

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
FEBRUARY 11, 2018  
From Pastor's Desk**

Just over a month ago we were still celebrating the Christmas Season. In another few days we will begin the Season of Lent. This section of Ordinary Time is quite compressed. But it gives us enough time to complete the first chapter of Mark's Gospel which we do today. In this account, we meet the leper who cured of his leprosy, cannot keep quiet about what Jesus did for him.

Leprosy is also mentioned in our first reading from Leviticus but the treatment of the leper in Leviticus and the leper in Mark's Gospel differs dramatically. In the Book of Leviticus, the leper is kept outside the community so as to protect everyone else from this communicable disease. But in the Markan account, Jesus breaks down the barrier between the leper and He, Jesus reaches out, Jesus touches him, and Jesus heals him. Overjoyed and grateful for his cleansing, the leper provides an example to the healing power of Christ.

**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\*\***

**IMO MARY SCHOENFELDER (M/M Paul Lorence)**

**Masses at St. Clare of Assisi**

**4 PM Saturday (February 18)** - Joseph & Joan Krynock  
(Children)

**Masses at St. Stephen**

**Sunday (February 11) Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 AM**—LAOH St. Brigid and  
Margaretta Lonergan (Winnie & Don Kerns)  
Father Bill

**\*\*Wednesday (February 14) Ash Wednesday**

**5PM**—Edward P. Lubinsky (Mary Ann & Family)

**Sunday (February 18) First Sunday of Lent**

**9:30 AM**—John McGovern (Al Albertini) and  
Rev. David W. Karns (Gasper Family)  
Father Connolly

**Sunday (February 25) Second Sunday of Lent**

**9:30 AM**—Eva Stanus (Joseph & Mary Zucowski) and  
Dr. John Joseph Canfield, Jr. (Hugh & Kathy McGowan)  
Father Bill

**St. Stephen Attendance- Sunday, February 4**  
**57 at St. Clare ; 79 at St. Stephen**

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**February 18:** Catholic Home Missions. First Collec-  
tion will be for Weekly and Fuel & Heat

**February 25:** Cemetery Upkeep

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2,280; Building Fund  
\$488.00; Fuel & Heat \$31.00. Thank you for your  
generosity! Please also note our posting of collection  
information to make budget, we are \$.00 in the red  
for fiscal year 2017-2018.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	\$200,000.00
<b>2017/2018 Budget</b>	
<b>(All Funds)</b>	\$170,800.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$3,285.00
<b>Collection February 4</b>	\$2,799.00
<b>Cemetery \$ 66.00</b>	-----
Needed to Date <b>(32nd week)</b>	\$105,120.00
Collected to Date <b>(32nd week)</b>	\$100,798.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(4,322.00)

**LECTORS AND  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**February 18 and 25**

Karen Kuperavage/Maureen Challenger



**Sunday, February 18**

**9:30 AM**—Jacob Challenger

**Sunday, February 25**

**9:30 AM**—Ciara Gilbert & Charissa Gilbert

**Sunday, March 4**

**9:30 AM**—Emily Gasper

**\*\*NOTE: The actual Sanctuary Candle is now  
burned In Memory Of or In Honor Of Inten-  
tions. The cost is now \$15 because it is a 7-day  
candle as opposed to the previous 5-day Inten-  
tion candle that was used. Call the rectory if  
you would like to schedule a candle for your  
intention. Thank you.**

**CEMETERY BILLS**

**2017 Bills were recently mailed reflecting the  
new \$125 Cemetery Care Annual Fee.**

**Upcoming Second Collections**

**Note: Initial Offering is to help defray the  
printing and postage costs of Offering En-  
velopes**

February 18: Catholic Home Missions

February 25: Cemetery Upkeep

March 4: Building Fund

**Upcoming Parish Events**

February 14 - Ash Wednesday

March 10 - First Penance for both Parishes

April 25 - Confirmation at St. John the Baptist,  
Pottsville

May 6- St. Stephen First Holy Communion

May 6 - Chinese Auction

May 13 - Mothers' Day

May 20 - St. Clare of Assisi First Holy Commu-  
ion

**Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This  
week we welcome today's Celebrant, Father Bill**

**February 11 - Father Bill**

**February 18 - Father Connolly**

**February 25 - Father Bill**

**March 4 - Father Connolly**

**March 11 - Father Bill**

(Continued from Page 1)

