

August 23, 2020

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

St. Stephen Church

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Monroe City, MO 63456
Holy Rosary Rectory
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Pastor

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*Current and past bulletins
may be viewed at
St. Stephen's website:*

www.ststephencatholicchurch.org
Email: churchst.stephen@gmail.com

Scripture Readings for August 30, 2020

The Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: *Jeremiah 20:7-9 (124A):* Jeremiah only reluctantly spoke God's prophetic word. He tried to hold back, but the word burned like fire in his heart.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9:* "My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God."

Second Reading: *Romans 12:1-2:* Paul urged the Romans to offer their bodies to God as a living sacrifice and not to conform to this age but to be transformed by God.

Gospel: *Matthew 16:21-27:* Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

*August 16th Offertory ~ \$2,982.00
Religious Retirement Collection ~ \$520.00*

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Pastoral Council election this Sunday:** Ballots are available in the pews and also on the bulletin table to elect the new Council members. The ballots will also be emailed for those not able to attend Mass and those votes can be called or emailed to Carol Hagan, (573) 248-6694; email: chagan@monroe.k12.mo.us or Amanda Spalding, (573) 231-5053; email: aspalding@monroe.k12.mo.us by Wednesday, August 26th. Those who have generously agreed to place their names on the ballots are Jared Bichsel, Eric Keller, Tyson Mulvaney, Danny Sims, John Watson and Tom Winking. Please vote for TWO persons.
- **Swinkey Days T-shirts** may be purchased after Mass in the gym for \$10 each. Youth and adult sizes are available
- **A note to our Ushers:** Because it's difficult to find available space in Church, we are asking if our Ushers could help parishioners find available pew spaces before Mass each Sunday.
- **Saturday and Sunday's Masses:** The Saturday, 5:30 PM Mass at Holy Rosary may be viewed at "Greg Oligschlaeger" Live Facebook page. The 8:00 AM Mass at St. Stephen is being streamed to over-flow seating in the gym or can be viewed at "Greg Oligschlaeger" Live Facebook page. The 9:30 Mass at Holy Rosary can be viewed on YouTube Livestreamed <http://shorturl.at/zNQ57>

Dear Parishioners,



"*But who do you say that I am?*" Jesus asks us as He asks his disciples in our Gospel reading today. How would you answer that question? Simon Peter says, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" Peter is then blessed by Jesus because Peter was inspired by God to give such an accurate response.

How would you have answered Jesus' question? I ask you this as I ponder my response... I might give a history lesson like the first response of the disciples. Or maybe, I might speak theologically about how Jesus is the Word made Flesh and the New Adam who will fix creation. I more than likely would have said something related to me, like "*You are the one who will save my sins, heal my wounds, and get me into heaven.*" Those responses would not have brought the blessing of Jesus as Peter's inspired answer did because they speak **about** Jesus or even who **I want** Jesus to be, but **not who Jesus is.**

Often we actually want Jesus to serve us. We think that if we know enough about Him, we can get Him (Jesus or God the Father) to do what we want according to our plan. When Peter says, "*You are the Christ the Son of the Living God*", Peter opens himself to the power of God without an agenda. He at the time did not know he was offering himself to serve Christ and the Church; but in time, he would understand that the only response to Christ the Son of the living God is humble service. It is for that reason that Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter and upon this 'Rock' He will build His Church.

Humble service of God and not our own agenda is the challenge of being a disciple. The great temptation is to make the practice of our faith more about me than about service to Church. Peter was a strong, likeable, proud, businessman and a family man. That Rock bowed in humble service of Christ the Son of the living God and a new Church was built on the cornerstone of Christ. That Rock trusted that the cornerstone would be enough foundation and added his stone on top to be the first stone of the first layer of a new Church that would become large enough to encompass the whole world. The first pope Simon Peter had a lot of responsibility given to him by Jesus. The Rock did not use the power to dominate but rather to serve.

