

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 3, 2017
From Pastor's Desk**

Today we begin the Season of Advent, preparing for the day when we celebrate God becoming flesh, becoming Incarnate, becoming one of us. In doing so, we are called upon to prepare our hearts for Christ's presence in our lives. Every Christian's goal should be to reveal Christ to those we encounter. As we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, let us think how we can make His presence incarnate in what we say and do.

(Continued on page 3)



St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church

218 Valley Street

Port Carbon PA 17965

Phone: 570-622-6600 FAX: 570-429-0630

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**



**LECTORS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

December 3 and 10

3rd—Maureen Challenger/Lisa Gasper
10th—Maureen/Mary Ann Lubinsky

December 17 and 31

Ed Tray/Elizabeth Harrison



Sunday, December 10

9:30 AM—Emily Yordy

Sunday, December 17

9:30 AM—Aiden Brennan

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTION

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH J. KREYDT (Louise Kreydt)

Mass Intentions at St. Clare of Assisi

4 PM Saturday (December 9) - Rita Matsko (Tom & Donata Villella)

4 PM Saturday (December 16) - People of St. Stephen Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (December 3) First Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM — William Kalymun (Bill & Grace Guers) and
Marie Mirabello Lundy (Jean Kline)
Father Connolly

Friday (December 8) Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:00 AM — William Ryan

Sunday (December 10) Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM — Sonny Shipe (13th Anniv), Kathy Bambrick
and Patrick Bambrick (Dorothy Shipe)
and Carl Leibel (Family)
Father Bill

Sunday (December 17) Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM — Patricia Quinn Hovan & Ronald Carestia (Family)
and Michael Foran (Hugh & Kathy McGowan)
Father Bill

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

**December 10: National Retired Religious Sisters and
Brothers (1st collection for Weekly and Cemetery
Fund)**

December 17: Building Fund

Weekend Mass Attendance for November 26

9:30AM: 137

52 attended St. Clare of Assisi's 4 PM Mass

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2,422. Thank you for your
generosity! Please also note our posting of collection in-
formation to make budget, we are \$2,663.00 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 November 26 Cemetery \$441.00	-----
Needed to Date (22nd week)	\$72,270.00
Collected to Date (20th week)	\$68,744.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(3,526.00)

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

**The members of the St. Vincent de Paul
Society will have their annual Christmas
Cookie Sale, this year a "Bakeless" one,
on Sunday, Dec 10, at the 9:30
Mass. Please put your donation in an en-
velope with your name and amount on it
and marked St. Vincent de Paul. The So-
ciety is still collecting non-perishable
food items for distribution. Thank You!**

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

December 10 — Father Bill

December 17— Father Bill

SUNDAY OBLIGATION ONLY

**Saturday, December 23 5:30PM —Father
Bill**

**Sunday, December 24 9:30 only at St.
Clare of Assisi**

CHRISTMAS OBLIGATION ONLY

**Sunday, Christmas Eve for Christmas
Only 4PM—Father Connolly**

**Christmas Day 10:15 AM—Father Con-
nolly**

See Christmas Schedule on Next Page

From Pastor's Desk (Continued from page 1)

Breakfast This Sunday

ICC Caterers are sponsoring their monthly breakfast this Sunday from 8AM to 11:30AM to benefit the parish.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 8th

The feast of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. The Mass schedule for the Holy Day is:

Vigil Mass of the holy day, Thursday December 7 Mass at 6:30PM in St. Clare of Assisi

Holy Day, Friday, December 8 Mass at 8AM in St. Stephen and 12 noon in Immaculate Conception Church, Diener's Hill.

Feast of St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas' feast day is December 6. To celebrate his special day, St. Nick has been in touch with Fr. Bill and has asked him to tell the boys and girls of the parish to bring a shoe (might help to put a name somewhere) to Mass on December 3. St. Nicholas will fill these shoes left in church with some treats left on his feast day. The boys and girls will be able to pick up their shoes on December 10 when you come to Mass.

Communion Calls

December Communion Calls to the sick and shut-ins of the parish will be made the week of December 3. A Eucharistic Minister will be bringing Holy Communion at this time to enable Fr. Bill to bring Christmas Communion on December 20 and 21.

As always a phone call will be made prior to the visit. Please also note that there will be NO Communion Calls in January.

Special Confession Schedule for Christmas

Please note that on Sunday morning Dec. 10 and 17, Father Bill will hear confessions in St. Stephen's from 8:45am-9:15am.

He will also hear confessions on Mon., Dec 18, 4-5pm and Wed., Dec 20 from 6:30 to the last person in line. Please make it a point to arrive close to 6:30PM.

St. Stephen Parish Christmas Nut Roll Sale

From Country Cottage Bake Shop. Flavors: Nut, Poppy Seed, Apricot, Prune and Seedless Raspberry, \$15 each. **Orders, with payment, are due by 12 noon Tuesday December 5th with pickup at St. Stephen Rectory on Wednesday, December 20.** Order forms available at the entrances of the church. Drop off orders to the rectory mail slot, St. Clare rectory, or place in basket.



To the Parishioners of St. Stephen:

I would like to thank all those who said prayers, had Masses and to those who loved my brother, Father Dave.

It is with deepest appreciation that I send that love back to you during this difficult time.

Thank you all again,
David's sister, Kathi

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. In light of our pastor's responsibility to two parishes, the Mass Schedule for the weekend of Dec. 23 and 24 will be different. We are publishing it now to give adequate notice.

For Saturday, Dec. 23 Masses for the Sunday obligation will be at 4PM in St. Clare and **5:30PM in St. Stephen.**

For Sunday, Dec. 24 Mass will be at 9:30AM ONLY in St. Clare.

St. Clare of Assisi Christmas Masses: 4PM, 6PM, 8PM on Christmas Eve and 9AM on Christmas Day

St. Stephen Christmas Masses: 4PM on Christmas Eve and 10:15AM on Christmas Day

Mass Books and Hymnals

Thank you to those who have contributed to our Mass Books for the 2018 Liturgical Year. The books are more than \$1,000. Once again, if you wish to donate one or more IN MEMORY OF or IN HONOR OF, they are \$10 each. The list of donors and Memorials are available at the entrances of the church.

Upcoming Events for both Parishes

March 10 – First Penance for both Parishes

April 25 – Confirmation location TBA

May 6 – St. Stephen First Holy Communion

May 6 – Chinese Auction at St. Clare of Assisi

May 13 – Mothers' Day

May 20 – St. Clare of Assisi First Holy Communion

Chosen, Blessed, Shared: Endowment for the Care of Our Retired Priests

Each year, the Diocese of Allentown conducts this appeal to support those retired priests who have spent a lifetime living out the words of St. Paul, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." As part of their lifetime of service, our priests have done things to benefit all of us caring for our spiritual needs. Our priests make it possible to live our lives in communion with Christ. As your pastor, I hope you respond to this year's appeal and support the endowment for priests with your own personal contribution – no matter how small. Please refer to the mailing you received from the Diocese or use one of the cards in the back of the church to contribute.



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