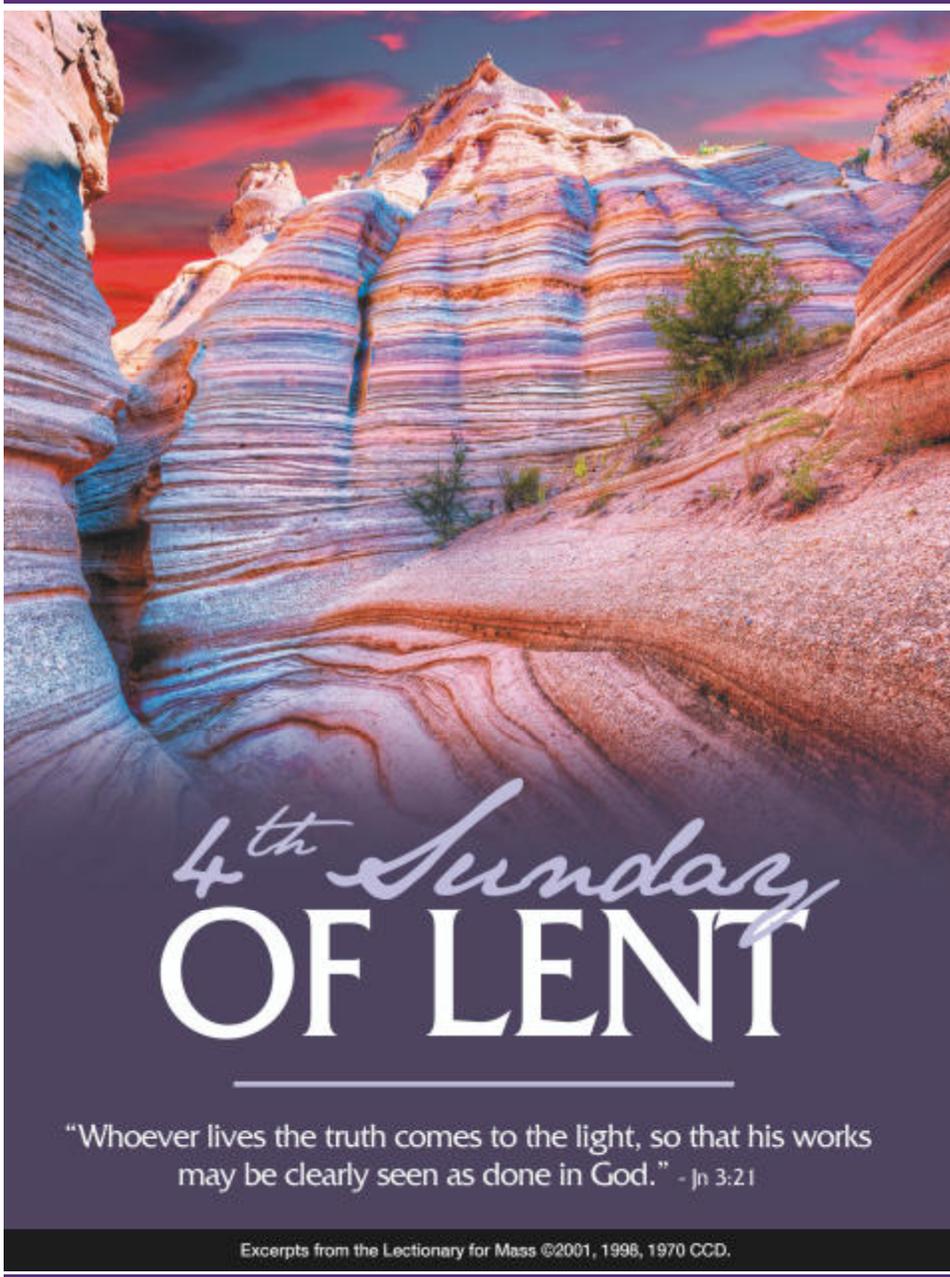


ST. STEPHEN MARTYR

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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

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**



Why do priests wear a Roman collar?

The practice of priests wearing the Roman collar developed in the mid-nineteenth century as an alternative to wearing the cassock which in some places was seen as impractical or which was even outlawed by anti-Catholic legislation. Since its introduction, it has taken different forms, and if you visit different countries today, you will see variation in what priests wear.