Please pray for Pope Francis this week. Pray that like Peter, he may continue to have the Grace to lead the Church as the Servant of the Servants of God. May we follow Peter's example and strive to serve God through our service of God and neighbor. God's peace be with you.
Prayers and Blessings,

F. Greg Oligschlaeger

**NEXT WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE AT
ST. STEPHEN & HOLY ROSARY**

Day	Time	Intention
Sunday 8/23	*St. Stephen	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	***Holy Rosary	9:30 AM Madilynn Rose St.Clair
Monday		No Scripture Service
Tuesday		7:30 AM Mark Saunders
Wednesday		7:30 AM Gerry Spalding
Thursday		7:30 AM Mary Bono Cooper Family
Friday	<i>Student Liturgy</i>	8:20 AM Mark Saunders
Saturday	**Holy Rosary	5:30 PM Becky Labuary Underwood
Sunday 8/30	*St. Stephen	8:00 AM Floyd Buckman & Joyce Maher
	***Holy Rosary	9:30 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary

**St. Stephen Mass can be viewed on Facebook @ "Greg Oligschlaeger"
**Holy Rosary 5:30 PM Mass can be viewed on Facebook @ "Greg Oligschlaeger"
***Holy Rosary 9:30 PM Mass can be viewed on YouTube Livestreamed
<http://shorturl.at/zNQ57>*

RECONCILIATION

4:00-5:00 PM Saturdays at Holy Rosary
7:15-7:45 AM Sundays at St. Stephen
Or by appointment, 735-4718

~ SCHOOL NEWS ~

- **The 119th year of Holy Rosary School** began on Thursday, August 20th, with an enrollment of 175 students in Pre-K through the eighth grade. The enthusiastic students were happy to begin classes after the five months of being away from school. We pray that we will be able to stay in session. The success of Holy Rosary School comes from the faithful parishioners, the leadership of our pastor, supportive parents, very dedicated teachers and motivated students. We are blessed in so many ways.
- **Full days of class** will begin on Monday, August 24th. The morning bell will ring at 8:00 and dismissal will be at 3:00.
- **School pictures** of all students will be taken on Wednesday, August 26th.

~ PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER ~

Trent Zeiger, Jackie Ryan, Rose Shinn, Hazel Smith, Jim Schnitzler, Sue Gilbert, Natalee Amos, Rosemary Evans, Deanna Buckman, Nick Hays, Kenny Ryan, Bonnie Ess, John Kendrick, Charlotte Schneider, Logan Maher, Glenda Staton, Troy Ritter, Michael Kellerman, Terry Kendrick, Dc. Mike Long, Barbara Kendrick, Mark Leake, William P. Smith, Connie Kendrick, Nick Mudd, Teresa Ritter Toland, Daniel Patrick Mudd, Bonnie Werner

For all who are ill, especially those who are awaiting surgery or seriously ill, and for their caregivers and for those who have died, we pray to the Lord.

~ FOLLOWING GOD'S LEAD ALONG WITH DONNA ~

- **PSR:** We are in need of a PSR Catechist for Kindergarten/1st grade. Do you feel a call to help our young children learn about our faith? Contact me and let's talk about how you can use your talents to serve our parishes' children.
- **2020/21 PSR registration** will be August 22/23 following Mass at St. Stephen and Holy Rosary. If you are unable to register that weekend, you can register online anytime at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfvoLd_tEOc7ZfDLRKLlrRIIzLDxs5gQzb9x68GiVP3h2CQg/viewform?usp=sf_link
- **2020 Seniors:** As you move on to college stay connected with your faith. Newman Connection can help you connect with a Catholic Ministry at your college campus. Sign up here to get more information <https://signupnc.newmanministry.com/>.
- **RCIA - Who do you know that may be interested in becoming Catholic?** Do you have a friend or family member that asks questions or seems interested in why you believe what you believe? Maybe you or someone you know would like to know about how to become a Catholic. The **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** is the place to begin. We will start the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) sessions in the Fall. Coming to an inquiry session does not commit one to becoming a Catholic but does help to answer questions and is meant to help a person discern whether they want to practice their faith in the Catholic Church. Maybe you are a non-Catholic spouse of a Catholic and want more info and a forum to ask questions, or maybe you were baptized Catholic but did not receive Holy Communion or become fully initiated by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation- RCIA Inquiry sessions would be for you too. The RCIA Inquiry sessions will be facilitated on the adult learning format of presentation and discussion (no memorization will be required). Questions will certainly be welcomed and discussed. If you are interested or if you know someone that is interested in inquiring about the Catholic faith, call Donna Long at the rectory office at 573-735-4718 or send an email to donnalong.hrss@gmail.com.
- **FORMED: Lectio: Mary with Dr. Brant Pitre: Why is Mary so important to Catholics, and why have so many people been devoted to her over the centuries? What can we learn about her from Sacred Scripture? Find out the answers in this Lectio series on Mary. Dr. Brant Pitre presents clear and easily understood explanations about the life and identity of Mary, the Mother of God.** www.formed.org

