excited, of course — but there is a lingering doubt: *Do I have what it takes to be a good mom, a good dad?* But the young parents find within themselves the wisdom, the strength, the patience — the grace — to be a good mom and dad to this child whom they love more than they could ever imagine.

Every life is a continuing series of such self-discovery:

A boy picks up a bat for the first time. A girl takes her first tentative steps onto the court and begins dribbling the basketball.

He nervously steps up to the lectern and clears his throat. She stares at the blank page for a long time before she begins writing down words — her words.

He bends down to help, not knowing what he should do. She sits by the bedside, having no idea what to say.

Who are we to think we can play this game, succeed at this craft, express anything important in art, offer any meaningful support or consolation (terrified, in fact, that we are certain to say the wrong thing or do something to make things worse)?

But when we confront our fears, when we resolve to give all we have, when we devote the time to learn and practice, we amaze ourselves at the talents and abilities we possess and what we can do.

In our lives, we confront many mountains: the first day at a new school, new responsibilities at work, a desperate call for help. But we manage to find within ourselves abilities we didn't know we possessed, words we didn't think we knew, love that was beyond us.

Continued.....

We realize in those moments that we are, in fact, smart enough, capable enough, loving enough to learn, to succeed, to heal, to transform our lives and the world around us.

■ *In the event we have come to call Jesus' "transfiguration," the three disciples realize the divinity — the very life and love of God — that exists within the person of Jesus. That same touch of divinity exists within each one of us, was well: God is present within us, animating us to do wonderful, holy things; guiding our steps as we try to walk justly and humbly in the ways of God; enlightening our vision with wisdom and selflessness to bring the justice and mercy of God to our world. The challenge of discipleship is to allow the love of God within us to "transfigure" despair into hope, sadness into joy, anguish into healing, estrangement into community.* ■

From [Connections: February 2010](#)

Stations of the Cross

A devotion frequently prayed during Lent is the Stations of the Cross. During the time of the crusades (1095-1270), it became popular for pilgrims to the Holy Land to walk in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary. In the next two centuries, after the Moslems recaptured the Holy Land, pilgrimages were too dangerous. A substitute pilgrimage, the Stations of the Cross, became a popular outdoor devotion throughout Europe during the Middle Ages. They represented critical events from Scripture or tradition of Jesus' journey to Calvary and varied in number from five to twenty until the 18th century when Pope Clement XII fixed the number at 14. In the mid-eighteenth century, Stations were allowed inside churches. The Stations became a familiar feature in Catholic churches.

During Lent we offer Stations of the Cross are prayed on **Friday afternoons at 2:00 PM and Friday evenings at 7:00 PM**. Come to the Fish Fry and then join us for Stations after you eat.

Leadership Councils

The **Finance Council** members are: Marty Bickel, John Blaskiewicz, Ann Esswein, Dan Millman, Jim Pashia, Paul Payne, Linda Seemiller, Barb Schlanger and Fr. Ron

Readings for the week

The readings are included each week so that parishioners who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them.

March 1 through March 7, 2010

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8-9,11,13 Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10,16-20 Ps 50:8-9,16bc-17,21,23
Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6,14-16
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a Ps 105:16-21,
Mt 21:33-43,45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15,18-20 Ps 103:1-4,9-12
Lk 15:1-3,11-32

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a,13-15 Ps 103:1-4,6-8,11
1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12 Lk 13:1-9

Lent: It's a "do-over"

Kids love the idea of a new start — think of "do-overs" at recess time. As adults, most of us have grown to believe that do-overs don't exist after all. "You've made your bed, now lie in it" is more of the adult motto. But Jesus is all about the do-over: the second (and third and fourth) chance, the opportunity to forgive seventy times seven.

Lent is a fitting time to remind ourselves and our children of Jesus' belief in the do-over. Make the commitment to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent. Get a good soul-washing, walk out with an opportunity for a do-over.

From [At Home with our Faith](#), March 2010

Our Students Shine

Congratulations to Will Smith, first-place, and Grace Butz, third place, winners of the St. Patrick Center's Eighth-Grade Essay Contest. This contest is an annual program to build student awareness of those who are homeless and of our poor neighbors.

Will and Grace's essays are provided on the insert in today's bulletin.

