

May 9th, 2021  
6th Sunday of Easter



**Pastoral Office:**

Phone: (414) 762-0552

Hours: M, T, W, Th: 9:00A- 3:30P  
Closed on Friday

Pastor: Rev. Robert Kacalo x222  
rkacalo@saintstephenmil.org

Deacon: Stan Lowe  
414-322-6891

Deacon: Bob Starr  
847-890-8671  
robertstarr1441@gmail.com

Director of Liturgy and Music:  
Lynda Trani x263  
ltrani@saintstephenmil.org

Director of Religious Education:  
Steven Torres  
storres@saintstephenmil.org

Director of Family Life Center:  
Gail Schlicht x225  
gschlicht@saintstephenmil.org

Administrative Assistant: Nick Ward  
adminasst@saintstephenmil.org

Maintenance Supervisor:  
Joe Kosobucki

**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. 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.

**Anointing of the Sick**

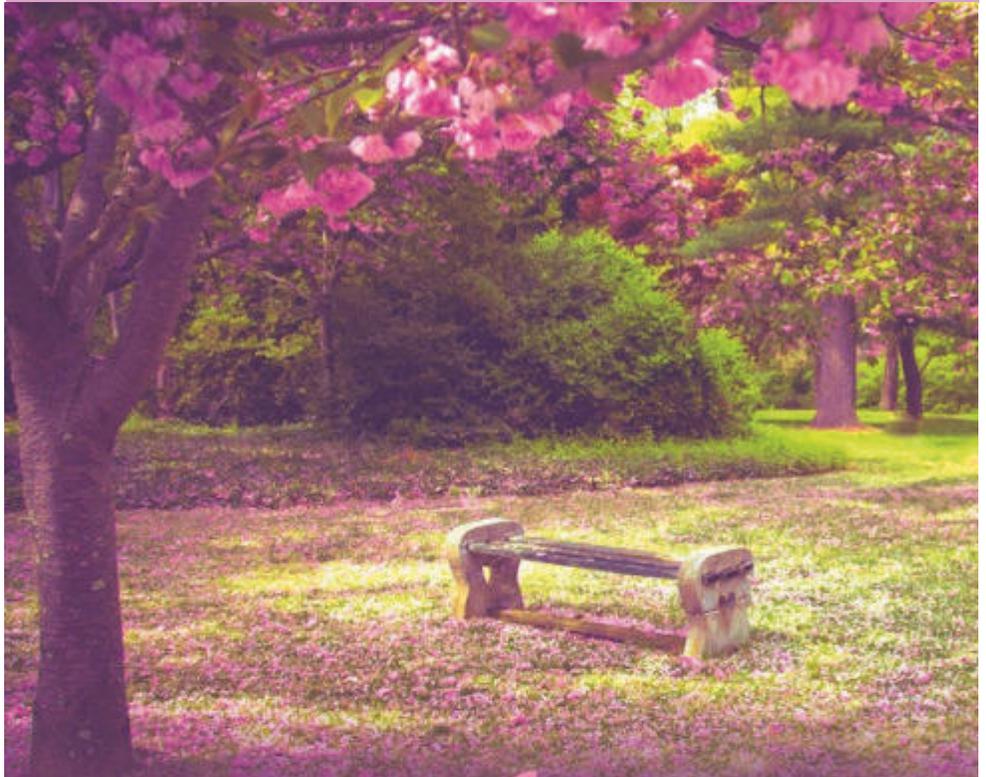
Please contact the Parish Office

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# SAINT STEPHEN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

*"Building Our Faith Together For 175 Years"  
1847-2022*



*6th Sunday*  
**OF EASTER**

*"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain." - Jn 15:16A*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

*Come Join Us!*

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

**KEEPING IN PRAYER**

As a faith community we are asked to keep Sister Mary Alice Walters in prayer. Many of you know Sister Mary Alice who has served our parish community for so many years, in particular the area of Religious Education. As a Sister of the St. Agnes Order in Fond du lac, she will be transitioning from her Milwaukee home to the Convent care facility shortly. Sister Mary Alice will be deeply missed by this faith community. A letter from Sister Mary Alice will be coming along with her contact information in the future. God keep her and bless her always!

**UPCOMING SOLEMNITIES**

May 15/16 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord  
 May 22/23 Solemnity of Pentecost  
 May 29/30 Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity  
 June 5/6 Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood  
 (Corpus Christi)

**Lesson in Patience**

A mother and her two sons were heading to the church’s gathering space after Mass when the boys began arguing over who would be first in line to get a doughnut. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

“If Jesus were here,” she told them, “he would say, ‘Let my brother go first. I can wait.’”

The younger boy turned to his brother and said, “You be Jesus.”

**TRUSTEE ELECTION**

Trustees are among some of our most dedicated parishioners. They are essential to the civil law functions of the parish. As integral members of the Parish Pastoral Council, they express their concern for the total parish vision and mission. They bring their gifts of recommendations to the Pastor for consideration, along with oversight of the financial and legal entities of the parish corporation; they serve as (1) Scribe (secretary) and (2) Treasurer of the corporate structure.

Candidates must be a Catholic, registered, practicing parish member at least 25 years old. The Pastor may also nominate a candidate per opening. Additional candidates may be nominated in writing by 10 or more registered parish members. All nominated trustees are required to present a recent credit report to the Pastor for review. If there is only one nominee for each position, nominations are closed and the nominee is declared elected to the position.