~ D OF I NEWS ~

A meeting has been tentatively set for September 10th at 5:00 PM in the Knights of Columbus Hall. The workshop scheduled for September has been cancelled. Please keep all of our members in your prayers, especially those in the nursing homes

~ MONROE CITY FOOD BANK ~

Each Tuesday evening from 5:00-7:00 PM through the month of August the food bank is offering 25 lb. boxes of U.S. grown mixed vegetables and fruits until they run out. Everyone is welcome to pick up a box. Regular pantry hours are from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM every third Friday of the month, after the third Thursday. Please contact Devyn Timbrook at 573-719-4537 with any questions.

~ K OF C NEWS ~

The Family Fully Alive booklets: The St. Stephen KC's have purchased these booklets for families in our parish, designed to help families place God and the Catholic faith at the center of their lives, year around. The books are on the literature table in the vestibule. *The theme for August is "Hospitality".*

~ PRAYER WALK ~

On August 23rd at 6:00 PM there will be a Prayer Walk around Holy Rosary and Monroe City R-1 Schools. Printed prayer guides will be available at each school

POPE FRANCIS AND BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S AUGUST PRAYER INTENTIONS

You are invited and encouraged to unite your prayer intentions with those of Pope Francis and Bishop McKnight's August intentions:

Intention of Pope Francis

"We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families."

Intention of Bishop McKnight

"For our parish and school communities, that we may be bound by a spirit of unity to work together for the common good during the pandemic."

~ PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL ~

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. until further notice. Everyone is welcome to come at any time during those 12 hours for prayer and adoration. Adoration contacts - Phyllis Campbell, 573-795-2290 or Howard & Linda Willard, 573-735-4552.

Liturgy Appointments

August 23 – Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacristan	Danny Adam
Rosary	Gares Family
Music	Debby Quinn & Jan Gottman
Song Leader	Beth Whelan
Servers	Ella Hays & Bradi Keller
Lector	Debbie Kendrick
Communion Ministers	Kay Turnbull, Phil Whelan
Counters	Doug Orf, Kathy Spurgeon

August 30 – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacristan	Kathy Anderson
Rosary	Kaye Spalding
Music	Julienne Burns & Beth Whelan
Song Leader	Whitney Pfaff
Servers	Tyler Hays & Averie Hays
Lector	Greg Maher
Communion Ministers	Lee & Kathy Anderson
Counters	Doug Orf, Dan Adam

September 6 – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacristan	Danny Adam
Rosary	Katie Underhill
Music	Debby Quinn & Jan Adam
Song Leader	Julienne Burns
Servers	Maddie Gares & Mari Gares
Lector	Desiree Mudd
Communion Ministers	Deanna Buckman, Marie Puroil
Counters	Amanda Spalding, Jim & Julienne Burns

Ushers for August

Tanner Buckman, James Burns

Ushers for September

Dennis Finnigan, Jeff Gares

* All Liturgy appointees for the Mass, please check with the Sacristan 15 minutes before Mass so all Eucharistic ministries are covered.

Pastoral Council Members: Chair., Amanda Spalding; V. Chair., Doug Orf; Sec'y, Carol Hagan; Members: Lee Anderson, Eric Keller and Darin Underhill.

Finance Committee: Monica Otto-Lloyd, Chair.; Tom Hagan, Sec'y; Phil Whelan

K of C's: Grand Knight: Ed Born; Deputy Grand Knight, Kevin Long; Recording Secretary, Michael Maher; Financial Secretary, Shane Spalding

Altar Society Officers: Pres., Lynn Ogle, Treas., Julie Hays

Picnic Committee: Coordinators, David & Julie Hays; Treas., Shane Spalding

Cemetery Committee: Pres., Joe Puroil; V. Pres., Bill Smith, Treas., Marie Puroil, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays, Shane Spalding.