

A quarterly publication of the
Saint Stephen Cathedral parish



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and more!

November, the month of Remembrance

By James Wells

November is a special month in the Christian calendar during which we remember those who have gone before us through celebration and commemoration. This month begins with two important days that have at their heart, like all celebrations in the Church, the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

On November 1, the Solemnity of All Saints, we remember those who have gone before us in a glorious way as champions of faith. These saints give us a model of holiness. The charity they lived on Earth endures. Their witness of love and sacrifice was not a one-time act; rather, charity lives and continues to have a positive effect, affecting all of us, even now.

All Souls, on November 2, closely follows All Saints. On All Souls, we commemorate the faithful who have passed from this earth and give us hope of resurrection. The first reading from this day reminds us that heaven is the goal of our lives. If we remain in community with God while on this earth, we can live with Him forever in heaven. Death is not an end, but a beginning.

At Saint Stephen, we celebrate this month by highlighting certain symbols in our church. We celebrate Vespers on (or near) All Souls Day by placing lighted candles around our baptismal font as symbols of Christian baptisms and funerals, which begin at the font with a lighted candle. The Book of Remembrance, another symbol representing this month, resides near our tabernacle. Everyone is invited to write the names of loved ones they have lost to be remembered in the Universal Prayer every Sunday in November.

Take some time this month to reflect on the lives of those who have gone before you. Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Around the Parish



Parishioners of Saint Stephen Cathedral decorate their traditional "Chrismon Tree" in preparation for Holiday Forest at the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art. This is the 43rd year that the Cathedral has participated in the exhibition. Pictured are: Janice Scherm (facing away from the camera), Joan Perry, Denise Payne, and Brenda Clark. Thank you for making our Chrismon Tree look so beautiful!



Saint Stephen Cathedral youth attended Holy Fire, a conference for middle school youth held in Nashville on Saturday, October 26. Pictured, from left: Amanda Reffitt, Calvin Padgett, Crissy Stevenson, Spencer Harris, Patrick Green, Abby Payne, Ashton Leigh, Josie Pinkston, Lindsey Warren, Luke Reffitt, Dustin Payne, Romer Payne, Kristy Lovett, Michael Lovett.



Twice each month (first and third Tuesday) Fr. Sinoj, assisted by Charlotte Hagan, celebrates Mass at the Hermitage Care and Rehabilitation Nursing Home on Parrish Ave.



Preschool Teaching Team
(top row) Pam Weafer, Director; Cesiley Bartley,
Barb Clites and Karen Katchuk
Nina Wiggins
Tiffany Roby (green shirt)
Fr. Jerry, Stephanie Pigford, Juanita Garcia,
Carrie Olsen, Bonnie Stuart
Jane Lovekamp & Kim Gregory



Pet Blessing took place Friday afternoon October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, in our Saint Stephen Prayer Garden (cared for by Doreen Harney) next to the Youth House

Ribbon Cutting

September 6, 2019

Friday, September 6, marked the 93rd anniversary of the dedication of our Saint Stephen Cathedral church building at the Locust Street location (this is the third Saint Stephen church building). On that beautiful morning, we had a wonderful ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Owensboro Chamber of Commerce to celebrate the completion of our new porch. Thanks to our *Keeping Safe and Secure* Capital Campaign Committee, our Building Committee, our Finance Committee, our Parish Pastoral Council, Bishop Medley and the Diocese of Owensboro, RBS Designs, and Hartz Construction. Most especially thanks to the people who have contributed small and large amounts to make the project possible. We stand on the shoulders of great people of faith!



Congratulations to Ed and Gloria Cecil! They are the 2019 Recipients of the Sophia Award!

Remembering and Giving Thanks

By Father Jerry Riney

When my parents died just 13 months apart at the ages of 90 and 91, I experienced great sadness and loss; I also had a sense of joyful completion, lives well and fully lived. There have been many times in the last five years that I spontaneously remember my mom or dad when eating homemade ice cream, family fruit salad, or German chocolate cake; when planting a tomato seedling, casting a ballot, lighting a candle, or kneeling down to pray; when smelling bacon or freshly baked cookies; when seeing worn hands, a quilt, wedding bands, or a field of golden wheat. These memory surprises often come when least expected!

In faith, we hold that our dead are not lost to us. Certainly, I treasure these memories and can trace their fingerprints on the shape of my being. In many ways, my parents still live on in me and in the lives of my brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, neighbors and friends. They created something beyond themselves.

