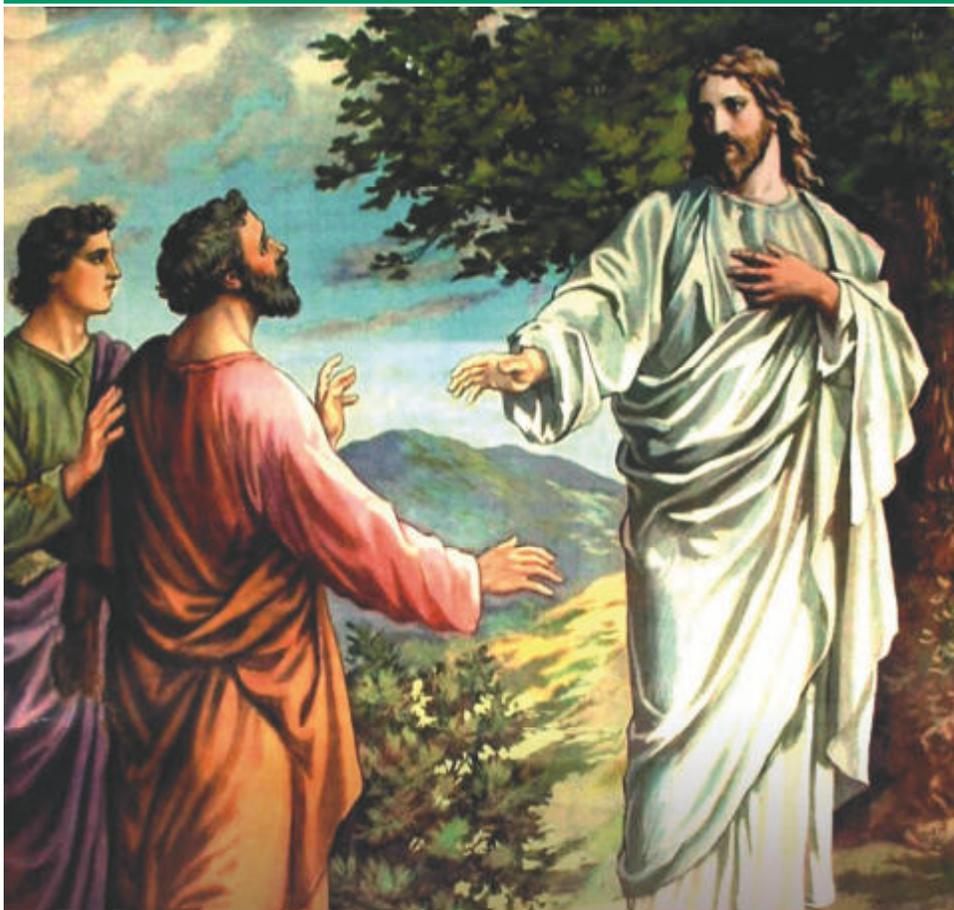


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3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

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

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Current Mass Schedules

Weekend: Sunday 10:30 am

Saturday 4:00 pm & Sunday 8:30 -

Remain Cancelled at This Time

Weekday: Monday–Thursday 8:15am

Communion Services–Saturday 8:15am

Remain Cancelled at This Time

Holyday: announced times in bulletin.

Sunday 10:30 am Mass will be also Live

Streamed Facebook Page

Sacraments

Baptism: Call parish office for appointment and preparation.

Confession:

1st Sat. each month following 4:00 pm
Mass Canceled - By appointment

Marriage: Please contact priest at least six months in advance.