Alumni News

Congratulations to Grace Cash who is on the First Honors Roll at Ursuline Academy.

Tuition Assistance

Any Catholic family wishing to apply for tuition assistance through the Archdiocese for the 2010-2011 school year must obtain a "FACTS" application from the school. Students must attend a Parochial Elementary School or an Archdiocesan, Regional or Parochial High School to be eligible. The due date for the application is **April 1, 2010** and **must** include a copy of your **2009** income Tax Return. **Grants for the 2010-2011 school year are made possible through the generosity of the Annual Catholic Appeal. The Catholic Education Office appreciates the support of the ACA and all of its donors.**

Carondelet Ecumenical Council of Churches Free Lenten Family Breakfast

Saturday, March 6

Grace UCC

5700 Leona

7:30 AM

Contact: Don Hudson @352-7798

Bring a non-perishable food for the food pantry.

Pray for...

If you have a family member / relative serving in the military who you would like us to remember in prayer please contact the rectory with their name. We list these on page six of our bulletin.

Reflections

Purple sheets with reflections on the Sunday readings are available in the holders at the entrances of the church. Please feel free to take one as you enter the church and pray with it as you prepare for Mass.

White House Retreat

Men of the parish are invited to our annual White House retreat beginning with dinner on Thursday, March 25. The retreat will end after lunch on Sunday March 28.

Uncertain financial times can make retreats all the more important. "Come aside and rest a while" (Mk 6:31) Consider making a silent Lenten retreat on the beautiful bluffs of the Mississippi.

Access www.whretreat.org to see the White House facilities and learn more about this Ignation retreat experience. A DVD is also available.

For more information contact:

Dennis Carosello - 351-6219

Larry Esswein - 351-1417

Ron Thenhaus - 832-8395

February 28, 2010 2nd Sunday of Lent

STEWARDSHIP: SHARING TIME, TALENT, TREASURE and PRAYER

*"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession."
GENESIS 15:7*

Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week's Stewardship	\$ 6,967.00
Weekly Stewardship goal	\$ 10,481.00
Average	\$ 7,308.70
Renovations & Improvements	\$ 36.00
Tuition Assistance	\$ 61.00
Eastern Europe	\$ 219.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$ 505.00

Heavenly Dusters

On Saturday mornings individuals spend about an hour cleaning the sacred vessels, doing some light dusting and generally preparing the church for the weekend liturgies.

Our thanks goes out to them for all that they do to help make our worship space conducive to prayer.

At the present time we are in need of several people to help in this ministry. Please contact Mary Regan at the rectory office at 481-1133 or mary0828@sbcglobal.net if you would like to help.

Thinking about becoming Catholic?

Are you or someone you know, considering becoming Catholic? Interested persons may begin at any time of the year, the process is on-going. For further information please contact Mary Regan at mary0828@sbcglobal.net or 481-1133.

This Week at St. Stephen Protomartyr

Liturgical Ministries

Lectors

Saturday, March 6, Church of St. Stephen

4:00 PM — W. & C. Kveton

Sunday, March 7

8:00 AM — M.B. Kuntz, G. Joly

10:30 AM — M. Kuppinger, D. Lampe

Servers

Saturday, March 6, Church of St. Stephen

4:00 PM — F. Martin, S. Kayser

Sunday, March 7

8:00 AM — K. Carosello, A. O'Brien

10:30 AM — V. Chirco, M. Smith

Mandatory Safe Environment Compliance

Any adults who want to volunteer in parish activities or ministries that include children must be in full compliance with the Safe Environment Program of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Compliance requires attendance at a Protecting God's Children workshop, a signed Code of Ethical Conduct and submitting to a background check which will be updated in even numbered years. For more information contact your parish child safety coordinator Mary Paule.

Ladies of the Parish Annual Retreat

Women of the parish are invited to Our Annual Retreat at King's House in Belleville on April 23 - 25. Enjoy a restful refreshing weekend. Call Doris Jung at 481-4083 for information and reservations.

