



ST. STEPHEN CHURCH
27519 MONROE RD. 533, MONROE CITY, MO 63456
PASTOR, REV. GREG OLIGSCHLAEGER

EMAIL: gregolig@gmail.com

HOLY ROSARY RECTORY, (573) 735-4718

DEACON MIKE LONG: EMAIL: deaconmikelong@gmail.com

CURRENT AND PAST BULLETINS MAY BE VIEWED AT ST. STEPHEN'S WEBSITE

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

EMAIL: churchst.stephen@gmail.com

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MARCH 7, 2021

The Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17 (29B): God delivered the commandments to Moses and the Hebrews, who had been freed from slavery in Egypt. "You shall not have other gods besides me," said the Lord God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11: "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25: Paul preached Christ crucified "a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles." God's folly is wiser and his weakness stronger than human wisdom.

Gospel: John 2:13-25: Jesus found people buying and selling in the temple. With a whip he drove out the moneychangers. He said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."

~ 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 28th, 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 8th at 6:00 PM in Holy Rosary's parish office.
- **The next Parish Council meeting** will be Tuesday, April 13th 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 ~

- **The third quarter** of this school year will end on Friday, March 12th.
- **Report Card Conferences** will be held on Thursday, March 18th.
- **The Student Liturgy** at 8:20 on Friday, March 5th, will be led by the 7th grade students.

~ K OF C NEWS ~

- **The March KC meeting** will be held Thursday, March 4th 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 March is "Family Difficulties".

~ NEW SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER FOR ST. STEPHEN PARISH ~

Your pastor is pleased to announce that Sally Lemongelli has been hired as the new St. Stephen Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper. Her office experience, good management skills, and knowledge of the parish and parishioners will serve our parish well. In order to have a smooth transition, Sally will work with Pat Kendrick the next two weeks. Pat retires on March 12, 2021. Sally will begin managing the parish office March 15, 2021. Fr. Greg will publish new contact information for the parish office in the coming weeks. Thank you Sally for your willingness to serve our parish in this new capacity.

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

Day	Time	Intention
Sunday 2/28	*St. Stephen *Holy Rosary	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary 9:30 AM Rink & Channie Benson
Monday		No Scripture Service
Tuesday		7:30 AM Mark Saunders
Wednesday		7:30 AM Liv. + Dec'd Families of St. Stephen and Holy Rosary
Thursday		7:30 AM Nick Hays
Friday	Student Liturgy	8:20 AM Kenny Spurgeon
<i>Stations of the Cross each Friday @ Holy Rosary @ 7:00 PM</i>		
Saturday	*Holy Rosary	5:30 PM Don & Mary Davis and Family
Sunday 3/7	*St. Stephen *Holy Rosary	8:00 AM Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary 9:30 AM Moises Logina Pimentel & Family

*St. Stephen & Holy Rosary Masses can be viewed on Facebook @ "Greg Oligschlaeger"

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 21st Offertory ~ \$2,500.00

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

Dear Parishioners,

Our relationship with God is a covenantal relationship. In Sunday's first reading, we are reminded of God's covenant with Abraham. Abraham and Isaac's commitment to their covenant with God is tested. Isn't it interesting that Abraham bargained with God to save the people of Sodom from destruction and he did not beg for Isaac's life? [Genesis 18-22-33]. Abraham boldly believed in God and God's promise even though he did not fully understand God's ways. Chris McCarthy writes:

In the course of time, God fulfilled Abraham's desire for an heir, whom he named Isaac. Isaac is an immensely important figure in salvation history because he represents Christ on Calvary. As a test of Abraham's faith, God orders him to sacrifice the very heir for which he had longed so much... Abraham obeys this command until God sends an angel to stop him at the last possible moment.