The Code of Canon Law simply observes that priests wear "suitable ecclesiastical garb" according to the judgments of the national bishops conferences and local custom (no. 284). The US Bishops have instructed that outside of liturgical functions, a "black suit and Roman collar are the usual formal attire for priests. The use of the cassock is at the discretion of the cleric." Priests who are members of religious communities are to follow the rules of their institute regarding the habit or other approved clothing.

In the end, whether a priest wears the Roman collar, a religious habit, or, as is the case in many European countries, a suit and tie (to distinguish them from Protestant clergy who wear a collar) the goal of their clerical clothing is to serve as a sign of their commitment to guide and to serve, and to also allow them to be truly public figures because they are ordained for the service of all.



Readings for the week of 03/14/2021

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

Mon: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54

Tue: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16

Wed: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30

Thurs: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Sat: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sun: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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

"For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them."
Ephesians 2:10

Our good deeds go beyond just giving money to charity. Stewardship is not about how we spend our money, but about how we spend our lives.

Parish Support

03/06/2020 - 03/05/2021 = \$408,888.60

03/06/2019 - 03/05/2020 = \$481,179.40

Thanks to all those who continue to donate!



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| Rita Elaine Hamilton | Ellie Nunn | Charles J Will Jr. |
| Steven Head | Liz Nussbaum | Belinda Willinger |
| Doug Heil | 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



Join us in welcoming the newest member to our faith through the Sacrament of Baptism on 03/07/2021

Ava & Axl Gross

Parents are Mark & Bobbie Gross

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.

Per current CDC guidelines, masks and social distancing continue to be required if attending mass in person and please note that church capacity is limited to no more than 70 persons at this time.



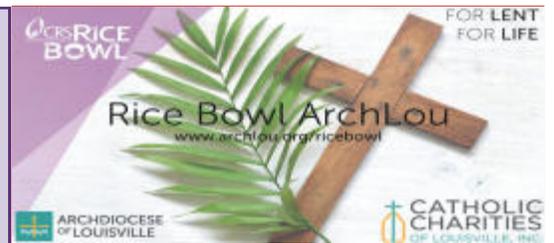
From the Desk of: Stacey Smith, Coordinator of Religious Education

How do you respond to a place you consider blessed or sacred? Do you have a feeling of reverence? Do you feel a sense of peace and belonging? Do you feel a power greater than your own that touches you deeply? What turns an ordinary place into a sacred place worthy of respect and significance? Our Church is holy and sacred because holy and sacred things happen there. It is the place where we celebrate Mass, baptisms, funerals, weddings and prayers are offered. It's a place where we praise God and meet divine grace and grow in holiness. It's a sacred place where we become closer with Jesus, renew ourselves and connect with Heaven. At the end of every Mass we are told to go in peace and spread the Good News of Jesus. How do we bring the Good News and sense of reverence beyond our Church walls?

Prayer is a wonderful way but very often we pray with our eyes closed, perhaps kneeling or sitting. Consider that God spoke to Abraham, "Get up and walk through the land, across its length and breadth, for I give it to you." (Gen. 13:17). Clearly walking was the main mode of transportation when the Bible was written but it still remains the best way to see and immerse ourselves in this amazing world He created. What if we go on a walk in our neighborhood with our eyes open and silently pray for each person and each house? What if we could turn our neighborhoods into a sacred place by merely taking a walk?

A prayer walk is a good way to discover and build up our neighborhoods and make them holy and sacred places. A prayer walk is a way to bless others around us, covering them in prayer and bringing a greater awareness of the neighborhood and those in need. As our eyes are open while walking we can prayerfully look at our surroundings in a new light. What if each house you pass, each park your children or grandchildren play in, each school you walk by, each car you pass you say a silent prayer for their needs? What would the world be like if we all prayed over every house, every street, every business, every church, every school, every bench, every person we pass by? Would we respond more urgently to those in need, take better care of our environment, treat it with more reverence?

