

**THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 1, 2017
From Pastor's Desk**

Today is Respect Life Sunday. Frequently we Catholics are accused of only being concerned over the abortion issue, but we are not! Today's designation as Respect Life Sunday demonstrates our respect for ALL life from womb to tomb, our respect for human dignity, our respect for those suffering from physical and mental issues, our respect for those whose opinions differ from us, the elderly, the disabled, the poor.

Respect to Life Sunday mirrors our Declaration of Independence, Our Constitution and its amendments, the Bill of Rights. We have a right to religious freedom as well as so many other rights.

Our American Bishops are constantly being criticized because they speak out against injustices with health care, economic issues, violence, prejudice, immigration, the environment.

(Continued on page 3)

St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church

218 Valley Street

Port Carbon PA 17965

Phone: 570-622-6600 FAX: 570-622-9817

OFFICE HOURS: At St. Clare of Assisi

250 E. Hancock St., St. Clair, PA 17970

**Monday through Friday 9AM—4 PM, closed holidays
and day after the holiday**

**Rev. Msgr. William F. Glosser, V.F., M.A., M.Div.,
Administrator—570-429-0701**

Mon-Fri 9 am-4 pm

SCAssisi@ptd.net or saintstephen2@verizon.net

Rev. David W. Karns, M.Div., Pastor Emeritus

Website - <http://saintstephen2.com>

E-mail Address - saintstephen2@verizon.net

Mass Schedule

Sundays: 9:30 AM

****Please consult weekly Schedule inside for
Holydays and changes We are handicap-
accessible**



CHANGES OF ADDRESS Please notify us as soon as you are aware that you will be moving. Our deadline to change a mailing address for envelopes is the last weekday of the month prior to delivery. Envelopes are non-profit rate and are not allowed to be forwarded by the U. S. P. S. They must be returned to us and then we must pay postage **again** on the returned mail. Thank you for your cooperation.

MARRIAGES: Couples planning to be married must **contact the pastor at least 1 year prior** to the desired date of the marriage.

BAPTISMS: Call the Rectory to Schedule

CERTIFICATES OF ELIGIBILITY to act as a Confirmation Sponsor, Godparent, Marriage Witness, etc., will only be issued to parishioners who are actually registered in the parish and attend Mass on a regular basis. **If you are not receiving and using weekly envelopes, you are NOT REGISTERED.**

PREP/CCD: A child preparing to receive any Sacrament must be a practicing Catholic and in a Religious Education Program for two consecutive years immediately prior to receiving the Sacrament. **CCD/PREP families must be registered parishioners. See <http://svrep.weebly.com/> for more information.**

The Rosary is prayed before each Mass on weekends and weekdays. (Please join us about 30 minutes before each Mass)

St. Vincent de Paul Society – Second Monday of the month at 6:00 PM in the Rectory

**NOTE: Diocesan Policies on the Protection of Youth can be found at
<http://www.allentowndiocese.org/the-diocese/youth-protection/>**

Mary Ann Lubinsky—Local Safe Environment Coordinator— Phone—570-622-6600

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak— Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator— **Direct Line—800-791-9209**

Sr. Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT— Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator— **Phone—610-332-0442, Ext. 2019**



SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTION

IN MEMORY OF RUSSELL VANDERMARTIN (2ND ANNIV)
(Patricial Vandermartin)

Mass Intentions at St. Clare of Assisi

4 PM Saturday (October 7) - Pasquale Pilo (Karen & Pat Germain) and Jane Chiplonia)

4 PM Saturday (October 14) - Mary Gately (Frank Raczka)
Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (October 1) Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Agnes Reiley (Carol Stencovage and Family) and Angeline Deramo (Janel, Bob, Robert, Gabrielle & Savannah Miske) Msgr. Handges

Sunday (October 8) Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Edward Adam Balulis (Mary Balulis) and Elizabeth Haley(25th Anniv) (Lavina Brobst) Father Karpyn

Sunday (October 15) Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—John King (Nancy King & Family) and Michael Foran (Lillian McBreen) Father Bill

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

October 8: 1st—Weekly 2nd—Cemetery Fund
October 15: 1st—Weekly 2nd—Fuel & Heat

Weekend Mass Attendance for September 24
9:30AM: 134
47 attended St. Clare of Assisi's 4 PM Mass

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$ 2,660; Thank you for your generosity! Please also note our posting of collection information to make budget, we are \$2,093.00 in the red for fiscal year 2017-2018.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$200,000.00
2017/2018 Budget (All Funds)	\$170,800.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$3,285.00
Collection September 24	\$2,660.00
Cemetery \$720.00	-----
Needed to Date (13th week)	\$42,705.00
Collected to Date (13th week)	\$40,612.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(2,093.00)

LECTORS
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

October 8, 15

Maureen Challenger/Ed Tray

October 22, 29

Lisa Gasper/Michael Melincavage



Sunday, October 8

9:30 AM—Taylor Lazarchick

Sunday, October 15

9:30 AM—Emily Yordy

Sunday, October 22

9:30 AM—Aiden Brennan

Sunday, October 29

9:30 AM—Neiko Eckley

Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel
Open Hours:
SUNDAY 12am, 4am; TUESDAY 4am; FRIDAY 7pm; Saturday 1pm, 11pm. Please call Aleece @ 449-7678 to commit to your Holy Hour with Our Lord.

