

# ST. STEPHEN MARTYR

2931 PINDELL AVENUE • LOUISVILLE, KY 40217



## 6<sup>TH</sup> 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, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another." - Jn 15:16-17

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**  
What is the difference between a  
"Saint" and a "Blessed"?



The process of proclaiming someone as a saint in the Catholic Church has evolved over the course of many centuries. In the beginning, those honored as saints were almost exclusively biblical figures or martyrs. However, after the legalization of Christianity in the fourth century, new holy women and men came to be honored as saints, and this was often done by popular acclaim or by the local bishop or abbot.

It was Pope Gregory IX (who was pope from 1227 to 1241) who officially proclaimed that only the pope had the authority to add someone to the official list (the "canon") of saints. This is the meaning of the word "canonization."

Today, the saint-making process includes several steps, including detailed studies of the person's life and a recognition that they died as a martyr or lived a life of "heroic virtue." Once someone is recognized as a martyr or if a miracle is attributed to their intercession, they will be beatified and honored as "Blessed." This means that they can be celebrated by Catholics in a particular country or region or by the members of certain religious community. If another miracle occurs and is approved, then the "Blessed" is canonized and honored with the title "Saint," meaning that they are now officially recognized as a universal model of holiness and an intercessor.



**Readings for the week of 05/9/2021**

**Sun:** 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

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

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

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

**Thurs:** 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

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

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

**Next Sun:** *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

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

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:11-13

The good steward rejoices, loves, and is a friend of Jesus. Stewardship flows out of our love and friendship with the Son of God.

*Parish Support*

05/01/2020 - 04/30/2021 = \$395,698.50

05/01/2019 - 04/30/2020 = \$470,113.80

*Thanks to all those who continue to donate!*



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... and for all our sick and homebound.

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

**Pray for our Parish Community**



Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families and friends of

Cecilia "Sis" Brand  
And  
Bertha Kamer

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

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 Celeste Fautz, Business Manager

### End of the 2020-2021 School Year -

It is hard to believe but the 2020-2021 School Year will come to an end on Wednesday May 26 with a 1:00 pm dismissal. An outdoor graduation ceremony for the eighth grade Class of 2021 will be held on Friday May 21 and our 4-year-old Preschool students will graduate on Thursday May 20 as they prepare to enter kindergarten next year. SSM faculty and staff, including our preschool and after care personnel, deserve much praise and gratitude for going above and beyond to make this school year safe but also fun and educational for our all our students under some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable (and not even imaginable until spring 2020).



Roughly 227 students from 156 families attended SSM School (grades K-8) in 2020-2021 sometimes remotely but mostly in the (socially distanced) classrooms, including 52 students from 37 families that belong to 13 other local area parishes, as well as 29 children from 24 non-Catholic families. At the eighth grade graduation this year, eleven families will see their last child graduate from SSM School. A total of 41 students attended the 3 and 4-Year-Old Preschool programs in 2020-2021.

There are currently 229 students from 154 families who have registered to attend SSM in grades K-8 for the 2021-2022 school year. Thirty-five of these students are currently registered to attend kindergarten, of which, twenty will be graduates of the SSM 4-Year-Old Preschool. Only 7 of the 2021 4-year-old preschool graduates have not registered to attend SSM for kindergarten next year. Sixteen current year K-8 students from 11 families are not preregistered to attend SSM School in 2021-2022. Three of these families (6 students) are moving out of town, and 3 of these families (5 students) have applied for 2021-2022 tuition assistance and may just be awaiting announcement of awards in June to make a final decision. Currently, a total of 29 children (23 full day) have registered to attend the SSM 3 and 4-Year-Old Preschool programs in 2021-2022 and inquiries continue to be received.

We are very blessed to have such a wonderful School and Preschool as part of the ministry we offer here at St. Stephen Martyr.

### Save the Date -

The volunteers who made this year's drive-thru fish fries such a success have taken on the challenge of organizing this year's Parish Chicken Dinner. The Dinner will be held on Saturday June 12, 2021. How the event will be conducted is still uncertain at this time—a drive thru only dinner, limited indoor capacity event, or maybe a combination— which will be dependent upon whatever COVID-19 restrictions may remain in effect in June. Stay tuned!



Due to continually declining revenues from the annual SSM summer picnics - a 57.5% decline over the 5 festivals held from 2014 through 2018 - the parish opted for a new fundraising approach in 2019 and the first Parish Chicken Dinner was held on Saturday June 8, 2019. This event featured a cake wheel, a handmade quilt raffle and live music. Event expenses were covered and modest net revenues of \$2,546.76 were received which sadly represented 10.6% of total revenues from the 2018 2-day summer festival.

