

February 21, 2021



### St. Stephen Church

27519 Monroe Rd. 533, Monroe City, MO 63456

Pastor, Rev. Greg Oligschlaeger: Email: [gregolig@gmail.com](mailto:gregolig@gmail.com)

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

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

Email: [churchststephen@gmail.com](mailto:churchststephen@gmail.com)

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021

*The Second Sunday of Lent*

**First Reading:** *Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 (26B):* God tested Abraham, asking him to sacrifice his only son Isaac. Seeing Abraham's obedience, God relented. Because of Abraham's faith, God blessed him greatly

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19:* "I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living."

**Second Reading:** *Romans 8:31b-34:* We have received the ultimate proof of God's love: Christ Jesus, given up to death for the sake of us all. "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

**Gospel:** *Mark 9:2-10:* Jesus went up a mountain with his disciples and was transfigured before their eyes. A voice from a cloud proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

#### ~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **KC Swinkey Sausage Fundraiser:** The Swinkey KC's will have their pork sausage available right after 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, while supplies last, in the Swinkey Gym. Suggested donation are \$20 for a 5 lb. bundle or \$5 for 1 lb. It comes in either links (salt and pepper flavoring) or bulk (salt and pepper or sage flavoring).
- **The next Finance Committee meeting** will be Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in Holy Rosary's parish office.
- **The next Parish Council meeting** will be Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the gym.
- **Saturday and Sunday's Masses:** The Saturday, 5:30 PM Mass at Holy Rosary, the 8:00 AM Mass at St. Stephen and the Sunday 9:30 AM Mass at Holy Rosary can be viewed at "Greg Oligschlaeger" Live Facebook page. There is seating available in the Gym for St. Stephen's 8:00 AM Mass, allowing a good amount of social distancing.

#### ~ SCHOOL NEWS ~

- **Thank you to everyone** who helped make the Virtual Lucky Hearts a very successful event! The contributions of many individuals are truly appreciated!
- **Classes will not be held** on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, as all teachers attend a Faculty Retreat Day.

#### ~ K OF C NEWS ~

- **The March KC meeting** will be held Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 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 February is "The Sacrament of Marriage".*

#### ~ BLOOD DRIVE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> ~

The Red Cross needs your help! With the colder weather, they are seeing a lower show rate. If you are able to donate, please attend the drive at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Due to social distancing, please make an appointment, by calling 1-800-733-2767 or sign in to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

#### ~ 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 2/21	*St. Stephen 8:00 AM	Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	*Holy Rosary 9:30 AM	Longina Bimentel
Monday		No Scripture Service
Tuesday	7:30 AM	Pat Murphy
Wednesday	7:30 AM	Joe Ralph & Ralph & Flossie Buckman
Thursday	7:30 AM	David & Tom Miles
Friday	7:30 AM	Brian Breedlove
	<i>Stations of the Cross each Friday @ Holy Rosary @ 7:00 PM</i>	
Saturday	*Holy Rosary 5:30 PM	Clifton Moss
Sunday 2/28	*St. Stephen 8:00 AM	Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	*Holy Rosary 9:30 AM	Rink & Channie Benson
	<i>*St. Stephen &amp; Holy Rosary Masses can be viewed on Facebook @ "Greg Oligschlaeger"</i>	

#### RECONCILIATION

4:00-5:00 PM Saturdays at Holy Rosary

7:15-7:45 AM Sundays at St. Stephen

Or by appointment, 735-4718

February 14<sup>th</sup> Offertory ~ \$2,502.00

#### ~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

Dear Parishioners,

This may sound weird, but ...enjoy Lent. Lent calls us to life: to become more and more in touch with the reality of God's life within us, to awaken God's Holy Spirit within each of us, and to remove the clutter that keeps us from good Christian service and worship. The season of Lent reminds us of what we hear in this Sunday's gospel. Jesus preached. *"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel."* [Mark 1:15]

On this First Sunday of Lent I have reprinted for you a reflection on the Lenten season from the Liturgical Training Publications Sourcebook.

*Lent renews the entire Christian community. Some may see Lent as a period of drudgery, avoidance of joy or a season that is harsh and depleting. Easter then becomes a relief, a season of joyful renewal after the laborious, 40-day journey. Yet the Church emphasizes that Lent is indeed a period of joyful renewal. Preface I of Lent to the Eucharistic Prayer prays: [Father] "For by your gracious gift each year your faithful await the Pascal feasts with joy of minds made pure." The renewal comes about through the preparation we are called to make for our celebration of the Pascal Mystery [during the Easter Season]. Anyone who has prepared a joyful event like a wedding, a vacation or a major anniversary knows that half of the joy comes in the preparation itself. Paradoxically, the work in preparing, while taxing and hard in some ways, can also give new life and energy.*

*The disciplines of Lent - self-denial, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving - are not the ends in and of themselves but the means by which we prepare for the renewal of our baptism in the celebration of the Pascal mystery, the total event of Christ's Passion, death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Sending of the Holy Spirit. In the joy and renewal of Lent we look forward to the great high feast of Easter.*

May you have a Blessed Lenten Season and may you listen to God's call to "stretch" yourself and grow in your relationship with God and commitment to the Church during this season of penance and renewal.