Bulletin Deadline-Monday Noon

www.ssmartyr.org

Parish Office..... 635-5813
School 635-7141
Cafeteria 635-6895
Daycare & Pre-School 635-3505
Activities Center 635-3505
St. Vincent de Paul 635-4414

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Harry J. Gelthaus
hgelthaus@ssmartyr.org

Senior Deacon

Mr. Steve DaPonte
daponte156@gmail.com

Senior Deacon

Mr. Syl Nitzken

Director of Music

Stuart Wicke
swicke@ssmartyr.org

Business Manager

Mrs. Celeste Fautz
cfautz@ssmartyr.org

Principal

Mrs. Bridget Britt
bbritt@ssmartyr.org

CRE

Stacey Smith
ssmith@ssmartyr.org

Pre-School Director

Mrs. Rebecca Jenkins
rienkins@ssmartyr.org

Parish Council

Pastor, Fr. Harry Gelthaus

Chairperson, Patty Norton.....773-6356

Administration/Finance, Ray Brown.648-5667

Parish Life, Patty Norton.....773-6356

Worship, Vacant.....

Recording Secretary, Vacant.....

Rob Greenwell.....936-0245

Heather Schardein.....387-9096

St. Stephen Martyr Parish Vision:

To be a community that loves and serves God and one another

St. Stephen Martyr

Parish Mission Statement:

To worship God as a Catholic faith community for the salvation of all

**Why Do We Do That
Catholic Life Explained**



Do Catholics always need to receive communion in wafer form, or can it be different kinds of bread?

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the most common form for the eucharistic bread is the small white communion “wafer” that is a ubiquitous part of the Catholic Mass. The instructions of the Church have been very specific regarding the make-up of the bread used in the Mass: “The bread used in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice must be unleavened, purely of wheat, and recently made ... it follows therefore that bread made from another substance, even if it is grain, or if it is mixed with another substance different from wheat to such an extent that it would not commonly be considered wheat bread, does not constitute valid matter for confecting the Sacrifice and the Eucharistic Sacrament” (see *Redemptionis Sacramentum* by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, no. 48).

The Church’s tradition of using a wheat-based bread is based on the bread that Jesus would have used at the Last Supper and is considered to be an essential part of the “matter” of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

As we consider the question of whether a “wafer” — which is properly called a “host” — should be used, we also must keep in mind that in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, leavened (i.e. “raised”) bread is more often used. And so, while the thin, white “wafer” is most commonly used in the Roman Rite of the Church, the full expression of the Catholic tradition does allow for a more substantial form of bread to be used, but the tradition of using a simple wheat bread with no other additions or additives is considered essential.



Readings for the week of 01/24/2021

Sun: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Mon: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18

Tue: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 3:31-35

Wed: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 4:1-20

Thurs: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40 [39a]/Mk 4:26-34

Sat: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [cf. 68]/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sun: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Time, Talent and Treasure
Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

“Jesus said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.”

Mark 1:17-18

If we truly recognize that all the things we have in life are gifts from God, would we be able to heed Christ’s call to give it all up and follow Him?

Parish Support

01/16/2020 - 01/15/2021 = \$408,459.33

01/16/2019 - 01/15/2020 = \$481,401.50

Thanks to all those who continue to donate!



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Rita Elaine Hamilton	Mary Rita Noonan	Janet White
Steven Head	Ellie Nunn	Charles J Will Jr.
Doug Heil	Liz Nussbaum	Belinda Willinger
David Hoagland	Ryan Northcutt	

... and for all our sick and homebound.

... and all our families who remain homebound due to virus concerns

Pray for our Parish Community



Congratulations to Nathan Beinlein who received First Eucharist on 1/17/21

May you always know the peace and love of Jesus within you.

Mass each Sunday at 10:30am is available to view by live stream or recording on the St. Stephen Martyr Church and School Facebook page. A link to Facebook is provided in the upper right hand corner on the home page of the SSM web site at www.ssmartyr.org. Masks and social distancing are required if attending mass in person and please note that church capacity is limited to no more than 60 persons at this time.



Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families and friends of

Jeanne Lechleiter
&
Kristina Ethridge

May loving memories bring you peace, comfort, and strength during this difficult time.

