

November 15, 2020

St. Stephen Church

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Monroe City, MO 63456
Holy Rosary Rectory
(573) 735-4718
Pastor

Rev. Greg Oligschlaeger

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Current and past bulletins
may be viewed at

St. Stephen's website:

<https://ststephenic.diojeffcity.org/>

Email: churchst.stephen@gmail.com

Scripture Readings for November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 (2B): Isaiah prophesied, "All our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves....We are the clay and you are the potter: we are the work of your hands."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19: "Lord make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9: Paul wrote, "God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. You are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37: Jesus said, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come....Watch, therefore" whether at sunset, midnight, cock crow, or sunrise. "Watch!"

November 15th Offertory ~ \$2,198.00

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin table for volunteers to help with tomorrow's Blood Drive. St. Stephen is hosting this month.
- The 2010 calendars are in the vestibule on the bulletin table. Please help yourselves.
- The next Finance Committee meeting will be Thursday, January 7th at 6:00 PM in Holy Rosary's parish office.
- 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>

~ SCHOOL NEWS ~

- Classes will NOT be held during the week of November 23rd. Please follow COVID protocols to prevent the spread of the virus.
- We, at Holy Rosary School, are very grateful that we are able to stay in session during these challenging days of the pandemic. Let us continue to pray for one another and do what we can to protect one another.

~ A NOTE FROM THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE ~

The Cemetery Committee would like to express their appreciation to Nick Hays and Bill Smith for their many years of service in the planning and maintenance of our historic Cemetery. Thank you! We are asking for a volunteer to serve as a member. If you would be interested, please contact Fr. Greg. President, Joe Puro; Treasurer, Marie Puro; Members, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays and Shane Spalding.

~ WEEKLY MONDAY NOON ROSARY AT ST. STEPHEN ~

The rosary will be prayed each Monday at 12:00 noon at St. Stephen for both parishes to petition for an end to the pandemic, its victims, and any other intention requested. Social distancing will be maintained.

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

Day	Time	Intention
Sunday 11/22	*St. Stephen ***Holy Rosary	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary 9:30 AM Johnny Hays Rita Jo Kendrick and Family
Monday		No Scripture Service
Tuesday		7:30 AM Helen Maher
Wednesday		7:30 AM Lamar & Mary Louise Hays
Thursday	Thanksgiving	8:00 AM Regina Hays
Friday		NO MASS
Saturday	**Holy Rosary	5:30 PM Rink & Channie Benson
Sunday 11/29	*St. Stephen ***Holy Rosary	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary 9:30 AM Margaret Dean

*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

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

Dear Parishioners,



Today is the Thirty-Fourth or last Sunday in Ordinary Time and the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. This solemnity celebrates an aspect of the identity of Jesus rather than the life of Jesus. What the world knew of kingship and power is transformed. Rather than thinking of images of Jesus dressed in kingly robes, today's gospel claims Him as King by the sign over His head on the throne of the wooden cross (I.N.R.I. -Iesus Nazarenus ex Iudem--Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews).

On the Solemnity of Christ, the King of the Universe, we honor the unique kingship of Christ. His Kingdom is not here: His kingdom is with His Father, and yet it is being mysteriously built in our very midst. Christ's Kingdom is "an eternal and universal kingdom, a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice love and peace." (From the Roman Missal-Preface of Christ the King).

Remember your homework that I gave to you last week? With Thanksgiving a few days away and the beginning of Advent next Sunday, this is a good opportunity to review our spiritual journey this past year. How is my relationship with the Lord? What might I change and make my New Year's resolutions that begins next week? Does my resolution include being more charitable and more grateful? Starting off a new year by doing good is always a great idea!

Next weekend is New Year's Day... the beginning of Advent. We start anew appreciating the promised gift of God's Son becoming human and dwelling with us on this earth. Prepare well! Pause and pray! After the consumerism fog of Black Friday, let's ask God to help us see what is most important...that we, like the Blessed Virgin Mary, may strive to be God's humble servant and cooperate with the will of God.

Have a blessed Solemnity of Christ the King and appreciate the blessing of being Christ's royal subjects in the ways we share gifts God has given us. Prayers and Blessings,

May you and your household have a blessed Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving Day Mass will be at 8:00 AM on Thursday, November 26th at Holy Rosary. May your gratitude for all God's blessings, gifts and talents lead you to love God, your family, and friends all the more.