Nominations are now open until May 30, 2021

**Ongoing Family Life Center Food Pantry Ministry  
 Cleaning Products Needed**



The St. Stephen Emergency Food Pantry continues to operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to Noon.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF CLEANING PRODUCTS** such as Lysol, Spray N Wash, Clorox wipes, laundry detergent, dish soap, dryer sheets, spic n span, disinfectant sprays, toilet cleaners, etc.

Please place your donations in the FLC Food Pantry baskets by our church doors.

This is an ongoing ministry and we appreciate your help and generosity.

**CALLING ALL HISTORIANS**

Beginning this summer, when parish life slows a bit, we will begin the planning for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration that will begin on Pentecost 2022 as a year long celebration, “BUILDING OUR FAITH TOGETHER FOR 175 YEARS.” We are currently looking for volunteers that would be willing to work at your own pace, or together with others in gathering all of the information needed for our anniversary yearbook, a parish dinner or picnic, preparing media postings, calendaring parish ministry participation events, etc. We have much to celebrate, so please join us and learn even more about your parish that you never knew. Lynda, our Pastoral Associate and Director of Liturgy & Music will be the staff contact for meeting and planning this wonderful celebration!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Lord, today I turn to you to give you thanks for my mother. With your own gift of life, she bore me in her womb and gave me life. She tenderly, patiently cared for me and taught me to walk and talk. She read to me and made me laugh. No one delighted in my successes more; no one could comfort me better in my failures. I am so grateful for how she mothered me and mentored me, and even disciplined me.

Please bless her, Lord, and comfort her. Help her loving heart to continue to love and give of herself to others. Strengthen her when she is down and give her hope when she is discouraged.

Most of all, Lord, on this Mother's Day, give my mother the graces she most needs and desires today. I ask you this, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior forever and ever.

## You're Invited to Be a Catechist!

We need catechists and helpers for the 2021-2022 school year! Classes begin in September and run through mid-April. As a catechist, you'll plan and teach classes throughout the year. You'll have tremendous amounts of resources (printed, digital and human) at your fingertips to help you along the way. St. Stephen's and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are absolutely committed to the safety of our students. All those who work with children in any capacity (even as volunteers) must meet the requirements of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, including attending mandatory safe environment training. We know you may have questions or concerns; we've heard a lot of them over the years. Let us ease your concerns. Thank you for your interest in becoming a catechist. Please contact, Steven Torres, Director of Catholic Formation/Safe Environment 414-762-0552 or [storres@saintstephenmil.org](mailto:storres@saintstephenmil.org)



May 9, 2021 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 | 1 Jn 4:7-10 | Jn 15:9-17

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

I have 20/15 vision. I can see things in the distance as well as close up. But that doesn't mean I can see everything perfectly. Because of a difference in how each eye focuses, I can't find those hidden images in "magic eye" posters, and forget trying to watch a 3D movie! Seeing all things perfectly is not something many of us could claim, including Peter. And yet, with God's help, he understands a vision God gave to him: "In truth," Peter says, "I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation, whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." Through God's mercy and Jesus' redemptive cross, the kingdom of God has been prepared for all peoples. God's saving power has been revealed. With faith, and the help of the Holy Spirit in living out the commandments, we can fix our eyes on Christ - the revelation of God's love who came into the world that we might have life through him.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

So much information comes to us every day, in all forms of media, there are now even shortcuts to the shortcuts for grasping the content. My personal favorite is the abbreviation, "TL; DR" which means, "too long, didn't read." Some might claim that we are dumbing down our culture with this type of shorthand notation, or we could argue that clear, concise, and straightforward is simply best. And that is what Jesus gives us today in his one commandment: "Love one another as I love you." He offers commentary for the commandment and gives reasons for why he is telling it to us, but the crux of it cannot be missed: *love one another*. It is a commandment both simple, yet complex; easy, yet at times exponentially difficult to live. So Jesus provides the key to fulfilling it by saying, "remain in my love" [emphasis mine]. Faithfulness to a sacramental life and participation in communal living give us the grace to remain in that love - which in turn transforms and enables us to share that love with others.

**PRAY** To honor the celebration of Mother's Day, pray the Rosary today for the intentions of our mothers, for those who have been motherly influences to us, and for those who long to be mothers.

### Readings for the week of May 9th

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20 *Ascension*: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: *Ascension*: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20 *Seventh Sunday of Easter*: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

### 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



#### Monday, May 10th

Nothing scheduled at this time

#### Tuesday, May 11th

9:00am Food Pantry

6:30pm Parish Council

#### Wednesday, May 12th

Nothing scheduled at this time

#### Thursday, May 13th

9:00am Food Pantry

#### Friday, May 14th

Nothing scheduled at this time

#### Saturday, May 15th

Nothing scheduled at this time

#### Sunday, May 16th

Nothing scheduled at this time

**May 9th**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

“Remain in my love,” and, “I call you friends,” are powerful words that are found in John’s Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our “failures in love.” In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love’s author and origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate experience of God’s love and friendship that propelled St. Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world’s problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.

*Mass Intentions*

**Tuesday, May 11th**

8:00am † Judy Richards & Susan Belski

**Wednesday, May 12th**

8:00am † Elizabeth Muszynski

**Thursday, May 13th**

8:00am † Donald Bruski

**Friday, May 14th**

8:00am † Mary Slak

**Saturday, May 15th**

4:30pm † Grace Marsch

**Sunday, May 16th**

8:30 am † Ralph & Michael Siettmann

10:30am † For the people

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