

MARCH 14, 2021



ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

27519 MONROE RD. 533, MONROE CITY, MO 63456

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

<https://ststephenicdiojeffcity.org/>

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MARCH 21, 2021

*The Fifth Sunday of Lent*

**First Reading:** *Jeremiah 31:31-34 (35B):* God says, "I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel.... I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people....I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more."

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15:* "Create a clean heart in me, O God."

**Second Reading:** *Hebrews 5:7-9:* When Jesus was in the flesh, he prayed constantly to God. Through his prayer and obedience, Jesus became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**Gospel:** *John 12:20-33:* Jesus told his followers: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat...And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."

*March 7<sup>th</sup> Offertory ~ \$2619.00*

*3 in 1 Special Collection ~ \$30.00*

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Parish mowing bids for 2021:** Bids are being accepted for mowing the Parish and Cemetery grounds. Bids should be submitted to Fr. Greg at [gregolig@gmail.com](mailto:gregolig@gmail.com) or mailed to 405 S. Main, Monroe City, MO 63456. Bids are due by March 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Mary's Flowers:** Please see the sign-up sheet in the vestibule to provide flowers for the pedestal below Mary's statue. There are still several months needing covered this year.
- **The Altar Society Meeting** will be Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 PM in the gym. Please bring a snack to share.
- **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 ~

- **The third quarter** of this school year ended on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- **Report Card Conferences** will be held on Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **Classes will not be held** on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> as all teachers attend a Professional Development Day.
- **The Talent Show** is tentatively planned to be shown virtually on the afternoon of either April 23<sup>rd</sup> or April 30<sup>th</sup>. Plans are still being formulated for this event. More information will be available in the near future.
- **The first track meet** of the season will be held on Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30 in Monroe City.

~ CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION (3 in 1) ~

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief).

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

Day	St.	Time	Intention
Sunday 3/14	St. Stephen*	8:00 AM	Jack Quinn, Ruth Puroil
	Holy Rosary*	9:30 AM	Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
Monday			No Scripture Service
Tuesday		7:30 AM	Kenny Spurgeon
Wednesday		7:30 AM	Ina, Bernard and Greg Mudd
Thursday		7:30 AM	Pat Murphy
Friday		7:30 AM	Gerry Spalding
<i>Stations of the Cross each Friday at Holy Rosary at 7:00 PM</i>			
Saturday	Holy Rosary*	5:30 PM	Heath & Tiffany Greiman
Sunday 3/21	St. Stephen*	8:00 AM	Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary
	Holy Rosary*	9:30 AM	Matt & Janett Long and Family
<i>Live Stations of the Cross at Holy Rosary at 7:30 PM on Palm Sunday</i>			

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

RECONCILIATION

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

7:00-7:45 AM Sundays at St. Stephen

Or by appointment, 735-4718

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

Dear Parishioners,

Wasn't it just a month ago that I wore rose-colored (pink) vestments? Actually, it was almost three months ago during Advent. My how time has flown! We are already half-way through Lent. How are you doing with your promises to God regarding those Lenten disciplines of **Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving**? For me, the fasting part is going well. The thing I want to do in regard to prayer has been sporadic, and I haven't made my almsgiving commitment yet. Time's running out, and I need to get more on track - how about you?

This rose-colored Sunday is called **Laetare Sunday**. The word "laetare" means "rejoice". Why are we called to look through rose-colored glasses on this Fourth Sunday of Lent? Just because Lent is a penitential season does not make it a season of mourning or drudgery. It is a joyful season because we are people of the Resurrection and know Christ died for our sins. This Lenten season gives us a chance to repent, reconcile, and recommit ourselves to our baptismal promises. We renew our Baptism through repentance and recommitment to our call to be Christ's disciples. Of course, one of the most important ways we prepare for renewal of our Baptism is through reconciliation and penance. We realize that in our own sinfulness and brokenness we have strayed from that which our Baptism calls us. In our sinfulness and selfishness, we lose what Baptism initially gave us - purity, grace and a relationship with God through Christ in the Church. Venial sins (sins that are not grave or serious sins) also keep us from recognizing how God may be calling us to serve Him or our neighbor. Venial sin blurs our faith-vision and makes us comfortable in mediocrity. When we receive forgiveness and grace in the Sacrament of Penance, Christ takes the burden of sin off our shoulders. The grace of the sacrament helps us to see more clearly and we are energized once again to do great things for God and neighbor. In the great mercy of God, we are once again made as pure as we were when we were baptized.

