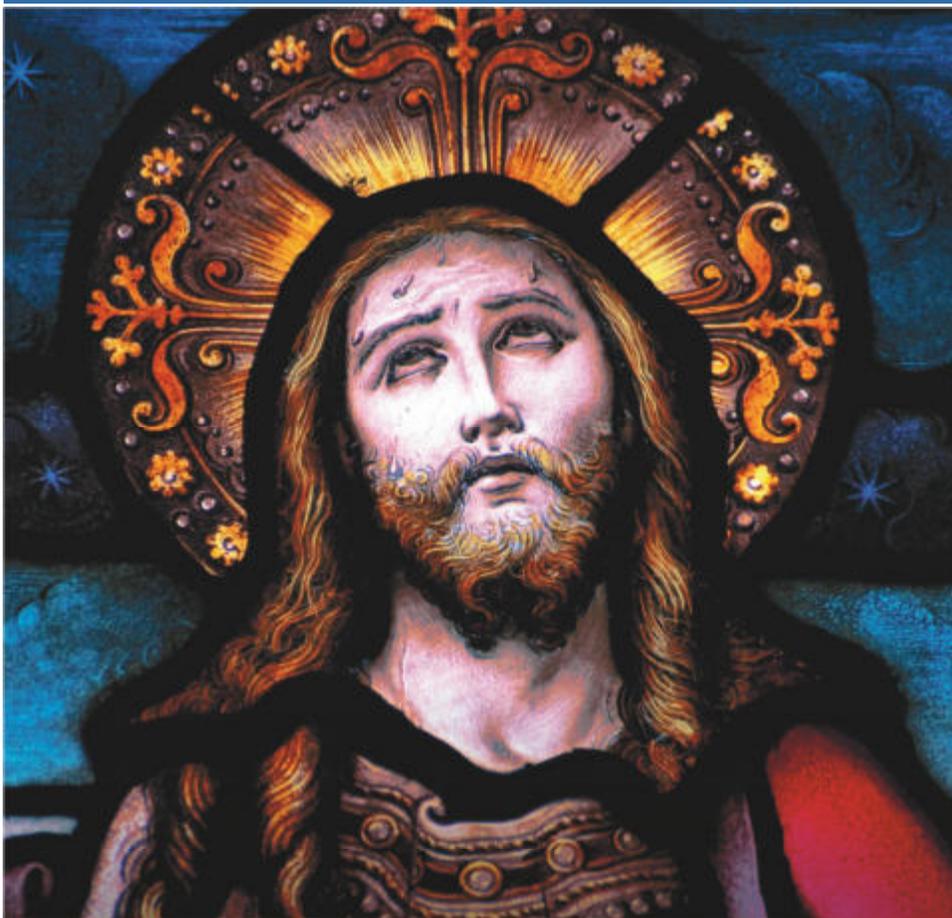


# ST. STEPHEN MARTYR

2931 PINDELL AVENUE • LOUISVILLE, KY 40217



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

He said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled ... You are witnesses of these things." - Lk 24:44, 48

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

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[www.ssmartyr.org](http://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](mailto:hgelthaus@ssmartyr.org)

#### Senior Deacon

Mr. Steve DaPonte  
[daponte156@gmail.com](mailto:daponte156@gmail.com)

#### Senior Deacon

Mr. Syl Nitzken

#### Director of Music

Stuart Wicke  
[swicke@ssmartyr.org](mailto:swicke@ssmartyr.org)

#### Business Manager

Mrs. Celeste Fautz  
[cfautz@ssmartyr.org](mailto:cfautz@ssmartyr.org)

#### Principal

Mrs. Bridget Britt  
[bbritt@ssmartyr.org](mailto:bbritt@ssmartyr.org)

#### CRE

Stacey Smith  
[ssmith@ssmartyr.org](mailto:ssmith@ssmartyr.org)

#### Pre-School Director

Mrs. Rebecca Jenkins  
[rienkins@ssmartyr.org](mailto: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**



**Do children need to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before their First Communion?**

For centuries the Catholic Church has taught that a person needs to be in a state of grace (free from mortal sins) in order to worthily receive the Eucharist. To that end, Catholics should make an effort to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation any time they recognize the need for the sacrament (and in keeping with the precept of the Church that asks that we celebrate this sacrament at least once each year).