What is crucial to understand here is not only that Abraham was willing to sacrifice his only son, but also that Isaac himself appears to have willingly consented to this sacrifice. This is because Abraham was an old, feeble man at this time while Isaac is clearly strong enough to carry the wood for the sacrifice for many miles up a mountain. If Isaac had wanted to escape from his father, he could surely have done so. It seems rather that Isaac truly is a type of Christ in his willingness to die for the love of God, while Abraham is a type of Christ in the same three roles as Adam and Noah: priest, prophet, and king.

With the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ on Calvary, God has at last ushered in the New Covenant which He promised to Israel so long ago... This sacrifice, which extends forward for all time by means of the Mass, ensures that no sin, however great, will ever undermine the Covenant which God has established with His own Blood.

If as individuals, we suffer the misfortune of breaking our own relationship with God, we may simply repent by confessing our sins to a new covenant priest, through whom God manifests His presence in the world, so that, by means of Christ's most precious Blood, we may be cleansed of our sins and brought back into that covenantal relationship with God. - Chris McCarthy from "7 Covenants-The Story of the Bible" on Catholic365.com.

Trust in God. God does not break His Covenants. Repent, confess your sins, and believe in the Gospel. God commands us in today's Gospel to follow the teachings of Jesus, God's beloved son, and truly "Listen to Him! God loves us so much that He did what Abraham did not have to do. God did sacrifice His only son so God could fulfill his end of the covenantal relationship. Jesus' death and resurrection leads us to eternity with God our Father. We need only to deny ourselves daily, take up our cross, and follow Christ.

Prayers and blessings,

F. 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.
- **The Sacrament of Confirmation** for Holy Rosary Church and St. Stephen Church will be April 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church. Please pray for our students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation: Natalee Amos, Kyndal Benson, Waylon DeGrave, Kyle DeLaporte, Maddix Dowell, Owen Fuemmeler, Cynthia Gamble, Mari Gares, Marah Greiman, Kylie Harris, Cole Hays, Denten Hays, Ella Hays, Naaron Hays, Ryan Hays, Aidan Hunter, Myra Jones, Kylee Kauble, Olivia Kendrick, Anna Lemongelli, Carson Miller, Makenna Miller, Kolton Moses, Josie Orf, Aidan Oswald, Taylor Pfaff, Ava Potterfield, Chloe Puro, Alston Richardson, Matthew Salyer, Devyn Shramek, Natalie Shively, Parris Shively, Abigail Smith, Rhett Watson, Isaiah Werr, Grant Yager, and Audri Youngblood.
- **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://holynosary.diojeffcity.org> or <https://ststephenic.diojeffcity.org>.
- **FORMED.org:** Audio book *From Slave to Priest* about Fr. Augustine Tolton (1854-1897). The author Caroline Hemesath, S.S.F. interviewed many people that knew Fr. Tolton personally, including St. Katharine Drexel, whose feast day is this week on March 3. This audio book is approximately 6 hours in length. The book can be found on FORMED.org under Audio Books or Search for Fr. Tolton to find it.
- **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

POPE FRANCIS AND BISHOP McKNIGHT'S

~ MARCH PRAYER INTENTIONS ~

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

Intention of Pope Francis

"Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.."

Intention of Bishop McKnight

"For the gifts of wisdom, knowledge and understanding as our local church discerns a new pastoral plan.."

~ 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.

~ THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH ~

During the Year of St. Joseph, the diocese is focusing on various aspects of St. Joseph each month. March will focus on protector of children with St. Joseph's primary feast day being March 19th.

~ RICE BOWLS ~

Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of these least brothers of his, we did for Him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger—it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world! Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more. *The Rice Bowls may be picked up on the table in the entry.*

~ 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.

Liturgy Appointments

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

March 14 – Fourth Sunday of Lent (Daylight Savings Time Begins)

Sacristan	Danny Adam
Rosary	Katie Underhill
Music	Beth Whelan & Julienne Burns
Song Leader	Lee Anderson
Servers	Tyler Hays & Jacob Anderson
Lector	Carol Hagan
Communion Ministers	Doug & Julie Orf
Counters	Amanda Spalding & Mary Lou Dawson

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.