Sunday February 28	Monday March 1	Tuesday March 2	Wednesday March 3	Thursday March 4	Friday March 5	Saturday March 6
Choir Practice After 10:30 Mass		Arthritis Exercise Class 9:00 AM	All School Mass	Arthritis Exercise Class 9:00 AM	All School Mass Tai Chi 9:45-11:00	
				Scripture Study 9:00 AM	Stations of the Cross 2:00 & 7:00 PM	
	Scripture Study 7:00 PM			Choir Practice	Fish Fry	

High School Choices ~ Class of 2010

Joseph Amsler	CBC
Bridget Biundo	Notre Dame
Samantha Braun	Rosati Kain
T.W. Brown	SLUH
Grace Butz	Bishop DuBourg
Joseph Carr	Bishop DuBourg
Hannah Grindel	Rosati Kain
David Hennen	Bishop DuBourg
William Kayser	Bishop DuBourg
Jessica Kendrick	Bishop DuBourg
Valerie Massmann	Nerinx Hall
Madeleine Millman	Cor Jesu Academy
Claire Paule	St. Elizabeth
Franchesca Petersen	Bishop DuBourg
Hannah Rettig	Bishop DuBourg
Bayley Roberts	Rosati Kain
Devon Sample	Bishop DuBourg
Marissa Schrader	Notre Dame
William Smith	SLUH
Elise Thomas	Oakville
Nadia Wood	Bishop DuBourg

Preschool & Kindergarten Buddy Day

Mark your calendars! If you have a preschooler, please plan on attending our annual Preschool & Kindergarten buddy day on March 3rd from 9 - 11:15 AM.

St. Stephen Protomartyr Preschool will be joining us in the fun that day. While your child enjoys fun and games, parents will be given a tour of the school and will be able to ask the principal and Kindergarten teacher questions.

For more information, please contact the school office @752-4700 or meghanbohacssp@smail.com



Honor Roll

First Honors

4th grade

Kaleigh Pemberton
Cassidy Pezzani
Joe Schulte

5th grade

Sam Chechik
Frank Krueger
Sam Millman
Kelsey Ortinau
Andrew Rettig

6th grade

Morgan Klutho
Sarah Nolte
Annie O'Brien

7th grade

Nora Schoenle

8th grade

Bridget Biundo
Samantha Braun
TW Brown
Grace Butz
Joe Carr

Second Honors

4th grade

Sarra Agha
Brenden Eddingfield
Jacob Grindel
Logan Hendrix

5th grade

Abbey Dennis

6th grade

Austin Fischer
Kyle Kayser
Josie King

7th grade

Sam Kayser
Matt O'Neil

8th grade

Hannah Grindel
David Hennen
William Kayser
Valerie Massmann

Natalie Klutho
Morgan McManus
Tristan Moylan
Alyssa Weldon

Claire Paule
Franchesca Petersen
Elise Thomas
Nadia Wood

Congratulations to all of our students who worked so hard!

South Grand Senior Ministry

COME TO A NEW DANCE CLASS

Dance instructor Virginia Wise will be teaching a free, six-week international dance class for seniors! This dynamic 86-year-old has a lesson for everyone -- any age, any ability, you name it! The classes will be on **Fridays, starting March 12th**, from 10:00-11:00 am at the Carondelet Senior Center, located at 6518 Michigan. Wise has adapted dance techniques from cultures around the world in her lessons. She says the mix of American, European, African, Polynesian and Asian dance techniques give us what we need for coordination, stretching and strength. Primitive, folk and classical dance forms are also employed. Anatomy that relates to dance will be taught because Wise, a former professional dancer, believes we should know something about the parts of our bodies we are working. For more information, call Billy Farhat at 664-9700.

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS SESSION

Come to an information session on **Tuesday, March 2nd** and find out everything you need to know about Medicare, Missouri Rx, Medicaid, Social Security, Veterans benefits and much more. Our experts can let you know what you are qualified for and how to get these benefits. They can review your current plans and make recommendations to save you money. Join us from **10:00 am-Noon** in the parish hall at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church (3133 Meramec). This event will include light refreshments and is completely free! Please RSVP to Amanda Zoller at 314-664-9700.