In the case of children preparing for their First Communion, the Code of Canon Law is very clear that they should also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving the Eucharist for the first time: "It is the responsibility, in the first place, of parents and those who take the place of parents as well as of the pastor to see that children who have reached the use of reason are correctly prepared and are nourished by the divine food as early as possible, preceded by sacramental confession" (Canon 914).

While some might question the significance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation — especially in the case of children who might not fully understand the reality of sin or the meaning of the sacrament itself — a child's "First Confession" can be a wonderful time for families to reflect together on the quality of their relationships, how they put their faith into practice, and, when it is possible, to celebrate the sacrament as a family. In the end, the celebration of these two sacraments marks important moments in the spiritual journeys of children and we hope their "First Confession" and "First Communion" help instill in them a love of the sacraments of the Church.



St. Stephen Martyr parish is truly grateful for a recent generous bequest that was received from the estate of Jeanne Byerly Lechleiter, who was a faithful SSM parish member for 69 years.

This thoughtful donation to support our parish community and it's ministries is greatly appreciated.

**Readings for the week of 04/18/2021**

**Sun:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

**Mon:** Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29

**Tue:** Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35

**Wed:** Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40

**Thurs:** Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51

**Fri:** Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59

**Sat:** Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69

**Next Sun:** Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

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



"Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts?" Luke 24:38

The first disciples were people who witnessed the risen Christ in the flesh. It was only when they gave themselves completely to Christ that their doubts and fears were released. To be the stewards that Jesus desires, we too must give ourselves completely to Him.

*Parish Support*

04/10/2020 - 04/09/2021 = \$402,206.00

04/10/2019 - 04/09/2020 = \$469,822.30

**Thanks to all those who continue to donate!**



- |                      |                  |                    |
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| Charlie Cecil        | Bertha Kamer     | Herman Seadler     |
| Marty Elms           | Damien Kline     | Steve Smith        |
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| Kenneth Gibson       | Betty McGill     | Lydia Turner       |
| Elaine Goehringer    | Brendon McKeehan | Tish Wagner        |
| Bobbie Gross         | Diane Modes      | Bruce Wallace      |
| Sr. Loretta Guenther | Mary Rita Noonan | Cheryl Westbay     |
| Rita Elaine Hamilton | Ellie Nunn       | Janet White        |
| Steven Head          | Liz Nussbaum     | Charles J Will Jr. |
| Doug Heil            | Ryan Northcutt   | 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 04/11/2021

Annabelle Elaine Fahey  
Parents are Joel & Elizabeth Fahey

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

Please also congratulate SSM 2nd Grader

Thomas Hughes

who received his First Holy Communion on 04/11/2021



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](http://www.ssmartyr.org).



Per current CDC and Health Department guidelines, masks and social distancing continue to be required if attending mass in person.

Please note that maximum church capacity is limited to roughly no more than 70 persons at each Mass in order to maintain adequate social distancing.

From the Desk of Stacey Smith, Coordinator of Religious Education

This is an extraordinarily special time for our 8th graders because they are preparing for their Confirmation on Wednesday, April 21st. They will be strengthened with the gifts of the Holy Spirit - understanding, knowledge, wisdom, counsel, piety, wonder & awe, and fortitude. Our 8th graders are receiving a gift of God's love that will strengthen them to use their unique gifts and talents for Jesus for the rest of their lives. This special celebration is possible because of their strong faith and love for Jesus. They have willingly and lovingly centered their daily lives around building and strengthening their relationship with Jesus. They have generously shared their gifts and talents to improve the parish community. They have inspired others to love one another. They have learned how to practice their faith and be an active part of our Catholic community by reading the Bible and attending Mass. They have invited members of our parish to be their sponsors and pledged to listen to them in the spiritual journey ahead. They have willingly participated in their religious studies to develop a more mature understanding of our Catholic beliefs. They have asked lots of questions to deepen their understanding and make it stronger and more meaningful. They have chosen a special Saint to be with them and help them fulfill their lifelong commitment to loving and listening to Jesus. They have also learned the value of strengthening their relationship with their peers and mentors.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are alive in our Church and will give them the grace to live out their faith. Let us all joyfully celebrate with them, pray for them, and recognize all that they have learned and whom they have become up to this day and who they will become in the future!

On behalf of St. Stephen Martyr Parish we welcome our Confirmation Candidates and offer our prayers for this enriching time of faith. May the Holy Spirit strengthen and guide all of us!

