

St. Mary of Victories & St. Stephen of Hungary Catholic Church

744 South 3rd Street, St. Louis, MO 63102

Masses: Every Third Sunday of the Month at 11:00 a.m.

Confessions 15 minutes before Mass

Telephone: (314) 231-8101

Website: <https://www.smov.info>

July 19, 2026 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention: Every Sunday Mass is offered for the people and worshipers of SMV, living and deceased.

Visiting Priest: Rev. Athanasius Soto, O.S.B.

Sunday Collection, June 2026: \$1,261.77

You can give to the collection via your smartphone, using our online service: <http://give.SMOV.info>

Reflection On Readings from Father Brian W. Harrison, O.S.

The “Kingdom of God” (called the “Kingdom of Heaven” in St. Matthew’s Gospel) is the central theme of today’s Scripture readings. We hear several of Jesus’ parables about God’s mysterious plan for the quiet, gradual growth of his kingdom – his loving rule over all creation – throughout history. Unlike many earthly rulers who impose their authority swiftly and heavily, God has chosen to manifest his sovereignty over the world little by little, quietly and patiently, allowing time for our sins, mistakes and incompetence to work themselves out. The Responsorial Psalm, emphasizing that the Lord is merciful, kind, and slow to anger summarizes the main message of today’s readings. However, they also warn against weeds and tares sowed by the devil: confusion and false doctrine. A recent study of Australian Catholics - which would quite likely hold good for America as well - showed that the no. 1 reason for the sharp decline in Mass attendance and other Catholic 'vital statistics' in the last sixty years is that since Vatican Council II, with its emphasis on ecumenism, religious freedom and inter-religious dialogue, many

Catholics have been given the impression that just about everyone goes to heaven, so that being a practicing Catholic is irrelevant. But today's Gospel reminds us that God's time of forbearance ends with death, and that eternal punishment is a terrible reality that awaits many who complacently ignore his teachings and die unrepentant.

Announcements

Trivia Fundraiser

Gather a team for an afternoon of trivia, community, and friendly competition hosted by parishioner Nathan Thompson at St. Mary of Victories. On September 20, following our 11 am Mass (trivia beginning around 12:15 pm) we will open the hall for trivia! \$200 for a table of 8 or \$25 for a chair (we can create a table for individual tickets without a table). Winning table earns their money back. Bring your own drinks and food! Register by emailing brittanygneff@gmail.com. Payment can be made by check or digitally via the QR code.

Congratulations to Deborah and Tom

We congratulate Deborah Osterman and Tom Dilly on their July 18th marriage at St. Mary of Victories! May the graces of this sacrament overflow in their life together.

Thank You

Thank you to Tom and Pam Fichter for providing doughnuts for the reception in the hall following today’s Mass! **We are in need of a volunteer to provide doughnuts following third Sunday Mass in August.** If interested, please contact Brittany Neff at brittanygneff@gmail.com.

All are welcome to join us in the hall after Mass for coffee and doughnuts. Our next Sunday Mass will be on Sunday, August 16 with a coffee and doughnut reception to follow.

Trivia



Imádkozzatok betegeinkért

Please pray for our sick:

Michelle Daubert Mary O'Toole Angelika Pierce

Jim Hooper Vince Schwarz Deborah Lee

Adam Wright Fr. Frank Phillips Kathleen Moody Beth Suhayda

Prayer for St. Mary of Victories

Our heavenly Father,/ long ago you inspired our German forefathers in the Faith/ to raise this beautiful house of prayer and sacrifice/ in honor of your Son's most holy Mother,/ Our Lady of Victories. /Your Providence then brought many Hungarians here/ under the co-patronage of the holy King, Saint Stephen./ We humbly place before you today/ the spiritual and temporal needs of our historic church/ and its present-day community./ Grant us the grace to discern your holy will,/ and to fulfill it zealously as faithful witnesses to the Gospel,/ here in the old heart of our city, /for as long as it may please your Divine Majesty.

St. Mary of Victories, *pray for us*;

St. Stephen of Hungary, *pray for us*;

St. Joseph, *pray for us*

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St. Veronica, Pray for us. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for us.
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on us.