

# ST. STEPHEN MARTYR

2931 PINDELL AVENUE • LOUISVILLE, KY 40217



[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. Peter Bucalo  
[pbucalo@ssmartyr.org](mailto:pbucalo@ssmartyr.org)

**Deacon**

Rev. Mr. Ken Roberts, Jr.  
[kroberts@ssmartyr.org](mailto:kroberts@ssmartyr.org)

**Senior Deacons**

Rev. Mr. Syl Nitzken  
Rev. Mr. Steve DaPonte  
[sdaponte@ssmartyr.org](mailto:sdaponte@ssmartyr.org)

**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**

Position Vacant  
at this time

**Pre-School Director**

Mrs. Rebecca Jenkins  
[rjenkins@ssmartyr.org](mailto:rjenkins@ssmartyr.org)

**Parish Council**

**Pastor**, Fr. Peter Bucalo  
**Chairperson**, Patty Norton.....773-6356  
**Administration/Finance**, Ray Brown.648-5667  
**Parish Life**, Patty Norton.....773-6356  
**Worship**, Vacant.....  
**Recording Secretary**, Vacant.....

## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

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

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Current Mass Schedules

**Weekend:** Saturday 4:00 pm;  
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

**Weekday:** Tuesday—Friday 8:15 am

**Holyday:** announced times in bulletin.  
Sunday 8:30 am Mass is also available  
by Live Stream or Recording on  
SSM Facebook Page

**Sacraments**

**Baptism:** Call parish office for appointment and preparation.

**Confession:**

- 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:



**Question:**

As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

**Answer:**

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.

Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person."

Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.



**Readings for the week of 09/05/2021**

Sun: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

Mon: Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11

Tue: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19

Wed: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Thurs: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38

Fri: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42

Sat: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/Lk 6:43-49

Sun: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

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

"My brothers, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ."  
James 2:1

We should show no favoritism to those we serve or in how we serve. All of our talents are equally important, no matter how humble. Our small acts of kindness to others make more of a difference than our grandiose efforts.

**Parish Support**

08/28/2020 - 08/27/2021 = \$385,462.60  
08/28/2019 - 08/27/2020 = \$452,698.00  
**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**

**LITURGICAL LIFE**  
**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah spoke of the importance of being strong of heart when it comes the ways of God. Why do you think this is such an important virtue?

Second Reading:

James encouraged believers to view the rich and poor from God's perspective. Why do you think people struggle with this divine point of view?

Gospel Reading:

In today's reading, we hear how Jesus healed the deaf man with a speech impediment at the request of the "people" close to this man. Who do you know in your life who needs healing from Jesus?

From the Desk of Fr. Peter Bucalo, Pastor:

Dear Friends in Christ,

The first precept of the Catholic Church is this: "You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor." Due to the Covid-19 pandemic Archbishop Kurtz suspended this obligation. As of this Sunday, after a year and a half, the obligation is being restored. All of this begs the question: why we are obligated to attend Mass in the first place? The simplest answer is that God commands it. But why?

After He delivered the Israelites from slavery, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt...You shall not have other gods beside me...You shall not invoke the name of the LORD, your God, in vain... Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy." (Ex. 20: 2-8) Like the ancient Israelites, we too are people of a covenant with God, the "new and eternal covenant" in Jesus Christ our Lord.

This new covenant does not completely obliterate the Mosaic covenant, but rather builds on it and perfects it. And the perfection that the Lord Jesus brings is His divine love. It is a love that was always with us, but now it is expressed in a wholly new and magnificent way. God, the creator of all that is, became one of us, to dwell among us, to suffer and die to redeem us from our sins, to rise again to open the gates of Heaven for us, and to come again to judge the living and the dead. God created us purely out of His love. And by virtue of our baptism, which makes us people of this new and eternal covenant, we are called to love God in return: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment." (Matt. 22:37)

This is why we come to Mass. It's that simple. The Eucharist, and the other great sacraments of Christ are essential to our salvation. By faithfully adhering to them we fulfill the greatest and first commandment. Ultimately then, our obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is an obligation of love.

Please remember there are valid reasons for missing Mass: if we are sick, if we have a serious health risk; if we are primary caregivers to those at risk; if we have serious anxiety about being in a large-group setting due to COVID-19; even if we're just physically unable to get to Mass, we have a valid reason.

But as St. Augustine so beautifully said, "Such is the grace we have received! Let us live so as to be worthy of that great grace, and not do injury to it. So mighty is the physician who has come to us that he has healed all our sins! If we choose to be sick once again, we will not only harm ourselves, but show ingratitude to the physician as well."