As an alternative to the fundraising aspect formerly served by the picnics, the parish proposed to sell 1000 raffle tickets at a cost of \$100 per ticket with \$50,000 going to SSM parish, \$40,000 for the winning ticket, \$7,000 for the 2nd ticket drawn and a \$3,000 runner up prize. Alternately, if not all tickets were sold, 40% of the cash proceeds from sold raffle tickets would be paid for 1st prize, 7% for second prize and 3% for 3rd prize.. The plan was to sell tickets beginning after the Reverse Raffle in November 2019 and draw the winners at the next Chicken Dinner on June 13, 2020. Even though the 2020 dinner was cancelled due to COVID, the parish applied for and received a revised gaming license to sell raffle tickets online only and the raffle drawing was live-streamed on the SSM Facebook page on June 13. Net revenues to the parish from this raffle-only event totaled \$12,908.56 or 53% of total net revenues from the last 2-day parish picnic that was held in 2018.

2021 raffle tickets are currently available for purchase online through the parish web page and are also available in the parish office.



St. Stephen Martyr Summer Care Program - Enrolling now!

Open to Incoming SSM Preschool Children through 6th Grade

Call or come see us!

3015 Greenup Rd Louisville, KY 40217

502-635-3505

ssmartyr.org

Email rjenkins@ssmartyr.org with any questions.

\$75 registration fee.

\$130 a week

Open at 7:30 am and close at 5 pm.  
(Hours could extend, TBA)

*"I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."*

*Abraham Lincoln*

### A Mother's Prayer

*Dear Lord, it's such a hectic day,  
With little time to stop and pray,  
For Life's been anything but calm,  
Since You called me to be a mom -  
Running errands, matching socks,  
Building dreams with matching blocks,*

*Cooking, cleaning and finding shoes  
And other stuff that children lose,  
Fitting lids on bottled bugs, Wiping  
tears and giving hugs,*

*A stack of last week's mail to read -  
So where's the quiet time I need?*

*Yet, when I steal a moment, Lord,  
Just at the sink or ironing board,*

*To ask the blessings of Your grace,  
I see then, in my small one's face,*

*That You have blessed me all the while-  
And I stoop to kiss... That precious smile.*

*- Author Unknown*

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF May 9, 2021

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day  
**Monday:** St. Damien de Veuster, Priest  
**Wednesday:** Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs;  
St. Pancras, Martyr  
**Thursday:** The Ascension of the Lord [transferred to  
Sunday]; Our Lady of Fatima  
**Friday:** St. Matthias, Apostle  
**Saturday:** St. Isidore; Armed Forces Day  
**Next Sunday:** The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of  
Easter; World Communications Day



### *A Sunday for all Mothers.*

Around the world, mothers and their children have been separated by lockdown measures. As families celebrate Mother's Day on 9 May, we remember Mary, Mother of the Church, and all mothers who are suffering during this time of trial

For many countries around the world, the second Sunday of May marks Mother's Day. Although it is celebrated differently from country to country, and even from family to family, whenever and wherever Mother's Day is celebrated, it is a day to honour our mothers, and all the sacrifices they make for us.

Pope Francis once said that humanity is "built on mothers" and that their love is a cure for a world, which is so often divided and filled with bitterness. He spoke of a mother's heroism in self-giving, "strength in compassion" and "wisdom in meekness."

Pope Francis described mothers as peacekeepers, saying that "in their unconditional and sacrificial love for their children", mothers are "the antidote to individualism; they are the greatest enemies of war". He noted that Mary, too, "saw many difficult moments", and like a good mother she is close to us, her children, "so that we may never lose courage in the adversities of life".

May is also the Marian month, in which we celebrate Mary - proclaimed by Pope Saint Paul VI as the "Mother of the Church", in 1964. "God Himself needed a Mother" said Pope Francis, and Jesus Himself gave her to us. "She is the Queen of peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion".

The Pope has invited the world to pray the rosary throughout this Marian month, saying "contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial".

Around the world, on Sunday 9 May, many people will be praying to Mary, our Mother, for their mothers, near and far.

Excerpts from Vatican News by Francesca Merlo

Masses for the Week of 05/10/21 – 05/16/21

**Sunday, May 16 -**

†=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 – 05/12/2021 –**

**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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A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters



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