Please make good use of the Sacrament of Penance and go to confession sometime during this season of Lent. Take the opportunity to receive God's grace through this special sacrament. Take note of the list of times where the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be provided to you and put one on your calendar. You may also go to confession by making an appointment with me at anytime. Rejoice in the Lord and seek God's consolation and peace.

Prayers and blessings,

*F. Greg Oligschlaeger*

Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule at Holy Rosary Church

Saturdays: 4:00-5:00 PM (Holy Rosary)

Sundays: 7:00-7:45 AM (St. Stephen)

Thursday, March 18: 8:00-10:00 AM (Frs. Quinn & Greg)

Thursday, March 18: 7:00 - 8:30 PM (Frs. Kaimann & Greg)

Wednesday, March 24: 7:00-9:00 PM

Thursday, March 25: 6:30-8:00 PM (3 priests)

Friday, March 26: 9:30- 11:30 AM (HRS Students)

Friday, March 26: 5:30-6:45 PM

Wednesday, March 31: 7:00-9:00 PM

~ K OF C NEWS ~

- **Palm Sunday Breakfast:** The Swinkey Knights of Columbus will have their annual Palm Sunday breakfast on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> in the Swinkey gym following 8:00 AM Mass. All St. Stephen and Holy Rosary Knights and their families are invited.
- **The April KC meeting** will be held Thursday, April 8<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 March is "Family Difficulties".*

~ 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!*

Richard Elliott, Rusty Adam, Regina Hays, Tim Quinn,  
John Kendrick, Bonnie Werner, Deacon Mike Long,  
Trent Zeiger, Hazel Smith, Sue Gilbert, Natalee Amos,  
Rosemary Evans, Deanna Buckman, Jackie Ryan, Logan Maher,  
Mark Leake, Daniel Patrick Mudd, Kenneth Ryan, Bonnie Ess,  
Barbara Kendrick, Connie Kendrick, Nick Mudd,  
William P. Smith, Teresa Ritter Toland.

*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, Meaghan 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 Purol, Alston Richardson, Matthew Salyer, Devyn Shramek, Natalie Shively, Parris Shively, Abigail Smith, Rhett Watson, Isaiah Werr, Grant Yager, Audri Youngblood, Ava Yutzy and Rachel Underhill.
- **FORMED.org:** There are several selections on St. Joseph on FORMED. This week on FORMED's Pick of the Week is a 1-hour Lighthouse presentation entitled *St. Joseph: Patron of the Universal Church* by Mark Miravalle. "Dr. Miravalle delves into the fascinating and hidden life of the man whom God chose to "substitute" for Himself when the Word became flesh to dwell among us." You can listen as you take a walk or while driving with the FORMED app on your phone. (See the Faith Formation page on the website for more on the Pick of the Week) <https://watch.formed.org/st-joseph-patron-of-the-universal-church-by-mark-miravalle/videos/st-joseph-patron-of-the-universal-church-by-mark-miravalle>. Don't forget the 4-part series on St. Joseph on FORMED Now.
- **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.
- **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-12:00 PM, 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.."*

~ 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](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more. *The Rice Bowls may be picked up on the table in the entry.*

~ 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 19<sup>th</sup>.

~ 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

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

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

March 21 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sacristan	Doug & Julie Orf
Rosary	Glenn Bichsel
Music	Sr. Sue Walker
Song Leader	Julienne Burns
Servers	Avrie Hays & Anna Lemongelli
Lector	Julie Hays
Communion Ministers	Marie Purol & Nancy Shively
Counters	Amanda Spalding & David & Julie Hays

March 28 – Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord

Sacristan	Kathy Anderson
Rosary	Gares Family
Music	Jan Adam & Debby Quinn
Song Leader	Lee Anderson
Servers	Maddi Gares & Annie Willingham
Lector	Judy Irons
Communion Ministers	Amanda Spalding & Kaye Spalding
Counters	Amanda Spalding & Matt Hays

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 Purol; Treas., Marie Purol, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays, Shane Spalding, Dan Buckman.