

November 29, 2020

St. Stephen Church

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Holy Rosary Rectory
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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 December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (5B):* Speaking for God, Isaiah said, " 'Comfort, give comfort to my people,' says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her service is at an end."

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14:* "Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation."

Second Reading: *2 Peter 3:8-14:* Peter wrote that God does not want anyone to perish but wants all to repent, for the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.

Gospel: *Mark 1:1-8:* Fulfilling what Isaiah foretold, John appeared in the desert as a messenger making ready the way of the Lord and proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Missalettes** are in the entry of Church for any who would like to pick one up to be used at home or brought with them to Mass during this time of caution.
- **Cleaning the Church for Christmas:** There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin table in preparation for cleaning the Church the week of December 6th - 12th. It is divided into 5 areas, so one or two ladies may choose a time to clean a section and avoid contact with others. (A copy of the sign-up sheet will be emailed with this bulletin.)
- **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>

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 8, 8:20 a.m. at Holy Rosary

Tuesday, December 8, 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen

Christmas Eve & Day Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24, 3:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary

Thursday, December 24, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary

Thursday, December 24, 8:00 p.m. at St. Stephen

Thursday, December 24, Midnight, at Holy Rosary

Friday, December 25, 9:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary

New Year's Eve Schedule

Thursday, December 31, 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen

~ 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 Purol; Treasurer, Marie Purol; Members, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays and Shane Spalding.

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

Day	Time	Intention
Sunday 11/29	*St. Stephen	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	***Holy Rosary	9:30 AM Margaret Dean & Josephine Straub
Monday		No Scripture Service
Tuesday		7:30 AM Bill Winthop Jr.
Wednesday		7:30 AM Liv. + Dec'd D of I
Thursday		7:30 AM Shelby Shively
Friday	Student Liturgy	8:20 AM Robert Wimsatt Family
Saturday	**Holy Rosary	5:30 PM Joe Ralph Buckman
Sunday 12/6	*St. Stephen	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	***Holy Rosary	9:30 AM George & Juanita Yates & Family

*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

November 22nd Offertory ~ \$1,007.00
Campaign for Human Development ~ \$250.00

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~



Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the Advent season.

*"O Lord, you are our Father, we are the clay and you the potter:
we are all the work of your hands." [Isaiah 64:7]*

Clay is not easy to work whether it be trying to break ground for crops or flowers, or trying to make a clay pot or cup on the potter's spinning wheel. But the good potter refines the clay by removing tiny stones or air bubbles or other impurities. The potter then adds water and works the clay until it is able to be formed into an object of utility and of beauty.

The Old Testament peoples, at the time of the prophet Isaiah, were familiar with clay and how it was molded. In Genesis 2, God is pictured as forming man from the earth as a potter forms his pots from clay. When Job is going through all of his suffering, he refers to himself as clay in the hands of God. Isaiah, in our First Reading on this First Sunday of Advent, uses clay to refer to the relationship between God and man.

We are all God's people though we are very different. There are different colors and textures of clay. We are individuals in the hands of a wonderful God. The Master Potter molds each of us as individuals from the clay that is humanity. His love is given to each of us. He's the potter; we are the clay. We each have a unique design, talent, and purpose. When we submit to the authority of the potter; we are the clay. When we submit to the authority of God we are transformed by His love.

Why clay? When clay is first brought from the ground it is unusable; it is hard and full of impurities. As the clay is refined, we are also refined by the Master Potter. The water of Baptism and new life is added to every Christian. We need to be softened and pliable. We need to have the impurity of sin in our world removed so we can pass on the love of God to others.

Clay has two unique qualities. It is an always yielding and always surrendering substance from the earth. Only when we yield and surrender our lives into the hands of the Lord, can God then, in His marvelous handiwork, take each of us and shape us and mold us mend us and form us into the artistic yet practical vessels God desires.

Today's Gospel reading calls us to **watch** for God's many ways of coming into our lives and then to respond to God's invitation. Waiting is not passive but rather active. We wait not for God, but we **wait with God**, who in this time of waiting forms us. Advent gives us the opportunity to spiritually "get back into shape". Thanks to the incarnation of Christ at Christmas, we imperfect, somewhat fragile, vessels are filled with the Holy Spirit. **We are the work of God's hands called by Christ to be God's hands working for unity, peace and justice in our world.** Let us allow ourselves to be formed in this Advent Season to be vessels of God's Grace and Mercy for our families and this community.

Prayers and blessings,

~ PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER ~

Father, Your love is as wide as the oceans, As deep as the sea, and as tall as the heavens. May Your Spirit rise like a mighty wave and come and restore those who are ill. You are the water of life, You are a fresh spring, You are healing rain to all those who are in need.

Come Lord Jesus!

- 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.
* No PSR classes will be held 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 Daily Advent reflections: Join the Road to Bethlehem - Sign up for FORMED's Daily Advent reflections. The Road to Bethlehem includes: Daily Advent reflections by Dr. Tim Gray, Brother Francis Advent reflections for kids, weekly videos, audio talks, and book excerpts related to the theme of the week, and action items designed to help you take the Advent message and apply it to your life. Sign up today at https://advent.augustineinstitute.org/
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 December 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".

~ 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.

~ 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 23rd, 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."

~ 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.

~ PRAYERS FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS ~

Please remember during this Christmas season parishioners who are in the nursing home at Monroe City Manor Care Center, 1010 Highway 24 and 36 East, Monroe City, MO 63456: Totty Burditt, Kathy Wilper, Jeanette Price, Shirley Lorenson, Julie Leake, Eddie Watson, Juanita Pfanner, Verna Fortner, Kenny Ryan, Rusty Adam, Frankie Maddox.

~ 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 29 - First Sunday of Advent

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, Counters. Names include Kathy Anderson, Kaye Spalding, Julienne Burns & Beth Whelan, Lee Anderson, Mari Gares & Sophie Gares, Kathy Anderson, Nancy Shively & Amanda Spalding, Eric Keller, Kathy Spurgeon.

December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, Counters. Names include Danny Adam, Katie Underhill, Debby Quinn & Jan Adam, Whitney Pfaff, Taitym Foltz & Bradi Keller, Jim Burns, Doug & Julie Orf, Danny Sims, Jim & Julienne Burns.

December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass @ St. Stephen @ 6:30 PM (Sign-up sheet on the bulletin table)
Sacristan Doug & Julie Orf

December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent

Table with 2 columns: Role and Name. Roles include Sacristan, Rosary, Music, Song Leader, Servers, Lector, Communion Ministers, Counters. Names include Danny Adam, Glenn Bichsel, Beth Whelan & Julienne Burns, Lee Anderson, Ella Hays & Emily Spalding, Carol Hagan, Kaye Spalding, Phil Whelan, Danny Sims, Mary Lou Dawson.

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.