Prayers and blessings,

*Greg Oligschlaeger*

~ PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER ~

Father, we lift up those today that are fighting disease and ailments, whether in mind or body. When they want to give up, give them fresh strength and courage. Comfort them in times of pain, give them peace in times of fear and bless them with your healing touch. Come Lord Jesus!

Trent Zeiger, Jackie Ryan, Rose Shinn, Hazel Smith, Jim Schnitzler, Sue Gilbert, Natalee Amos, Rosemary Evans, Deanna Buckman, Richard Elliott, Kenny Ryan, Bonnie Ess, John Kendrick, Pete Schuman, Charlotte Schneider, Logan Maher, Glenda Staton, Troy Ritter, Michael Kellerman, Terry Kendrick, Dc. Mike Long, Barbara Kendrick, Mark Leake, Rusty Adam, 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/Youth Groups:** We need help with Sunday breakfasts for grades 7 - 12 PSR students. If you would like to help our Youth Ministry Program by providing a breakfast item, please call Jane Vollrath at 573-406-8889.
- **Simon Scholarship:** Simon Scholarship The William H. (Bill) Simon Scholarship Fund awards scholarships to Catholic students who are in financial need for the purpose of attending an accredited college or university of the student's choice. Applications for the 2021-2022 Simon Scholarship are being accepted through March 31, 2021. The application can be found under the NEWS tab of both parishes' websites. Go to <https://holyrosary.diojeffcity.org> or <https://ststephenic.diojeffcity.org>.
- **FORMED.org:** FORMED.org For Lent: "Led by the Spirit - 40 Days to Grace and Glory" Sign up for daily Lenten reflections with Dr. Tim Gray in your email from FORMED <https://formed.org/lent>. You can view more of what FORMED has to offer on the parishes' websites, on the main menu click on the Parish Life - Faith Formation.
- **The Faith Formation Page** (under the Parish Life tab) on each parishes' website is new. The information on this page will change periodically. Check it out for Faith Formation news and ways to enrich our faith development as a parish family. To inquire about faith formation/religious education contact Donna Long anytime at [donnalong.hrss@gmail.com](mailto:donnalong.hrss@gmail.com) or call me at the rectory, 735-4718, my office hours are 8:00 am to Noon, Monday through Friday

**POPE FRANCIS AND BISHOP McKNIGHT'S**

~ FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTIONS ~

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

**Intention of Pope Francis**

"We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded."

**Intention of Bishop McKnight**

"For parents: May they have the spiritual and material resources they need to provide their children a home in which charity and mercy are practiced, and knowledge of our faith is shared."

**Lenten Reflection**

Focus on gratitude \* Give up complaining  
Think kind thoughts \* Give up judgements  
Be hopeful \* Give up discouragement  
Turn to forgiveness \* Give up bitterness  
Return good for evil \* Give up anger  
Control your tongue \* Give up gossiping  
Be optimistic \* Give up pessimism  
Enjoy the beauty that is around you \* Give up gloom  
Pray for trust \* Give up jealousy  
Trust Divine Providence \* Give up worry  
Hang in there \* Give up giving up

~ PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL ~

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will continue to be on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM until further notice. Everyone is welcome to come at any time during those 12 hours for prayer and adoration. Please contact Phyllis Campbell, 735-795-2290 or Howard & Linda Willard, 573-735-4552 for questions for open hours.

~ THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH ~

During the Year of St. Joseph, the diocese is focusing on various aspects of St. Joseph each month. February is 'Family as the Domestic Church.' So... What is the 'Domestic Church?' This month we honor married couples who live and renew their wedding promises daily, building up the Domestic Church in their homes.

**Liturgy Appointments**

**February 21 – First Sunday of Lent**

Sacristan	Doug & Julie Orf
Rosary	Gares Family
Music	Sr. Sue Walker
Song Leader	Judy Irons
Servers	Mari Gares & Sophie Gares
Lector	Kay Turnbull
Communion Ministers	Amanda Spalding & Kaye Spalding
Counters	Doug Orf & Shane Spalding

**February 28 – Second Sunday of Lent**

Sacristan	Kathy Anderson
Rosary	Nancy Shively
Music	Jan Adam & Debby Quinn
Song Leader	Beth Whelan
Servers	Taitym Foltz & Bradi Keller
Lector	Kathy Anderson
Communion Ministers	Phil Whelan & Deanna Buckman
Counters	Doug Orf & Dan Adam

**March 7 – Third Sunday of Lent**

Sacristan	Danny Adam
Rosary	Kaye Spalding
Music	Debby Quinn & Jan Adam
Song Leader	Whitney Pfaff
Servers	Ella Hays & Emily Spalding
Lector	Jim Burns
Communion Ministers	Lee & Kathy Anderson
Counters	Amanda Spalding & Jim & Julienne Burns

**Ushers for February**

Ted Irons & John Jansen

**Ushers for March**

Eric Keller & Frank Lemongelli

\* 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, Susan Winking

**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, Dan Buckman.

**Love Them Anyway**

*People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.*

*Love them anyway.*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.*

*Be kind anyway.*

*If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies.*

*Succeed anyway.*

*The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.*

*Be good anyway.*

*Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable.*

*Be honest and frank anyway.*

*What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.*

*Build anyway.*

*People need help but may attack you if you try to help them.*

*Help them anyway.*

*In the final analysis, it is between you and God.*

*It was never between you and them anyway.*

*(Mother Theresa)*