March 15th, 2020
3rd Sunday of Lent

SAINT STEPHEN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

“We’re Moved by the Spirit”

Pastoral Office:
Phone: (414) 762-0552
Hours: M, T, W, Th: 9:00A- 3:30P
Closed on Friday
Pastor: Rev. Robert Kacalo x222
rkcacalo@saintstephenmil.org
Deacon: Stan Lowe
Director of Liturgy and Music:
Lynda Trani x263
ltrani@saintstephenmil.org
Director of Religious Education:
Betsy Potter X224
bpotter@saintstephenmil.org
Director of Family Life Center:
Gail Schlicht x225
gschlicht@saintstephenmil.org
Administrative Assistant:
adminasst@saintstephenmil.org
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Mass Schedule:
Tuesday - Friday 8:00 am
Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday 3:30 pm
or by appointment

Baptism
Parish membership is required.
Baptismal preparation for parents and sponsors is held monthly. Pre-registration is required. Baptisms are held the 1st Sunday of each month. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Marriage
Parish membership is required. Arrangements need to be made a minimum of six months prior to the wedding date. Please contact Fr. Robert for more information.

Anointing of the Sick
Please contact the Parish Office

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Come Join Us!
We would love to officially welcome you into our family. Registration packets are available at the information center.

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” - Jn 4:10

Did you know that you could hear the voices of your parents, siblings, and grandparents, by the 20th week in your mom’s womb? That’s where you first heard mom’s heartbeat! And its only been 140 days since conception.

Listen to Catholic Relevant Radio at 100.1FM or 1640AM. Listen online, on a smart speaker, or on the FREE mobile app!

**February Financials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>February</th>
<th>YTD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Income</td>
<td>24,859.99</td>
<td>262,141.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less Expenses</td>
<td>28,681.28</td>
<td>251,219.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>(3,821.29)</td>
<td>10,921.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage Income</td>
<td>8,523.00</td>
<td>77,256.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual Payment</td>
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<td>113,968.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit)</td>
<td>(5,723.11)</td>
<td>(36,712.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(9,544.40)</td>
<td>(25,790.56)</td>
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Number of Fish Fries Served on March 6th was 456. Thank you to all who prepped, served, and participated.

**Liturgical & Pastoral Suggestions in the Event of a Viral Outbreak**

Concerns about the covid-19 virus “coronavirus” have raised questions regarding our participation in our sacred liturgy. So, moving forward we will lean on the side of caution and implement restraint during Mass according to your personal choice.

i. The choice to receive from the wine Cup (Blood of Christ) or to refrain from the Cup is a personal choice. The Church teaches that Christ is present, whole and entire, in either species. (CCC #1377)

ii. Cup Ministers, and the faithful, are reminded that self-intinction (dipping the host into the wine) is not allowed.

Blood of Christ: While there has never been a documented case of an infectious disease being transmitted through the sharing of the Cup, parishioners should be regularly reminded that if one is ill, he/she should stay home, or at least refrain from the Cup.

Sign of Peace: Parishioners should also be reminded that they may choose to refrain from physical contact during Mass if they are ill or experiencing symptoms. Someone choosing to refrain from physical contact at the Sign of Peace should not be construed as an indication of rudeness. A nod of the head with a smile, a slight bow, or crossing your arms across your chest are acceptable substitutes for physical contact.

Please keep in mind that we are always encouraged to have full and active participation in the Sacred Liturgy of the Mass, this may be a moment in time for us to sing louder or respond louder to the Mass parts, so that God can hear us in the midst of our remaining calm and healthy.

**Lenten Experience**

As another option for Lent, consider going to a daily Mass during the week. 8am Mass in the Chapel on Tues., Wed., Thurs., or Friday. Please join us!
HUMAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

This standing committee of the Parish Council discerns and identifies resources to fulfill the justice dimensions of scripture and our church tradition acknowledging that every Christian is called to service and work for justice.

Responsibilities include:
1. Helping to educate parishioners on social justice issues and Catholic social teaching.
2. Meeting immediate needs of the poor by way of direct service (ex: Family Life Center)
3. Working for structural changes in society when there is injustice or oppression.

Committee members are not responsible to do all of the work, but rather to involve others in accepting the responsibility of their Baptism. Special interests or examples can include:
1. Respect Life events
2. Parish health (Blood Drives)
3. Senior assistance/Nursing facilities
4. Bereavement Ministry
5. St. Vincent DePaul Meal Program

Outreach

Parish members needed with a compassionate heart for helping others and to assist in the development of services, programs, or resources for those in need. As Mother Teresa would say, “Helping one person at a time!”

