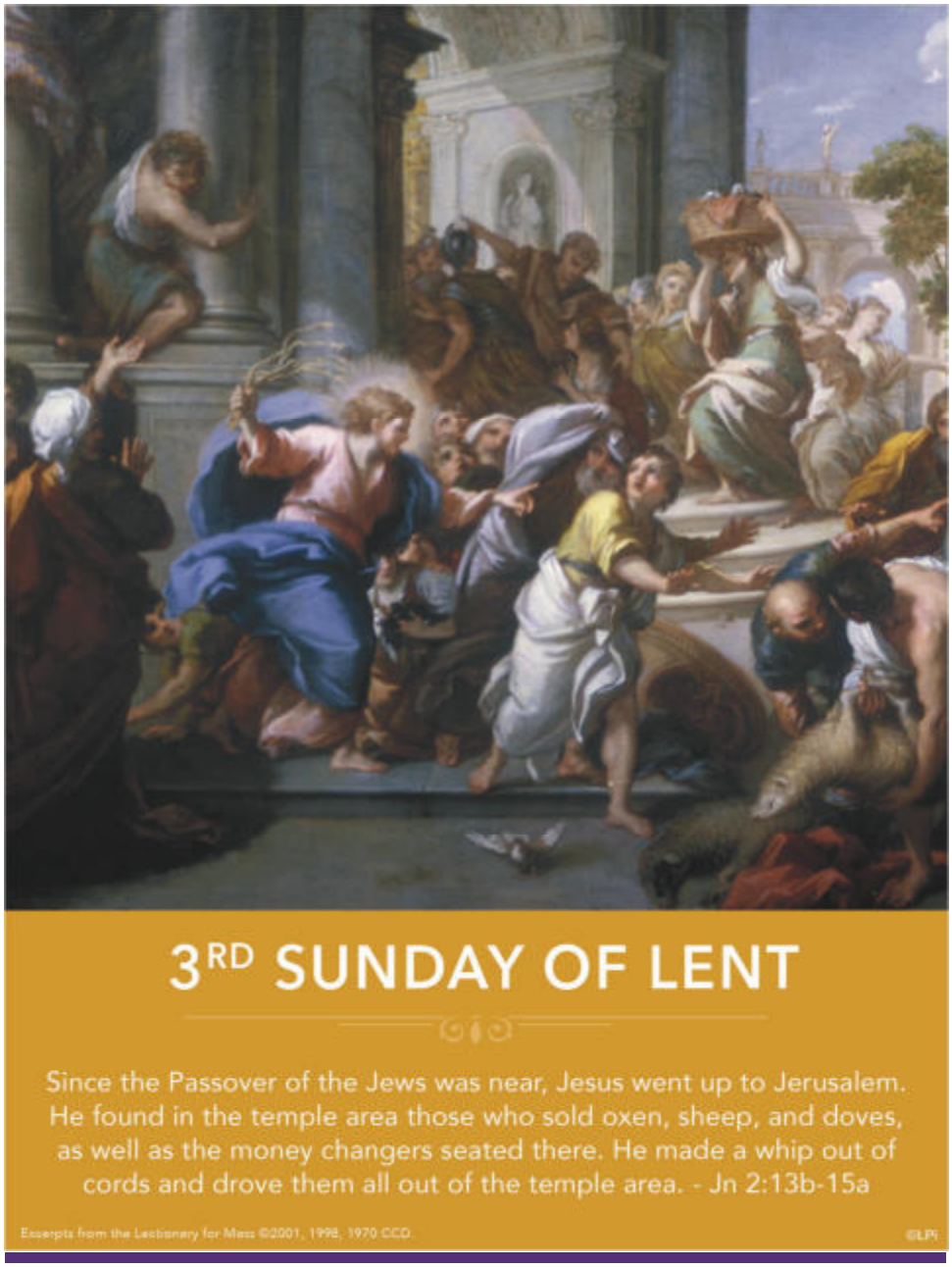
3rd Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

ST. STEPHEN MARTYR

2931 PINDELL AVENUE • LOUISVILLE, KY 40217



w w w . s s m a r t y r . o r g

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
rjenkins@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

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

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

What's the difference between priests and brothers, friars, etc.?