SGSM DAY OF RECOLLECTION

The Annual Day of Recollection sponsored by South Grand Senior Ministry will be held **Tuesday, March 9th** from 10:00 am-3:00 pm at St. Anthony's Parish Center at 3133 Meramec St. This year, we will have two presenters. In the morning, Jane Siebel will present some thoughts on *Lenten Renewal and Letting Go*. After lunch, we will have Marlene Chertok give a presentation called *Laughter, Prayer, and Healing*. Lunch will be provided. **Cost for the day including lunch is \$10**. Come and join us for this wonderful opportunity to grow closer to God as we go on our Lenten journey. If you would like to attend, you may call either **Sr. Carrol at 353-1255 or Barb Salmo at 655-0554**. When you call in to register, let us know to which parish you belong and if you need transportation.

YARD WORK BLITZ

On **Saturday, March 20**, volunteers will be doing yard work for senior homeowners in the South Grand Senior Ministry area. Please call Natasha Boddy at 664-9700 to get your name on the list.

SECRETS TO FEELING YOUNG

Do you want the secrets to looking younger, feeling younger and living longer? South Grand Senior Ministry is working with the *Doctor's Speakers Bureau* to present a series of wellness workshops in the upcoming months.

Our first topic will be *Life and Longevity*. Dr. Eric Nepute will speak on the "Five Ways to Feeling Young and Having More Energy." Come help improve the quality of your life on **Thursday, March 25th, at 10:00 am** at St. Stephen Protomartyr parish hall.

Dr. Nepute is a dynamic speaker in the field of health and nutrition. He has helped thousands of men and women achieve health and balance in their lives. To RSVP or for more information, call Billy Farhat at 664-9700 by March 23rd.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 1

8:00 AM — Deceased Jamboretz Family

Tuesday, March 2

8:00 AM — Mildred Schnieders

Wednesday, March 3

8:00 AM — Hasson Family

Thursday, March 4

8:00 AM — Audrey Flore

Friday, March 5

8:00 AM — Elmer Schuster

Saturday, March 6

8:00 AM — Euell Colvin

4:00 PM — Our Parishioners

Sunday, March 7

8:00 AM — Robert (Link) Fleming

10:30 AM — Ruth Stuppy

PRAY...

for our sick and recovering

Fran Campbell, Cece Driscoll, Dennis Ehrhard, James Forgash, Joan Forshee, Mary Lopinot, Dan Nichols, Deacon Bob Schnable, Mary Toomey

for our homebound

Betty Eich, Dorothy Flippin, Helen Getchman, Jeanette Holmer, Ellie Kearns, Walter & Rosemary Kobylinski, Frances Krafft, Verna Murphy, Russ Niemeyer, Eva Schmidt, Lee Ann Teter, Linda Tomasella, Adelaide Vogel, Eve Wachtel

for those in nursing homes

Audrey Alles, Mary Ann Genail, Rose Hegger McBride

for family members serving in the military

Joel Bruce, Derek Hirtz, Timothy Hutchison, Brandon Johnson, Stephen Napier, Brian Schoellhorn, Mark Tisius, Bradley Westcott

DEVOTIONS

Tuesdays, after 8 am Mass: Perpetual Help Devotions

Wednesdays, 8:45 am—7:30 pm: Church is open for Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of the month, after 8 am Mass: Holy Hour and Benediction

SAINT STEPHEN

Saint Stephen Protomartyr Parish

PARISH OFFICE HOURS (314)481-1133

Monday through Wednesday 8:30 am—8:00 pm

Thursday 8:30 am—5:30 pm

Friday: 8:30 am—3:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Closed Sundays, Holidays and Holy Days

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE

Monday by 4:00 pm

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:30 am at the Church of St. Stephen Protomartyr

Monday and Wednesday through Friday:

8:00 am at Church of St. Stephen Protomartyr

Tuesday: 8:00 am Chapel of Sts Mary & Joseph

Saturday: 8:00 am at the Church of St. Stephen Protomartyr

Saturday evening Vigil:

4:00 pm at Chapel of Sts. Mary & Joseph

Holy Day: 8:00 am and 7:00 pm at the Church of St.

Stephen Protomartyr

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. Parents (and godparents, if they are able) are asked to attend a preparation meeting that will be arranged after the parents meet with the priest or pastoral associate.

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 9:30 am until 10:00 am

Marriage

Please contact one of the clergy 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

The site of the Parish School of Religion is located on the campus of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Please call, Father Leo Spezia, PSR Director at 314-353-1255.