From the Desk of Celeste Fautz, Business Manager

2021-2022 Budget Process -

Development of the annual parish budget is a lengthy process. A budget data call letter is first issued to the administrator, chairperson and/or treasurer of each organization within our parish community that submits a budget. Completed budget worksheets are then returned to the parish office and compiled into a comprehensive series of worksheets with comparisons to current fiscal year-to-date and 3 prior-year actual amounts for all projected Church, School and Parish Organization (Athletics, MOSS, PTO, Scouts) revenues and expenses. The Financial Advisory Board will conduct monthly budget reviews from February through April and representatives of the various parish organizations that submit a budget may be contacted during this period to answer questions from board members and provide supporting information as required. The final draft of the recommended 2021-2022 parish budget will be submitted by the Financial Advisory Board to the Parish Council for their review in May 2021.



SSM Church and School expenses totaling \$2,207,987 were budgeted for the current 2020-2021 fiscal year and the cost of educating our children continues to be the largest portion of parish expenses (70%). Tuition and fees help to maintain the staff, facilities and equipment that are necessary to provide quality spiritual and academic programs at SSM School, but these costs must also remain as affordable as possible for School families. A modest 2.5% tuition rate increase was approved for the 2020-2021 school year.

Budgeted tuition and fees in the approved 2020-2021 parish budget were projected to cover only 68% of the overall School operating costs. Each fiscal year, part of the difference between school revenues received from tuition and fees and total school operating expenses is made up by the PTO and outside financial aid sources. Catholic Education Foundation tuition subsidies, Archdiocese of Louisville tuition vouchers and discounts, and a generous grant from the George and Mary Kremer Foundation were projected to offset roughly 15% of school costs in 2020-2021. The School also receives some individual donations from SSM parishioners and other parishes whose families send their children to SSM School. Funding from the SSM School Family Fund that is on deposit at the Archdiocese (transferred from remaining Building a Future of Hope (B.F.O.H.) capital campaign funds) are also used to help offset roughly 4% of School operating costs and SSM provides a total of \$40,000 in tuition assistance grants to parish member School families each year. However, over and above all these revenue sources, another 5% percent of the total budgeted School operating costs this year will be directly subsidized by parish revenues from the church collections and the annual parish fundraiser.

The goal of the budget process is to develop a budget that is reasonable and reflective of our needs and provides for the many worship, formation and educational programs that make St. Stephen Martyr such a wonderful faith community.



Catholic
Education
Foundation

Tuition Assistance for the 2021-2022 School Year -

The Catholic Education Foundation, the Archdiocese of Louisville and their funding partners are helping more families than ever who cannot afford the full cost of educating their children in a Catholic elementary school. For the 2020/2021 school year, \$6.5 million was awarded to 3,350 students. At St. Stephen Martyr School, a total of 131 students (58%) from 87 school families (56%) have received some type of tuition assistance award for the 2020-2021 school year. Families must submit the online application, 2019 Federal tax return, 2019 W-2's and other non-taxable income documentation along with the \$30 processing fee by February 28, 2021. Visit <https://www.ceflou.org/tuition-assistance/> to learn more and begin your application. The initial round of tuition assistance award notifications will be issued to families no later than June 15, 2021. Please contact FACTS parent help line at 866-315-9262 if you have questions about your online application submission.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little light-headed and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flippantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow. When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been.



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF January 24, 2021

Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Tuesday: Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
Wednesday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin
Thursday: St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: BVM
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catholic Schools Week

The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

St. Paul the Apostle was the greatest of the early Christian missionaries. He first appears in the Acts of the Apostles under the name of Saul. Saul was raised in the Jewish faith as a Pharisee trained in the strict observance of God's Law. He believed the Law should be obeyed by himself and all Jews. Saul was upset by the early Christian Church, believing that the early Christians had broken away from their Jewish traditions. He actively persecuted the Church in Jerusalem. As the first Christian martyr Stephen was being stoned to death, Saul watched the cloaks of the persecutors (Acts 7:58).