### Our Lady of Lourdes

February 11 is the celebration of the 18 apparitions of our Blessed Lady to St. Bernadette in Lourdes, France from February to July, 1858. It was at Lourdes, the Blessed Lady declared that she is the Immaculate Conception! It was also during these apparitions that Mary was referred to as the health of the sick from the healing grotto water that surrounded the apparitions. We commend to our Blessed Lady's care and for her intercession to her Son for those in our families, our friends, and our parish in need of healing. We also seek her intervention against the terrible diseases that afflict people around the world such as AIDS.

### Lenten Confessions

Due to the poor response with Christmas confessions, Father Bill will try to make it easier on parishioners for Lent. **Please note when Father Bill celebrates Mass here on Sundays, Confessions will be heard from 8:45-9:15. These dates will be February 25, March 11, March 25.** Please take advantage of this opportunity to fulfill one's Easter Duty. Please also consult the regular Lenten Schedule for additional Confession times.

### Ash Wednesday Ministry Schedule

Thank you to those who offered to help with our Masses to begin Lent.

8AM St. Clare of Assisi: Elmer Lazar (lector), Patty Hale, John Houseknecht, AB McCormick, Gerry Hesse (extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist)

5PM St. Stephen: Mary Ann Lubinsky (lector)

6:30PM St. Clare of Assisi: CCD will provide servers and readers. EM will be Tom Dowd, Dottie Frie, Lisa Gasper, Kathy Guzick, & Cathy Farone

### Work or other Commitments Keeping You from attending Lenten Devotions at Church?

Subscribe for FREE to "Don't Give Up Chocolate for Lent." Go on-line to [BestLentEver.com](http://BestLentEver.com) to receive a daily e-mail containing a Lenten reflection, a point to ponder, a recommended prayer for the day, and an inspirational video offered by [Dynamic Catholic](http://DynamicCatholic.com). One may also purchase (but not necessary) a Lenten journal for \$14.95 which coincides with each daily e-mail reflection.

### Knights of Columbus

St. John Neumann Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Soup Sale to benefit Nativity BVM High School, and a Sub Sale to benefit the Knights' charities on Saturday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12 noon. See any Knight for sub tickets.



### Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which begins our penitential session of Lent. Please retain the bulletin insert from last week with for our Lenten devotions.

### Masses with the Distribution of Ashes

**In St. Clare: 8AM and 6:30PM** (the evening Mass will have in attendance our PREP children so expect a crowd).

### In St. Stephen: 5PM

Please remember that Ash Wednesday is both a day of strict Fast and a day of Abstinence. There is NO dispensation from the Fast & Abstinence with it falling on Valentine's Day.

**Day of Fast** – Catholics between the ages of 21 and 59 may only partake of one full meal and two small meals not equal to one full meal unless medical reasons dictate otherwise.

**Day of Abstinence** – Catholics starting at age 14 will refrain from eating meat, soups with meat, and gravies made from meats on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.



## Lenten Devotions & Programs

To make this Lent beneficial and grace-filled, our parish offers a variety of spiritual opportunities, please consult the parish Lenten schedule on-line at [www.stclareassisi.weebly.com](http://www.stclareassisi.weebly.com).