Effective immediately, the prices for graves in our parish cemetery will be \$500 for a single grave, \$900 for 2 graves.

Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses

This week we welcome Msgr. Handges as our Celebrant

October 8 — Father Karpyn
October 15 — Father Bill
October 22 — Msgr. Handges
October 29 — Father Connolly
November 5 — Father Connolly
November 12 — Father Bill
November 19 — Msgr. Handges
November 26 — Father Bill

From Pastor's Desk (Continued from page 1)

New York's Cardinal Timothy Dolan the chairperson for the USCCB Pro-Life Activities says it this way: "God made each of us in his own image and likeness. He desires to be united with us forever in a loving relationship. God loves us, treats us with respect, and asks us to do the same with others. Every person is sacred and must be treated with the dignity they deserve. No one should ever be treated callously or carelessly—everyone should be cherished and protected!"

Changes in the Mass Schedule

Bishop Schlert has requested our pastor to attend a workshop from Monday, Oct. 9 through Thursday, Oct. 12 therefore there will be NO MASS on those days at St. Clare of Assisi. Unless otherwise specified by the requestor, the scheduled Mass intentions will be offered by Fr. Bill while he is away.

Special Collection for Hurricane Irma Victims

This weekend we will take up a special free will offering for the Victims of Hurricane Irma. Please deposit the normal parish collection (first collection) and your envelopes for the Building Fund in the First Collection. All monies in the Second Collection will go toward Hurricane Relief.

Mass to Welcome Bishop Schlert to Schuylkill County

Please join us 7PM Monday evening October 2 for a special Deanery Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert at St. Clare of Assisi. A light reception will follow in the hall to greet the Bishop.

Baked Goods Needed for Monday's Bishop's Reception

Anyone who would like to bake cookies, cakes, cupcakes, brownies for Bishop Schlert's reception in St. Clare of Assisi hall following the Mass this Monday please drop them off at the hall before Mass.

Parish Religious Education News Important PREP Information

PREP meets every Wednesday from 6-7:30PM at Nativity BVM High School. Please check the website for important information and the schedule of events, classes, and holidays.

2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Our parish is still quite a bit behind. It is important to keep in perspective that the BAA benefits Schuylkill County and does not all go to Allentown as some complain. Last year our parish raised \$7,171.00. As your pastor, I ask you to be as generous and at least help us raise the same amount as last year. Today we have collected \$6,102.00 from 92 donors.

Friends of St. Stephen News

Thank you to those who bought or sold subs.

The "Back to School" basket will be chanced off today, October 1st. It contains gift cards, school supplies, an iPad. Chances are \$5 each.

Calling all families! Join us for The Family Fully Alive: 100 Years of Fatima on Sunday, October 22, 2017

The Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown invites you to come together as a family to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Our Lady's appearance at Fatima and learn about what Our Lady told the world at that time! Events will include a family holy hour, Fatima related crafts and activities, and a family meal (pasta, salad, rolls). The celebration will be held at St. Patrick Parish (319 Mahantongo St., Pottsville). The registration cost of \$10 / family includes dinner and activities for the entire family, and we encourage families with children of all ages to attend! For questions, contact Alexa Doncsecz at adoncsecz@allentowndioocese.org.

Immaculate Conception Caterers will hold an "all you can eat" breakfast today until 11:30 am. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 8. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

Need a rosary, prayer book, a saint holy card?

Berger's Trinity Peace Religious Goods Store in Elysburg right on Route 54 (if you get to the Scheetz and McDonald's you went too far). Berger's specializes in rosaries, statues, missals and prayer books, medals, spiritual reading, etc. They are open Tuesday through Thursday (10-6), Friday (10-8) and Saturday 10-4). Frank and Sue are wonderful people! Pay them a visit to their great store; one will not be disappointed. Phone 570-672-9339.

Nativity BVM High School & Assumption BVM School News

Box Tops for Education & other Food Labels

Assumption BVM can earn free educational materials such as computers, software, musical instruments, books for the library, gym equipment, etc. All by you saving product UPC codes, box tops, and beverage caps. Check www.labelsforeducation.com to find out which labels the school needs. There is a dropoff box at the main entrance of the church.



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 during business hours.

570-622-6600



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