Please prayerfully consider joining a newly formed Human Concerns group of parishioners that would meet approximately once a month for one hour. Together you can make a difference in the lives of others. Please check the bulletin for the next upcoming formation meeting. Please keep all who work in the Lord’s vineyard in prayer!

BABY SHOWER

The St. Stephen Council of Catholic Women (CCW) will be collecting baby items for 2 weekends in March for a Baby Shower for 4 women’s centers in the area. We will have a Pack n’ Play in the lobby starting March 21 to 29 collect items or monetary donations for the centers. Baby items most needed are: receiving blankets, size one diapers, wipes, baby wash & lotion, 0-3 month sized clothing – including sleepers, onesies, & outfits, baby bottles and board books.

Whatever is provided will be greatly appreciated by the mothers and moms-to-be served by the four charities. Your prayers are also very welcome. Thank you for your donations.

St. Stephen Parish will be participating in a parish-wide survey!

St. Stephen Parish will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. We need your help!

Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey can be accessed at www.disciplemakerindex.com from February 23-March 23, 2020 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish’s efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Fr. Robert and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

If you don’t use the computer - there will be opportunities to complete the survey after daily and Sunday Mass. You can obtain a paper copy in the Gathering Space after the survey begins (February 23rd).

Thank you for helping with this important project!
Readings for the week of March 15th

Sunday:    Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/In 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:    2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf. Ps 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:   Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 [12a]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:  2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Friday:    Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday, March 16th
6:30pm    Cameo Bingo

Tuesday, March 17th
9:00am-Noon    Food Pantry
9:00am    Meal Program Prèp
4:00pm    Meal Program Serve

Wednesday, March 18th
5:30pm    Family Program
5:30pm    Lenten Communal Reconciliation

Thursday, March 19th
9:00am-Noon    Fish fry prep
9:00am-Noon    Food Pantry
6:00pm    Finance Meeting, Budgets
6:00pm    Choir

Friday, March 20th
4:00pm    Lenten Fish Fry

Saturday, March 21st
Nothing scheduled at this time

Sunday, March 22nd
11:30am    KOC Degree Exemplification
March 15th, 2020
Third Sunday of Lent

We give the definition of ourselves over to so many things. We allow our society, friends, family, work, social groups, ethnicity, and even institutions define, classify, and color how we perceive ourselves. When we listen predominantly to the voices of others, we lose touch with what is happening within our own inner voice. If we listen carefully within, we can easily discover that we are in want and need. We know our incompleteness and also know that loneliness, sadness, and self-images can propel us outward in attempts to fill those gaps. We can become not only victims of our own prejudices but can find ourselves overly self-indulgent in things that can only satisfy for a short time, if at all.

It is no wonder that money and power are things that are so fervently sought after. As long as we can keep a steady supply going, the illusion of fulfillment and satisfaction can falsely persuade us as craftily as a master magician’s act. We live with illusions not truth. It is no wonder, then, that some of the wealthiest folks are also really the unhappiest. Whether we admit it, the lies we live and pursue will ultimately expose our superficiality. We all have to wrestle with who we are and what gives our lives purpose and meaning. Learn to listen more deeply, not to what others are saying about you, but to what God is echoing in your heart.

We can easily get confused and misunderstand, not only about who we are but who God is. Even the disciples and the Samaritan woman at the well missed the point Jesus was trying to make. There is only one Person who can satisfy the deepest yearnings and longings of our hearts — Jesus the Messiah. It is not the work of corporate America that will lead us to happiness or greatness but the work of the soul. We continue to resist acknowledging this and are happier in our world of misunderstanding and illusion. The life-giving water we truly need doesn’t come from the source of a well but from the Source of Life. Only God can reveal the truth of our sinfulness, the superficiality of our pursuits, and the illusions we hold so dear. Only Jesus can save us from ourselves and give us what we really need. If only our heads can catch up with where our hearts know they need to be, then will we find real contentment and life!

Mass Intentions
Tuesday, March 17th
8:00am  † John & Stephanie Udziela

Wednesday, March 18th
8:00am  † Souls in purgatory

Thursday, March 19th
8:00am  † Souls in purgatory

Friday, March 20th
8:00am  † Souls in purgatory

Saturday, March 21st
4:30pm  † Helene Nagel

Sunday, March 22nd
8:30 am  † Theo James Schlicht
10:30am  † For the people