The distinctions titles and categories used for priests and the male members of religious communities can be confusing, especially since the categories can sometimes be intertwined as a man can be both a priest and a monk, or a brother and a friar. So, to help to piece the puzzle together, it's impor-tant to begin by noting some basic distinctions: The distinction between priests (who are ordained for sacramental ministry) and brothers (who are non-ordained members of religious communities and who are committed to lives of prayer and service).

Priests: A priest is a man who has been ordained for sacramental ministry and these fall into two categories: A) Diocesan (or Secular) Priests can either be attached to a diocese and who serve under a bishop. Their ministry is usually oriented toward pastoral service. B) Religious Priests are members of religious communities (like the Franciscans, Jesuits, Salvatorians, or Carmelites) and their lives are guided by the special mission and charism of their community. While both kinds of priest practice sacramental ministry, their spirituality and how they live out their priesthood can be very different.

Brothers: Brothers are non-ordained members of religious communities (such as those mentioned above) who live lives committed to prayer and service. Religious priests and brothers serve together in their communities and their ministries include much more than the care of parishes.

Monks, Friars, and Canons: These are broad categories that include religious priests and brothers, and each of these is connected to specific ways of life and spiritualities.

THIRD WEEK OF LENT

Readings for the week of 03/07/2021

Sun: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5 -42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Mon: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 2:3]/Lk 4:24-30

Tue: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35

Wed: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20]/Mt 5:17-19

Thurs: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 1:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34

Sat: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14

Next Sun: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Time, Talent and Treasure

Fostering Stewardship as a Way of Life

"To those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." "
John 2:16

Does my own use of time, talent, and treasure reflect my true priorities? In other words, do I have a marketplace mentality – me centered – or do I have a stewardship mentality – other centered?

Parish Support

02/27/2020 - 02/26/2021 = $403,398.00

02/27/2019 - 02/26/2020 = $487,518.80

Thanks to all those who continue to donate!

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Herman Seadler
Steve Smith
Barbara Smith
Joey Sullivan
Lisa Swikert
Lydia Turner
Tish Wagner
Bruce Wallace
Cheryl Westbay
Janet White
Charles J Will Jr.
Belinda Willinger

. . .

and for all our sick and homebound.

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

Pray for our Parish Community

Join us in welcoming the newest member to our faith through the Sacrament of Baptism on 02/28
Gweneth Harley

And Congratulations to Colleen Harley who received the Sacrament of First Eucharist on 02/28

Parents: Dean & Amy Harley

May this joyful occasion be a special start to knowing that God's love is alive in your precious children's hearts.

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.

From the Desk of: Stuart Wicke, Business Manager

Since the earliest days of the Church, music has been used to convey the nature of each celebration of Mass – from the joyous celebration of Christmas or Easter to the somber celebration of Holy Week, and every holy day in between. During Lent, liturgical music is traditionally sparse, not embellished by many instruments or virtuosic performances, with introspective lyrics and plaintive melodies to encourage our own contemplation. You may have noticed this Lent, during the preparation of the altar at Mass, a few new songs; at this time each Sunday, I am playing one hymn from one of my all-time favorite pieces of music, Sir John Stainer's The Crucifixion.

Stainer's Crucifixion survives from a renaissance of church music in the 19th century. At the height of the Victorian era in England, a newfound interest in music, and especially hymns, sparked creative flames across the country. Choral music flourished, as every home had a piano, and every parish sang in four-part harmony. Thousands of new hymns made their ways into thousands of new hymnals, and parish music directors were constantly seeking our new music for their choirs.

Thus The Crucifixion was written. As a simple meditation for organ and choir, it was perfect for the limited resources of small parish choirs, and its sparse orchestration was fittingly reverent for the season of Lent. What set Stainer's composition apart, however, was his inclusion of congregational hymns right in the middle of the performance, encouraging the parish to interact more fully with the Passion narrative.

Of the twenty songs that comprise The Crucifixion, five were written as hymns to be sung by the entire church. One of them, "The Litany of the Passion", is the one you'll hear today as the offertory song. The verses are a poignant summary of the suffering of Jesus as a man, and the refrain a plea for Jesus as God to intercede for us. Tied beautifully together by a deliberate and meditative melody, it is a perfect hymn to convey the introspection and prayerfulness of Lent.

Holy Jesu, by thy Passion, by the woes which none can share,
Borne in more than kingly fashion, by thy love beyond compare.
Crucified, I turn to thee, Son of Mary, plead for me.