One of the places I often feel close to my parents even in death is at Eucharist. Upon reflection, this is not shocking since it is at Eucharist that we experience the fullness of being the Body of Christ, a community joined by faith. In fact, the commemoration of the dead, which is part of every Mass, has taken on deeper significance for me since their death. I find it comforting to remember them by having a Mass celebrated

on their birthdays, marriage anniversary, and near their death dates. Faith unites us as one.

At Saint Stephen Cathedral, as in many faith communities, the Book of Remembrance sacredly holds their names as well as the names of parishioners and many others who have been born into the next stage of life. Because loss reaches beyond parish boundaries and calendar years, everyone is invited to enter the names of deceased ones. With everyone celebrating Mass during the month of November, I commend to the Lord, the just Judge and merciful Lord, those whose names are written in this special Book.

For me, the month of November culminates in Thanksgiving Day. Certainly, the harvest season reminds us to give thanks to the great Harvester of souls who knows our individual stories intimately. Though Thanksgiving cannot be crammed into one day, or even one month, November is a wonderful time to express our thanks to those people, deceased and living, who make a difference in our lives. Hearts full of gratitude reach out beyond themselves to share their lives, their bounty, their faith with others. The words “thank you” are never out of season. The Greek word “Eucharist” means thanksgiving!

“The goal of life is not to live forever. The goal is to create something that will.” (Anonymous)



Bill and Cecelia McCarty care for the beautiful Saint Francis garden in the back parking lot.



Sharon and John Bell maintain the Mary Grotto.



Doris and Ken Payne maintain the flowers under our Saint Stephen Cathedral sign.

Fall Clean-up Day! September 28

Photos by Father Jerry Riney



Dennis Weafer & Mike Sullivan



Mike Sullivan and son Michael



Front row: Shanna Ballard, Chris & Kirsten Zoglmann, Bob Ballard, Russell Vaughn, Luke Riney, Bill Riney, Dan Coomes, Jeff Payne (Building and Grounds Manager);

Second row: Richard Gruenewald, Lauren Calloway, Martha & Mark Sims;

Back row: Dennis & Pam Weafer, Robert Pierce, Garry Pierce, Bob Stone, Emily Calloway, Fr. Sinoj, Audie Chaney, Lewis Breeden (on his phone!) and several others not pictured.



Lewis Breeden



Richard Gruenewald



Shanna Ballard, Bill Riney and Kirsten Zoglmann



Mark and Martha Sims



Mark Sims, Lauren & Emily Calloway



Duncan Kaai



Samantha Kaai

Dedication Anniversary Celebration

Photos by Father Jerry Riney



Alex Johnson



Aaron Overbeck



Barbara Jones and Rita Ward



Mark and Devon Calitri and Family



Jack, Sylvia and Vera Payne, with Father Jerry



Bill and Cecelia McCarty with Nina and Justin and Cecily Wiggins



Jeff and Margie Ebelhar, Sue Gough, and Pam Collignon



Robert and Michael Lovett, Linda and Dave Beckman, Norman and Lillian Gentry, Ben Rhodes with Emma



Glenn, Sheila, Connor, and Grace Calhoun



Tony Sikes, Mildred and Bob Gilles, and George Frey

93rd Dedication Anniversary Celebration

By Father Jerry Riney

On the weekend of September 22, our parish celebrated the 93rd anniversary of the dedication of our church's Locust Street location. We proudly celebrate the history and beauty of our Cathedral, but more importantly we celebrate the living faith of generations of Saint Stephen parishioners. From decades ago into the present, the faithful have entered through our doors to commemorate the milestones of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, anointing of the sick, the welcoming of new Catholics into the Church, or the funerals of loved ones. Countless prayers have been, and continue to be, offered to the Lord as a community and in the silence of our hearts.

Saint Stephen Cathedral continues to be an active, vibrant faith community and proudly serves as the Mother Church for the Diocese. We welcome both parishioners and visitors for many diocesan and parish liturgies and events throughout the year. We continue the tradition of serving as grateful, responsible caretakers of the Cathedral for ourselves and for the faithful who will follow in our footsteps.

Following the 5:00 pm Mass on September 21, more than 200 parishioners gathered for dinner in our Community Center. The dinner featured delicious burgoo and BBQ chicken (many thanks to our parish cooking teams!), tasty side dishes from Moonlite BBQ, and a variety of wonderful desserts provided by our parishioners. Prizes were drawn for our annual parish raffle, and everyone seemed to enjoy the atmosphere of community and celebration.

The faith community of Saint Stephen began in the 1820s with Mass being celebrated in the homes of the faithful by Father Robert Abel. Construction began on the first Saint Stephen Church in 1833 at Second and Cedar Streets, then known as Mulberry Street. The cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1925, and the building was dedicated on September 6, 1926. In December of 1937, the Holy See announced the appointment of the Most Reverend Francis R. Cotton to be Bishop and pastor of a new diocese in Western Kentucky. Saint Stephen Church was designated as the new Diocesan Cathedral, and on March 6, 1938, Bishop Cotton was installed as the first Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro.