I like to think of Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation as days of "Opportunity." Each Sunday we have the wonderful opportunity to say, "Yes, Lord! Thank You! I love You above all things! Here I am!"

May God bless you always,

Fr. Peter



The Archdiocese of Louisville has changed the mandate on masks. Due to this change, masks will now be required during indoor CSAA activity for all vaccinated, and unvaccinated student-athletes, coaches, and anyone else attending a practice, game, or organized team activity. Masks may be removed during physical activity/competition by athletes. More updates will be sent out as they are issued by the Archdiocese of Louisville.



### Healthy at Worship – Archdiocese of Louisville Masses and other Liturgical Celebrations Revised August 12, 2021

The wearing of masks is optional for fully-vaccinated individuals. Those who are not fully vaccinated are required to wear masks indoors for liturgies and other parish functions. Please note that masks are required at any school functions, including Mass, for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Masks also are required at programming involving children unable to be vaccinated, such as parish religious education programs.



Use the link on the home page of the parish web site at [www.ssnartyr.org](http://www.ssnartyr.org) to complete and submit a 2021 Stewardship Form or contact the Parish Office at 635-5813 to discuss the various ministry opportunities that are available. There is likely a parish organization that can greatly benefit from your time and your unique talents.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Reverse Raffle**  
**Saturday, November 20, 2021**

#### DONATED ITEMS NEEDED:

Gift Cards—Tickets for Events—Items for Silent and Live Auctions—Corporate Sponsorships

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF August 29, 2021

**Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Labor Day

**Wednesday:** The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Thursday:** St. Peter Claver, Priest

**Saturday:** BVM; Patriot Day

**Next Sunday:** 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time;

Grandparents' Day



### St. Peter Claver, Priest

A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit. Although the practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled “supreme villainy” by Pope Pius IX, it continued to flourish.

Peter Claver’s predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself “the slave of the Negroes forever.” As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After the slaves were herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters he gave basic instructions and assured his brothers and sisters of their human dignity and God’s love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Fr. Claver’s apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, during which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced the saint to remain inactive and largely neglected, Claver died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron of missionary work among black slaves.

**Masses for the Week of 09/06/21 – 09/12/21**

**Tuesday, September 7-**

8:15 am Ann Welch †

†=deceased

**Wednesday, September 8 -**

8:15 am Ethel Raley †

**Thursday, September 9 -**

8:15 am Justin McCauley † & Family

**Friday, September 10 -**

8:15 am Dorothy Sohan †

**Saturday, September 11 --**

4:00 pm Richard Ringswald †

**Sunday, September 12-**

8:30 am Our Parish Community

10:30 am Thomas Steinbock †

**Church and School Offices are Open -**

Parish Office hours are 8:30am-4:30pm (Mon-Fri)

Students can arrive to School at 7:15 am and classes begin at 7:50 am.

Dismissal is 2:50 pm. Early Dismissal days are at 1:00 pm

**Parish Calendar of Events –**

A Parish Calendar of Events is available on the home page of the [ssmartyr.org](http://ssmartyr.org) web site. This online calendar will be updated at the end of each week. All events/activities must be appear on the calendar prior to use of any facility on campus. Please call the parish office (635-5813) to request addition of your event/activity to the calendar.

**SSM Dare to Care Food Pantry–**

**Wednesday – 09/01/2021 –**

**3:45-5:00 pm Dare-to-Care Food Distribution Weiker Rm**

Dare to Care served 121 families consisting of 147 adults, 91 children and 50 seniors for the month of July.

**Groundskeeping and Gardening Committees** – Thanks to the continuing efforts of the SSM Groundskeeping and Gardening Committees, the parish grounds are looking better than ever. Our parish volunteers did a fantastic job of keeping the grass cut and the flower gardens weeded and watered throughout the summer. However, we could use some assistance with grass cutting and leaf removal during the upcoming fall season. If you can help or would like more information about either of these committees, please contact the Parish Office at 635-5813 or email to [cfautz@ssmartyr.org](mailto:cfautz@ssmartyr.org). Thank you for your stewardship!



The parish is seeking a patient, caring and nurturing individual to fill a part time position in the SSM After School Care Program.(3pm – 5:30pm). If interested, please contact Rebecca Jenkins, [rjenkins@ssmartyr.org](mailto:rjenkins@ssmartyr.org).



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