

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 10, 2017  
From Pastor's Desk**

When we as a Church begin a new liturgical year (as we did last week with the First Sunday of Advent), our Sunday Gospel switches to a new evangelist. For Cycle B of our liturgical year we hear the writings of St. Mark proclaimed to us. Mark's Gospel begins by introducing us to John the Baptist, who prepared the way to Jesus by calling people to acknowledge their sins and receive a baptism of repentance. While the holy season of Advent is not a time of repentance; it is a time to ask is one prepared to welcome Jesus into the world. This time of waiting and preparing for His coming does call upon us to acknowledge our sins and receive forgiveness for the wrong that we have done. Our God is compassionate and merciful. He does not wish to return and find us unprepared, rather He longs to find us in anticipation for His return.

This Wednesday, we will have five (5) priests available to hear Christmas confessions. Please consider stopping by the Church beginning at 6PM and prepare yourself spiritually for Jesus' coming.

**(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](mailto: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**

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

**Masses at St. Stephen**

**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

**Saturday (December 23) Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**5:30 PM** — Edward & Eleanor Hale, George & Edwardine Hahn (Karen Hahn)  
Father Bill

**Sunday (December 24) Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**NO MASS AT ST. STEPHEN  
9:30 AM AT ST. CLARE OF ASSISI ONLY**

**SEE SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES ON  
DECEMBER 24 AND 25**

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**December 17: Fuel and Heat**

**December 24: Cemetery**

**Christmas Eve/Christmas Day, One collection only**

**Weekend Mass Attendance for December 3**

**9:30AM: 136**

**55 attended St. Clare of Assisi's 4 PM Mass**

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$3,191.00. Fuel & Heat, \$107.; Building Fund \$419. Thank you for your generosity! Please also note our posting of collection information to make budget, we are \$3,526.00 in the red for fiscal year 2017-2018.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	\$200,000.00
<b>2017/2018 Budget (All Funds)</b>	\$170,800.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$3,285.00
<b>Collection December 3 Cemetery</b>	-----
Needed to Date <b>(23rd week)</b>	\$72,270.00
Collected to Date <b>(23rd week)</b>	\$68,744.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(3,526.00)

**LECTORS AND  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**December 10**

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

**December 17 and 31**

Ed Tray/Elizabeth Harrison

**See schedule for 12/23 and Christmas  
Masses**



**Sunday, December 17**

**9:30 AM**—Aiden Brennan

**Saturday, December 23**

**5:30 PM**—Neiko Eckley

**Christmas Eve, December 24**

**4:00 PM**—Annabella Chaklos

**Christmas Day, December 25**

**10:15 AM**—Jacob Challenger

**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.**

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will meet Monday, December 11, at 6:00 PM in the Rectory, weather permitting. We were able to distribute 7 complete turkey dinners to parishioners in need for Thanksgiving. On December 10 our "Bakeless" Christmas Cookie Sale will be taken up at the 9:30 Mass. Please donate!

**Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This  
week we welcome Father Bill as our Cele-  
brant**

**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 Connolly  
See Christmas Schedule on Next Page**

## From Pastor's Desk (Continued from page 1)

### 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.

### Extremely Important Information about Sunday Masses the Weekend of Dec. 24!

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

### Blessing of Straw

Next weekend at 9:30 Mass we will bless manger straw. Please feel free to take some home for your own manger scene or to place under your Christmas table cloth so one never runs out of food, or to place in one's wallet.

### Communion Calls

Christmas Communion Calls to the sick and shut-ins of the parish will be made by Father Bill 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.

### The Celebration of Advent

**Sunday, Dec. 17 – Third Sunday of Advent – Blessing of Straw for home mangers**

**Saturday, Dec. 23 – Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent – Blessing of Baby Jesus for home mangers**



### Christmas Decorating

**With Christmas falling on a Monday this year, we cannot wait until Christmas to decorate. We need help next Sunday, Dec 17th immediately following 9:30 Mass to setup the manger and tree and to decorate. The more we have, the less time it will take. Thank you!**

### 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

### St. Stephen Parish Christmas Nut Roll Sale

From Country Cottage Bake Shop. Flavors: Nut, Poppy Seed, Apricot, Prune and Seedless Raspberry, \$15 each. **Final Orders, with payment**, are due by 12 noon Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup> 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.



### 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. Total donated so far is \$581.00. Any donations accepted. 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. Additional memorials will be posted in later bulletins.

### Correction to Mass Book Listing

**John & Kathryn Miller—2 books IMO Charlotte Miller**

**M/M Robert Dusel, Sr.—IMO Deacon Cyril A. Roth**

**Ann Zimmerman—IMO Charles Zimmerman  
James Mallow—2 books: IMO Teresa Mallow,  
IMO Frank Mallow**

### Catholic Charities Giving Tree

This year Catholic Charities is asking that you buy specific gift cards to help them purchase larger items that are needed on a case by case basis like car seats, strollers, coats, etc., and to replenish other items as the need arises. Please take one of the pink or orange requests from the main entrance and purchase a gift card. When you do, please place in an envelope and drop off in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot. **DO NOT LEAVE IN CHURCH.** Deadline to contribute is December 18th.



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 during business hours.

570-622-6600



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