By the treachery and trial, by the blows and sore distress,
By desertion and denial, by thine awful loneliness:

By thy look so sweet and lowly, while they smote thee on the face,
By thy patience, calm and holy, in the midst of keen disgrace:

By the hour of condemnation, by the blood which trickled down
When, for us and our salvation, thou didst wear the robe and crown:

By the path of sorrows dreary, by the cross, thy dreadful load,
By the pain, when faint and weary, thou didst sink upon the road:

By the Spirit which could render love for hate and good for ill,
By the mercy, sweet and tender, poured upon thy murderers still:
Crucified, I turn to thee, Son of Mary, plead for me.

SUSTAINABILITY IN EL SALVADOR — Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques—and a new generation of young farmers—are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can you support young people in your community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more. To hear about the global mission of the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Program, see this video from @CatholicReliefServices President and CEO Sean Callahan at https://youtu.be/ilY59P2IvHk.

Please bring or mail your Rice Bowl donations to the parish office or you can donate on line using the "Donate Now" button found in the upper right hand corner of the ssmartyr.org web page.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Imagine coming to your church to pray. All around your church, you see people selling animals. It smells like a barn. The animals are loud. The people are shouting. You cannot even pray with all the noise and activity going on around you. That is what Jesus found in today's Gospel. It broke his heart and made Jesus angry. God's house is not supposed to be turned into a barn or a store. It should be special place where people can meet with God and talk to him. Jesus cleaned out his Father's house. He turned it back into a place of prayer.

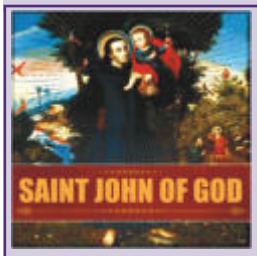
PRAYER

God, my church is a place for prayer. Help me to remember that always.

DON'T BE AN HOUR LATE FOR MASS NEXT SUNDAY !
Daylight Savings time begins next Sunday morning, March 14th at 2:00 am.
Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour before going to bed Saturday night!!

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF March 7, 2021

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. John of God, Religious
Tuesday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent, Daylight Savings Time



Having given up active Christian belief while a soldier, John was 40 before the depth of his sinfulness began to dawn on him. He decided to give the rest of his life to God's service, and headed at once for Africa where he hoped to free captive Christians and, possibly, be martyred.

He was soon advised that his desire for martyrdom was not spiritually well based, and returned to Spain and the relatively prosaic activity of a religious goods store. Yet he was still not settled. Moved initially by a sermon of Saint John of Avila, he one day engaged in a public beating of himself, begging mercy and wildly repenting for his past life. Committed to a mental hospital for these actions, John was visited by Saint John, who advised him to be more actively involved in tending to the needs of others rather than in enduring personal hardships. John gained peace of heart, and shortly after left the hospital to begin work among the poor.

He established a house where he wisely tended to the needs of the sick poor, at first doing his own begging. But, excited by the saint's great work and inspired by his devotion, many people began to back him up with money and provisions. Among them were the archbishop and marquis of Tarifa.

Behind John's outward acts of total concern and love for Christ's sick poor was a deep interior prayer life which was reflected in his spirit of humility. These qualities attracted helpers who, 20 years after John's death, formed the Brothers Hospitallers, now a worldwide religious order.

John became ill after 10 years of service, but tried to disguise his ill health. He began to put the hospital's administrative work into order and appointed a leader for his helpers. He died under the care of a spiritual friend and admirer, Lady Ana Ossorio.

Reflection

The utter humility of John of God, which led to a totally selfless dedication to others, is most impressive. Here is a man who realized his nothingness in the face of God. The Lord blessed him with the gifts of prudence, patience, courage, enthusiasm, and the ability to influence and inspire others. He saw that in his early life he had turned away from the Lord, and, moved to receive his mercy, John began his new commitment to love others in openness to God's love.

Canonized: October 16, 1690, Rome, Papal States, by Pope Alexander VIII

Saint John of God is the Patron Saint of:
Booksellers, Firefighters, Heart Patients, Hospitals, Nurses, Printers, Sick

- Excerpts from Franciscan Media –Saint of the Day

Masses for the Week of 03/8/21 – 03/14/21

Sunday, March 14 - †=deceased

10:30 am Leo & Regina Wiesemann †
Our Parish Community

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 – 03/10/2021 –
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.

2021 Catholic Relief Services Collection

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection.

Funds from this collection support six national and international relief agencies that provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.uscb.org/catholic-relief.

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