

**THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 15, 2017
From Pastor's Desk**

Last Wednesday our children preparing for the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation participated in a special Inscription Mass where they promised to study and pray more fervently about the Sacraments they would be receiving. This is an important step in their faith lives as Catholics Christians.

God has invited us to this banquet today in order to remind us of our invitation to the heavenly banquet. We received our invitation at our baptism. What have you done with your invitation? Have you set it aside? Lost it? Are you preparing for the banquet? Today would be a good day to rediscover our invitations to the banquet of God's kingdom, and to assess what we are doing to prepare ourselves.

(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

Website - <http://saintstephen2.com>

E-mail Address - saintstephen2@verizon.net

Mass Schedule

Sundays: 9:30 AM

****Please consult weekly Schedule inside for Holy-
days 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

Mass Intentions at St. Clare of Assisi
4 PM Saturday (October 28) - Rita Matsko (Pat Snyder)
Masses at St. Stephen

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

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

Sunday (October 22) Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Joseph (2nd Anniv.) & Joan Krynock (Children) and
 Rev. John J. McNamara (David & Stephanie Lubinsky)
 Msgr. Handges

Sunday (October 29) Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—John Balulis (28th Anniv) (Janet & Larry Eich) and
 William Kalymun (Mike & Donna)
 Father Connolly

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

October 22: 2nd—Cemetery (yellow & red envelopes)
October 29:—Fuel & Heat

Weekend Mass Attendance for October 8
9:30AM: 134
37 attended St. Clare of Assisi's 4 PM Mass

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$ 3,314; Thank you for your generosity! Please also note our posting of collection information to make budget, we are \$2,063.00 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	\$3,314.00
Collection October 8	\$3,286.00
Cemetery \$ 548.00	-----
Needed to Date (15th week)	\$49,275.00
Collected to Date (15th week)	\$47,212.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(2,063.00)

LECTORS
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

October 22, 29
 Lisa Gasper/Michael Melincavage

November 5, 12
 Ed Tray/Elizabeth Harrison



Sunday, October 22
9:30 AM—Aiden Brennan

Sunday, October 29
9:30 AM—Neiko Eckley

Sunday, November 5
9:30 AM—Emily Gasper

Sunday, November 12
9:30 AM—Jacob Challenger

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.

2018 Mass Intention Book

We will open the Mass Book for this new year on Thurs Oct 26 and Fri Oct 27, 10am-noon and 1pm-3pm at St. Clare of Assisi Rectory. NOTE: there are Saturday 4pm Mass openings at St. Clare of Assisi for St. Stephen's intentions. The family of the deceased can participate in the Offertory Procession.

Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This week we welcome Father Bill as our Celebrant

October 22 — Msgr. Handges
October 29 — Father Connolly
November 5 — Father Connolly
November 12 — Father Bill
November 19 — Msgr. Handges
November 26 — Father Bill
December 3 — Father Connolly
December 10 — Father Bill

From Pastor's Desk (Continued from page 1)

Care for our Priests

Beginning in January 2018, Fr. Bill will begin to observe (to the best of his ability) a REAL day off. Those who know our pastor realize there are many weeks he takes no time off at all or just a few hours. With the declining number of priests, we need to be more concerned about the health of our priests physical, spiritual, and emotional. This will mean that the Monday evening Mass will come to an end (unless otherwise specified).

Parish Religious Education News

Important PREP Information

PREP meets every Wednesday from 6-7:30PM at Nativity BVM High School. This week will be the Living Rosary. All are invited. Please check the website for important information and the schedule of events, classes, and holidays.

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@allentowndiocese.org.

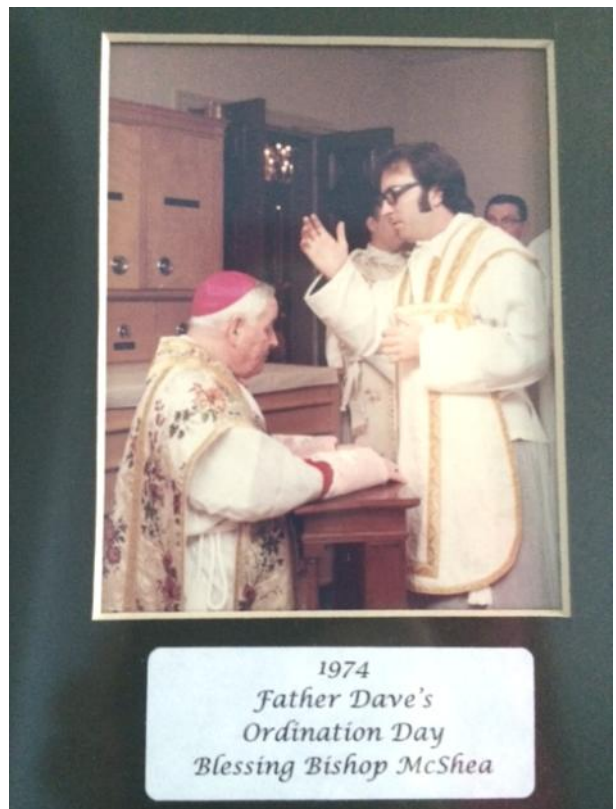
Nativity BVM High School

Green & Gold Cash Bingo, Sunday, Oct 15 at the high school. Doors open 11:30 bingo starts at 1PM. Refreshments available.

Nativity BVM High School Open House for 7th & 8th Grade parents and students, Sun, 11/5 beginning at 6PM. Administration, Faculty, staff, etc., will be on hand with information on academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. No pre-registration. Contact the school at 570-622-8110 with any questions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION Regarding St. Clare of Assisi Chinese Auction

We recently found out that a Chinese Auction benefit for a member of our St. Clair community was inadvertently scheduled for the same date as our Chinese Auction, November 5. In light of the circumstances and to not to interfere with the purpose and the need of the other fund raiser, we are moving our parish fund raiser to Sunday, April 6, 2018.



Rest in Peace to our Pastor Emeritus Rev. David W. Karns

Updating Census Information

A number of parishioners are doing away with your land line phone service and strictly going with their cell phones. Please if you do this inform the rectory office. Once again Fr. Bill has tried to contact parishioners only to discover the house phone was disconnected. Also, if you have a new email address, let us know. Children 18 and over who are no longer in school need to register as adults. They should contact the rectory office.

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.

Store Gift Cards that benefits our Catholic Schools

Both Assumption and Nativity can sell gift cards for local grocery stores, department stores in Schuylkill County as well as Berks County and the Lehigh Valley, gasoline gift cards, etc. The school receives a percentage of the sale of these gift cards. Why not use these gifts cards to purchase your groceries, gas, restaurants, etc and help either our Catholic grade school or high school in the process? Contact the school office for more information.



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Burial Plots, \$500 or 2 for \$900
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Call Mary Ann at the Rectory
 during business hours.

570-622-6600



**IN MEMORY OF
 JOSEPH AND JOAN
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OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT



MATTHEW C. SOPHY, D.O.
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73 COAL STREET
 PORT CARBON, PA 17965

TELEPHONE: 570-622-6302
 FAX: 570-622-7153

 **HAPPY** 
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Annual Sponsor of our
 Parish Calendars



**IN MEMORY OF
 REV. JOHN JOSEPH
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