- Tuesday thru Friday [8AM] – Celebration of Mass in St. Clare daily Mass chapel
- Tuesdays [6PM]– Eucharistic Devotions/ Stations of the Cross/Confessions
- Thursday Mornings [8:30AM] – “At Home With the Word” a reflection on the Sunday Scripture readings for Mass
- Thursday Evenings [6:30PM] – Adult Faith Formation using works of Matthew Kelly and Bishop Robert Barron
- Saturday Afternoon [3:15PM] – Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Clare of Assisi
- Sunday Morning [8:45AM] – Confessions at St. Stephen’s Feb. 25, March 11 & 25.

Parish Lenten Mission [7PM] – March 11, 12, 13

## Pierogi News

Pierogi Sale at St. Clare of Assisi Church will begin on Wednesday, 2/14, (Ash Wednesday) but will *not* be held on Friday 2/16. Advance orders only. Order by 2/12 for Ash Wednesday. (Order by any Wednesday for the following Friday for the rest of Lent.) Call 429-0863, 429-0512, 429-0343, or 429-1942 to order. Pickup time is 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Cost is \$7.50 per dozen for cooked with butter & onions, cooked with butter only, or uncooked frozen.

## Last Year’s Palm for Next Year’s Ashes

On Palm Sunday we bless palm which is a sacramental that we as Catholics use to remind us of the Lord’s Paschal Mystery for our salvation. Because it is blessed it should not be thoughtlessly discarded and thrown out because it has dried out.

There is a basket at the rear entrance of St. Clare of Assisi Church for the collection of your old palm. We will later burn this palm to make ashes for next Ash Wednesday.

## Servers needed for Stations of the Cross

We are in need of servers for our parish devotions of Stations of the Cross.

Stations will be at St. Stephen’s on Tuesday February 20, 27, and March 6 beginning at 6PM. Stations will be at St. Clare of Assisi on Tuesday March 20 and 27.

## St. Clare of Assisi Parish 10 Day Pilgrimage to Assisi & Rome

**WHAT:** To celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our founding as a parish we wish to visit Assisi and see St. Clare’s home as well as the holy sites of our Catholic Faith in Rome.

Our pilgrimage was specifically designed by our pastor to include sites not normally visited on tours of this nature. We need a total of 25 people to make this a reality. Please come and join us!

**WHEN:** October 6-15, 2018

**HOW MUCH:** \$4,300.00 per double occupancy which includes air fare, hotels, group transportation in Italy and the following meals 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners

### Not Included Fees are:

the bus to take us back and forth to Newark Airport

\$199 for Traveler’s Insurance

\$100 for tips for some tour guides, bus driver, and dining room staff in Italy

5 lunches and 1 dinner (last night in Rome)

For more information ask for a flyer or visit <http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly>

## A Lenten Message—Don’t Give Up Chocolate for Lent

Dear Parishioner,

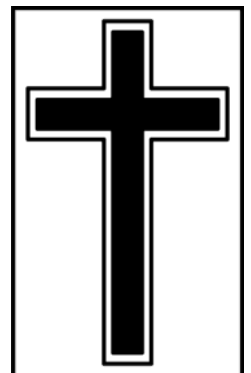
I’d like to invite you to join me and your fellow parishioners for BEST LENT EVER, a **free email** program from Dynamic Catholic.

Lent comes every year. It’s meant to be a time when we invite God to help us become the-best-version-of-ourselves. But for many of us, Lent isn’t a transformative experience. It’s just a time when we give up chocolate or something else we enjoy, then go back to it at Easter.

This year, you can change that with BEST LENT EVER. You’ll receive daily emails with short inspirational videos, practical tips for your everyday life, and real-life stories to encourage you in your journey. All you have to do is sign up at **Dynamic-Catholic.com/BestLent**. See the bulletin for more details.

See you on Ash Wednesday,

Father Bill






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570-622-6600




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 JOSEPH AND JOAN  
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 **HAPPY** 

**170th ANNIVERSARY  
 TO OUR PARISH  
 FOUNDED BY  
 BISHOP JOHN NEUMANN  
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