*Blessings on Your  
Confirmation*



*Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

*O Holy Spirit of God,  
take me as Thy disciple.  
Guide me, illuminate me,  
sanctify me.  
Bind my hands  
that they may do no evil.  
Cover my eyes  
that they may see it no more.  
Sanctify my heart that evil  
may not dwell within me.  
Be Thou my God.  
Be Thou my Guide.  
Whithersoever Thou leadest  
me I will go.  
Whatsoever Thou forbiddest  
me I will renounce.  
And whatsoever Thou  
commands me,  
in Thy strength I will do.  
Lead me then unto  
the fullness of Thy truth.*

*Amen.*



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**Blood Drive**  
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**Monday, April 19, 2021**  
**3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and  
enter: HolyFamilyCommunityHealthMinistry to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by  
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pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of  
your appointment.

Louisville, Kentucky

**3**

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF April 11, 2021

**Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Easter

**Wednesday:** St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor of the Church;  
Administrative Professionals' Day

**Thursday:** Earth Day

**Friday:** St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop  
and Martyr

**Saturday:** St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

**Next Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Easter



**Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen  
(1577 – April 24, 1622)**

If a poor man needed some clothing, Fidelis would often give the man the clothes right off his back. Complete generosity to others characterized this saint's life.

Born in 1577, Mark Rey became a lawyer who constantly upheld the causes of the poor and oppressed people. Nicknamed "the poor man's lawyer," Rey soon grew disgusted with the corruption and injustice he saw among his colleagues. He left his law career to become a priest, joining his brother George as a member of the Capuchin Order. Fidelis was his religious name. His wealth was divided between needy seminarians and the poor.

As a follower of Saint Francis of Assisi, Fidelis continued his devotion to the weak and needy. During a severe epidemic in a city where he was guardian of a friary, Fidelis cared for and cured many sick soldiers.

He was appointed head of a group of Capuchins sent to preach against the Calvinists and Zwinglians in Switzerland. Almost certain violence threatened. Those who observed the mission felt that success was more attributable to the prayer of Fidelis during the night than to his sermons and instructions.

He was accused of opposing the peasants' national aspirations for independence from Austria. While he was preaching at Seewis, to which he had gone against the advice of his friends, a gun was fired at him, but he escaped unharmed. A Protestant offered to shelter Fidelis, but he declined, saying his life was in God's hands. On the road back, he was set upon by a group of armed men and killed.

Fidelis' constant prayer was that he be kept completely faithful to God and not give in to any lukewarmness or apathy. He was often heard to exclaim, "Woe to me if I should prove myself but a halfhearted soldier in the service of my thorn-crowned Captain." His prayer against apathy, and his concern for the poor and weak make him a saint whose example is valuable today. The modern Church is calling us to follow the example of "the poor man's lawyer" by sharing ourselves and our talents with those less fortunate and by working for justice in the world. Fidelis was canonized in 1746. Fifteen years later he was recognized as a martyr.

- from <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/>

Masses for the Week of 04/19/21 – 04/25/21

**Sunday, April 25 -**

†=deceased

10:30 am Special Intention (LD)  
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 – 04/21/2021 –**

**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.

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2021  
5:30–8:30PM  
SSM Famous Fried Chicken  
& all the sides you love



**CHICKEN  
DINNER**

**ST. STEPHEN MARTYR**



**FACEBOOK LIVE DRAWING**  
**Saturday, June 12, 2021**  
\$100 per share  
Raffle Drawing Live at 8:00 pm  
on the St. Stephen Martyr Facebook page  
(<https://www.facebook.com/ssmlouisville>)

**\$50,000 IN CASH PRIZES\***

1st Prize \$40,000 (40%)	2nd Prize \$7,000 (7%)	3rd Prize \$3,000 (3%)
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Raffle Tickets are available for purchase in the Parish Office or may be ordered on line on the [ssmartyr.org](http://ssmartyr.org) web page.

Proceeds from this raffle help defray the costs of civic and charitable programs sponsored by St. Stephen Martyr such as Red Cross Blood Drives, a weekly Dare to Care Food Pantry and annual free Community Trunk or Treat and Cookies with Santa Events.

\*Based on 1000 tickets sold

Need not be present to win! License #0192  
Thank you for supporting St. Stephen Martyr Parish!

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