Thanks to our Burgoo Team!

Front row: Kathryn Wimsatt, Audie Chaney, Yvonne Fulenwider

Middle row: Matt Johnson, Tommy Grant, Janice Greene, Mark Sims, Tom Neal, Martha House, Benny Blandford

Back row: Todd Johnson, Randy Kamuf, Phil Hurley, Glenn Thompson, John Clayton

Members of the cooking team not pictured: Aaron Overbeck, Luke Riney, Martha Sims, Chris Zoglmann

Thanks and hats off to our great Chicken Cooking Team headed by Todd Johnson along with Matt Johnson, Bill Drury, Peter Hurley, Aaron Carrico, Ben Rhodes, and Alex Johnson

Families Loving and Serving Jesus and One Another

By Stephanie Carrico

Mother Teresa is credited with saying, “If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” What a funny quote coming from a woman who spent her whole life serving the poor of India! When Jesus calls us to physically serve others through the Corporal Works of Mercy, we often think of strangers. The truth is, the others to be served include our family.

If we are parents, the others are our children. They are the thirsty, the naked, and definitely the hungry! We do not think of them as being the homeless or sick, but when we accept children lovingly from God, we are saying “yes” to the mission of serving them. As parents, we can offer our entire day to the Lord: changing diapers, changing bed sheets in the middle of the night, washing the dishes, and folding the laundry. It should come as a joy to us, but at times, we are making many sacrifices to love and serve our children.

Our mission as parents does not end with putting food on the table or even walking our kids into church on Sunday. Providing for their physical needs is a basic necessity for healthy parenting, but what about nurturing a healthy spirit? We are responsible for administering the spiritual works of mercy: teach the ignorant, pray for the living and dead, admonish the sinner, counsel those in doubt, console the sorrowful, bear wrongs patiently, and forgive wrongs patiently.

My family has adopted some traditions from our Catholic community for developing spirituality. Consider the following with your children and grandchildren: Pray a decade of the Rosary on the way to school. Celebrate patron saint feast days and children’s baptism days. On the way to Mass, read the Gospel and share intentions for Mass on Sundays. Haul your whole gang to confession at least once a month. Most importantly, teach them to revere and respect the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Saint Stephen Cathedral provides many opportunities for being the Body of Christ for those in need. We can be Jesus to our children and teach them to be Jesus to others.

In the weeks leading up to our annual parish Trunk or Treat event, families were asked to donate new or gently used coats. The coats were made available during Trunk or Treat to anyone in need in our local community. Before bringing their coats for donation, families were encouraged to take a few moments to pray for the person who would soon be wearing the coat. On December 15, we have yet another chance for families to participate in service! Families are invited to gather at the church at 2PM to go Christmas caroling to people in need of Christmas joy. Check the bulletin and website for more details soon.



Coat Drive

Our parish community donated coats for our Trunk or Treat Coat Drive, which offered coats for free to anyone in the community. Thanks to Stephanie and Aaron Carrico for organizing the drive and to everyone who donated coats.

Trunk or Treat

This year's Trunk or Treat event was a great success. Over 200 people (adults and kids alike) enjoyed hot dogs, chili, and plenty of candy! The beautiful weather added to the festive atmosphere. Kim and Carl Lewis won our Trunk Decorating Contest, and Amanda Reffitt took home the Traveling Trophy for the second year in a row for her winning chili recipe! Thanks to everyone who participated.



Welcome New Parishioners!

Ryan & Veronica McCauley, daughter Hazel

Joel Ciaccio

Liza Brown

Hannah Bland

Kara Bekebrede

Drew Adkins and Katelyn McCarthy

Crissy Stevenson

Alex Johnson

Tony Hardesty

Larry Taylor

Heidi Reyes

Mamie Farish

David & Karen Danhauer

Joe & Kim Harris

Dale & Lisa Cecil

Phillip Flemister

Judy Bielefeld

Scott & Michelle Ingram

Jason & Jamie Thompson, son Caleb

David & Jan Harris

Bethany Stiff, daughters Kadence and Mercy

Jim & Starla Warren

Baptisms



Pete Francis Warren, son of James and Ashtin Warren, baptized on October 20, 2019



Philip Spears, son of David and Olivia Spears, baptized October 26, 2019 with Father Richard Cash



Brooks Joseph Roby, son of Steven and Haley Roby, baptized on October 6, 2019



Frances Mae Morris, daughter of Hayden and Aaron Morris, baptized September 22, 2019



Mary Kate Lisby, daughter of Matt and Sara Lisby, baptized July 7, 2019. Mary Kate's older brothers are Nicholas, Andrew and Benjamin.