Paul then traveled to Damascus to further persecute early Christians. On the road to Damascus Saul had an encounter with the Risen Jesus Christ (Acts of the Apostles 9:1-19, Galatians 1: 13-14). Jesus asked, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Paul replied, "Who are you, sir?" Jesus responded, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting" (Acts 9: 4 - 5). Jesus then sent Saul into Damascus to wait for further instructions. Saul was shaken and blinded by the experience. When a Christian named Ananias came and baptized Saul, his blindness went away. As a result of this encounter Saul became a follower of Christ. He was now convinced that fellowship with the risen Jesus Christ, not the observance of the Law, was all that was needed to receive God's promise of salvation. (Galatians 1:11-12; 3:1-5)

Saul, whose name now became Paul, went to Jerusalem to consult with Peter (Galatians 1: 18). After his first missionary journeys, Paul was called by Jesus to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles. He spent the rest of his life journeying on his missions, establishing local churches, and writing to them when he heard of their accomplishments and failures. Paul's letters are the earliest records of the life and history of the early Church. As inspired by the Holy Spirit Paul's letters are part of the Canon of the New Testament. As a record of the happenings in the early Church they are in invaluable record of the expansion of the Christianity.

What does it mean to live a Christian moral life? Paul thought deeply about this question. After his experience with Jesus Christ, Paul realized that he was not alone on the road to salvation. Jesus Christ has already accomplished salvation for us. In faith and Baptism, Christians receive the grace of the Holy Spirit, who is our constant guide. The Holy Spirit helps us to live in relationship with God and others.

- Michael Lancz von Kitzingen [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

Masses for the Week of 01/25/21 – 01/31/21

Sunday, January 31 -

†=deceased

10:30 am Chris Passafiume †

Ann Welch †

Special Intention (LD)

Parish Calendar—Church and School Offices are open -

You will be met at the door to conduct most business. If there is a need to enter the building, then a mask or face covering will be required as well as social distancing. SSM facilities continue to remain closed to activities and events due to strict cleaning requirements associated with use of any meeting rooms or common spaces. Please contact the Parish Office to request use of any room or facility on campus and we will see what can be worked out.

The SSM Dare to Care Food Pantry continues to operate at this time. In compliance with current distancing requirements, food is distributed out the door without allowing patrons to enter the building. The next food pantry distribution will take place:

Wednesday – 01/27/2021 –

4:00-5:30 pm Dare-to-Care Food Distribution Weiker Rm

Many thanks and much gratitude are extended to Dcn. Steve DaPonte and our food pantry volunteers for this valuable service that they continue to provide to the community at large.



2020 Catholic Services Appeal

We Are Called

to do justice, love goodness,

to walk humbly with God

- Micah 6:8

The 2020 Catholic Services Appeal has received a total of **\$3,820,647** in gifts and pledges, which is **98%** of the Archdiocesan goal. There have been **11,768** participating households which represents **89%** of the donor participation goal. We now have 52 parishes that have met their CSA goal.

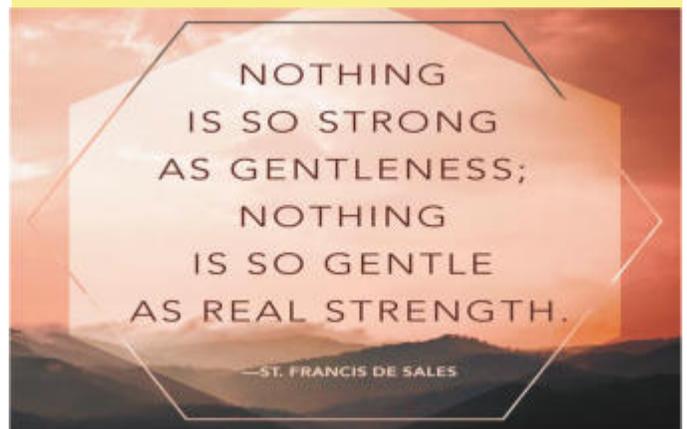
SSM Parish Goal: \$30,400

SSM Gifts/Pledges = \$26,748 (88%)

SSM Participation Goal: 135 households

SSM Participation = 112 households (83%)

Gifts and pledges can be made through our parish office or online at www.ArchLou.org/CSA **CHOSEN**



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