As you walk say silent prayers, you don't need to bring your bible, or make a big show by praying out loud rather look around and become aware of your surroundings and ask Jesus to cover them in blessings. Pray for the things you see, thank Jesus for the beauty He has made for you in the flowers and sky, pray for the people and places you pass by, pray for neighbors to show each other love and build one another up and to use kind words to each other. If you see a door, pray that Jesus will open doors for people to love Him more deeply. If you see cars, pray for the safety of their riders, pray for the health and safety of the families who live within the houses you walk by or if you see something that is broken, pray for Jesus that it may be fixed. There's no end to the opportunities to offer up a prayer during a walk in this beautiful world because everyday miracles are scattered all around if only we open our eyes to see them, listen to hear them, reach out our hands to touch them, learn to speak to them, open our hearts to share them with each other. Every time you offer a prayer during your walk you are part of making that place holy and sacred.



TRYING NEW FOODS IN TIMOR-LESTE — Timor-Leste has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child's growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive?

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more. 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 smartyr.org web page.



Please join the Archdiocese of Louisville in a Day of Prayer Honoring the Year of St. Joseph Patron of the Universal Church

Friday, March 19, 2021
Cathedral of the Assumption
433 South 5th Street
Louisville, KY

Begins with Noon Mass & Blessing of Newly Restored Statue of St. Joseph

The church will be open for guided prayer every hour on the hour beginning at 1:00pm & concluding with Solemn Vespers at 7:00pm

Mass and Blessing of Statue will be Livestreamed on the Cathedral of the Assumption YouTube Channel

For more ways to celebrate St. Joseph on his Feast Day go to www.archlou.org/stjoseph/

Image St. Joseph, Terror of Demons @ Cecilia Lawrence, printed with permission <https://www.deviantart.com/theophilla/art/St-Joseph-Terror-of-Demons-822117526>

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF March 14, 2021

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time
Wednesday: St. Patrick, Bishop; St. Patrick's Day
Thursday: St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday: St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent



St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus."

About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man—an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

The darkest hours of his life may well have been those when he first learned of Mary's pregnancy; but precisely in this time of trial Joseph showed himself great. His suffering, which likewise formed a part of the work of the redemption, was not without great providential import: Joseph was to be, for all times, the trustworthy witness of the Messiah's virgin birth. After this, he modestly retires into the background of holy Scripture.

Of St. Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing. There are indications, however, that he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. His was the most beautiful death that one could have, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Humbly and unknown, he passed his years at Nazareth, silent and almost forgotten he remained in the background through centuries of Church history. Only in more recent times has he been accorded greater honor. Liturgical veneration of St. Joseph began in the fifteenth century, fostered by Sts. Brigid of Sweden and Bernadine of Siena. St. Teresa, too, did much to further his cult.

At present there are two major feasts in his honor. On March 19 our veneration is directed to him personally and to his part in the work of redemption, while on May 1 we honor him as the patron of workmen throughout the world and as our guide in the difficult matter of establishing equitable norms regarding obligations and rights in the social order.

St. Joseph is invoked as patron for many causes. He is the patron of the Universal Church. He is the patron of the dying because Jesus and Mary were at his death-bed. He is also the patron of fathers, of carpenters, and of social justice. Many religious orders and communities are placed under his patronage.

- Excerpted from The Church's Year of Grace, Pius Parsch

Masses for the Week of 03/15/21 – 03/21/21

Sunday, March 21 -

†=deceased

10:30 am Joe Raque †
Mary Conway †

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 – 03/17/2021 –

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.

S St. Stephen Martyr S
2931 Pindell Avenue

LENTEN FISH FRY

DRIVE THRU ONLY-CREDIT/DEBIT CARD ONLY
Use Church Parking Lot on Pindell Avenue to enter Drive Thru
March 5th- 12th-19th-26th
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

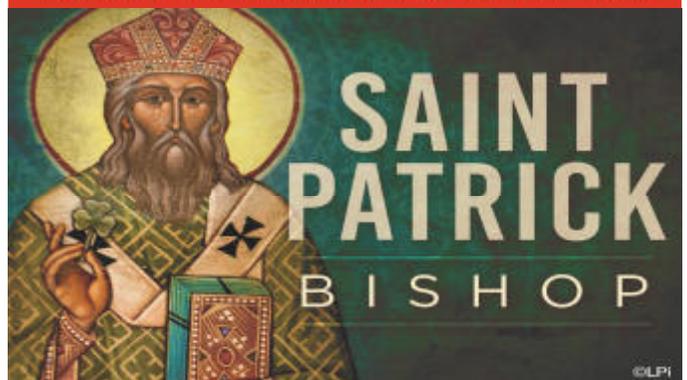
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