Weddings



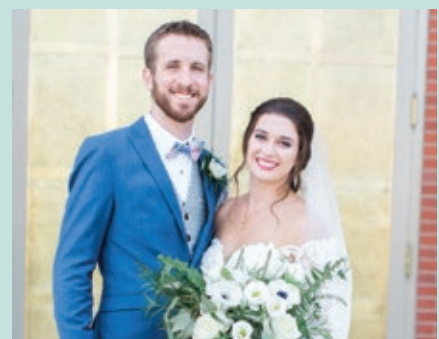
Chase and Hannah (Tipton) Downing joined in the sacrament of marriage on September 7, 2019.



Sterling and Maggie (Riney) Miller united in the sacrament of marriage on October 19, 2019.



Madison and Katelyn (Orth) Fulkerson entered into the sacrament of marriage on October 26, 2019.



Ryan and Samantha (Young) Duffy, married June 29, 2019

Gennesaret Retreat

By Joyce Gruenewald

“After making the crossing, they came ashore at Gennesaret [...] the crowds scurried to bring the sick [...] to the place where they heard he was [...] They laid the sick in the marketplaces, and besought him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment and as many as touched it were made well.”
(Mark 6:53-56)

After being invited to a Gennesaret Retreat Weekend in Louisville, Tom and Amy Payne witnessed the spiritual healing received by those suffering with illness. Along with parishioners Carrie and Florence Wieder and Martha House, they received permission from Bishop Medley to offer the retreat for the Diocese of Owensboro in the Spring of 2016. Since that time, eight Gennesaret Retreats have been offered at Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center.

The Retreat is offered in the Spring and Fall of each year and is open to anyone living with serious, chronic, or terminal illness. In an intimate, group setting of fifteen or less, the retreat guests participate in prayer and in the sacraments of the Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick. The Retreat teaches a process called “dedicated suffering,” channeling the energy from suffering toward something positive and as a way to unite with Christ.

In describing the weekend retreat, Tom and Amy stress that the focus is not about illness. Rather than being identified by their illness, retreat guests are given encouragement; they are embraced by the love of God and others. A priest serves as the Spiritual Director for the Retreat. Brokenness, isolation, and limitation are converted into wholeness and union with Christ. There is also opportunity for reflection and relaxation, all in the beautiful and tranquil setting of Mount St. Joseph.

The Retreat is staffed solely by volunteers, grouped into teams, according to their expertise. The Medical Team is comprised of clinicians that help and support the guests, offering a level of confidence, trust, and safety. The Hospitality Team assists with transportation, greeting, snacks, and comfort for the guests. The Environment Team helps with special needs required by the retreat guests, such as recliners, heaters, fans, etc.



Retreat Guests and Volunteers gather for a group photo at the September 2019 Gennesaret Retreat at Mount Saint Joseph.
Photo courtesy of Tom & Amy Payne.

Transformation occurs during the Gennesaret Retreat, for the retreat guests as well as the volunteer team members. When asked about the retreat experience, volunteers relate that they receive more than they give. The retreat enables all participants to take time out from their everyday struggles and get away to a place of peace, beauty, and laughter.

During the retreat, guests receive an extra blessing made possible by Saint Stephen parishioners. Hand-made prayer shawls created by the Prayer Shawl Ministry are distributed to each of the retreat guests. Amy says that they are “never removed throughout the rest of the retreat,” and they remind the guests of the power in prayer and “letting God in.”

Tom writes an annual grant for the funding for the retreat. Thanks to the generosity of the Horn Foundation and other private donations, the retreat can be offered free for participants. All faiths are welcome to attend, but the prayer form is true to the Roman Catholic prayer traditions.

Please include the Gennesaret Retreat in your daily prayer. If you know of someone who can benefit from the retreat, please encourage that person to apply. The Retreat builds on the image found in the Gospel of Mark: Jesus is our Healer, and He is always present with us on our journey.

The next retreat is April 24-26, 2020. Applications may be requested by contacting Amy or Tom Payne at 270-316-0403 or apayneat2251@hotmail.com.



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Saint Stephen Cathedral Ornaments:

THEY AREN'T JUST FOR CHRISTMAS!
BEAUTIFUL TO DISPLAY ALL YEAR THROUGH.



2019 ORNAMENT

THE GOOD SHEPHERD: \$20.00

ORNAMENTS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS:

\$15.00