Prayers and blessings,

Greg Oligschlaeger

~ 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, Fr. Michael Penn, 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, P. A. Turnbull, Teresa Ritter Toland, Tim Quinn, Daniel Patrick Mudd, Bonnie Werner, Regina Hays

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 Classes - All Grades:
* Due to the increase in Covid-19 diagnoses in our community, all students are asked to wear masks while in the building, including while they are seated in their classrooms.
* November 22nd: There will be no breakfast served this week at 7-12 PSR due to the increase in Covid-19 diagnoses.
* No PSR classes will be held during Thanksgiving week. K-6: No class on November 25th; 7-12: No class November 29th.
New Parish Websites: The new websites are now available. I encourage you to check them out. The websites are wonderful and will be a great tool for our parishes to keep us all connected.
Holy Rosary's Website: https://holyroary.diojeffcity.org/
St. Stephen's Website: https://ststephenic.diojeffcity.org/
FORMED Advent: In addition to what is included in the Advent flyer with the bulletin, FORMED also has a 4-episode series entitled Advent. We are preparing our homes and shopping lists, but let's also prepare our hearts for the greatest gift we've ever been given. This series explores the mystery of the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth, and the events surrounding the arrival of Jesus, this Advent study offers an opportunity to experience the joy of the true meaning of Christmas. Each episode is less than 20 minutes and there is an Advent Leader Guide and Advent Study Guide available. You can participate as a family, online in a Zoom, Google Meet, FaceTime, on the phone with family and friends, or even on your own. Don't let quarantining or social distancing stop you from preparing your heart for Advent.
To inquire about faith formation/religious education, contact Donna Long anytime at donnalong.hrss@gmail.com or call me at the rectory, 735-4718. My office hours are 8:00 AM to Noon, Monday through Friday.

~ K OF C NEWS ~

- The November KC meeting will be held Thursday, December 3rd with the rosary at 7:00 PM, followed by the meeting. All are welcome to join with the Knights praying the rosary.
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 November is "The Community of Saints".

~ DIOCESAN CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL ~

The St. Stephen parish goal for 2021 is \$9,000 and the diocese goal is \$2,450,000. As of November 16th, we have received \$5,647.00 which is 63% of our goal. Please prayerfully consider making a donation - gifts of any size are appreciated. Thank you to everyone who has already responded.

POPE FRANCIS AND BISHOP McKNIGHT'S NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

Intention of Pope Francis

"We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind."

Intention of Bishop McKnight

"For a greater sense of gratitude to God for all blessings received, and a greater sense of our responsibility for the mission of the Church in our parishes."

~ RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE TOMORROW ~

A Monroe City Community Blood Drive will be held Monday, November 23rd from 12:45-6:00 PM at Holy Rosary's KC Hall. All donations are tested for Covid-19 antibodies. Plasma from antibody positive donations may help current coronavirus patients in need. Due to Covid, all donors are asked to sign up by calling 1-800 RED CROSS. Please bring a photo ID.

~ CHRISTMAS IS CARING ~

Holy Rosary and St. Stephen are again helping with Christmas is Caring. The Hometown Volunteers take applications through NECAC from families who may need help providing Christmas presents and food for their families. We usually help anywhere from 70-90 local families, as well as deliver fruit baskets to everyone living in senior housing. The students at Holy Rosary and the public school participate in a non-perishable food drive the week after Thanksgiving. Those items are then distributed to the families along with a turkey, potatoes, bread, laundry soap, toilet paper and other essentials. Each child in participating families receives one outfit, underwear, socks and 3 Christmas presents. Applicants fill out a list with sizes and requests for presents. The week before Thanksgiving there will be tags at the entrances of the Church with gift requests for the children. These gifts can be put in the baskets at the entrances marked for "Christmas is Caring". All donations need to be in by December 11th. Distribution will be December 22nd. Monetary donations can be mailed to Shannon Quinn 622 James Lane, Monroe City or dropped in the collection basket and marked "Christmas is Caring". My phone number is 573-289-6894.

~ 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

November 22 - Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, and Counters.

November 29 - First Sunday of Advent

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, and Counters.

December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, and Counters.

Ushers for November

Tom Hagan, David Hays

Ushers for December

Don Hays, Keith Hays

* 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 Danny Sims.

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 Puro; Treas., Marie Puro, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays, Shane Spalding.