

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
MARCH 25, 2018
From Pastor's Desk**

After three years of traveling, preaching, and healing, Jesus had become well-known in the region. From what we read in the Gospels, most people who had encountered Him had formed a strong opinion. Many had become His followers, thinking Him a prophet or a miracle worker, or the Messiah or the Son of God. Others, however, thought Him dangerous, a rabble-rouser who threatened their hold on power under the Roman government.

On Palm or Passion Sunday, we proclaim two Gospels. The Passion of course but we also hear how Jesus is greeted with the branches of palm trees, often used to welcome returning heroes. "Hosanna!" we cry. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

This is the holiest of all weeks in our Church Year for us as Catholic Christians; but still with the exception of our Sunday obligation, neither Holy Thursday nor Good Friday are holy days of obligation. We hope to see you at our combined parishes Liturgies and devotions to commemorate Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

**St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church
216 Valley Street, Port Carbon PA 17965**

Mail to:

**250 E. Hancock St., Saint Clair, PA 17970
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 in-  side
for Holydays and changes. We are**

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****

JOAN ALBERTINI (3rd Anniv) (Al Albertini)

Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4 PM Saturday (March 31) - People of the Parish

4 PM Saturday (April 7) - People of the Parish

Sunday (March 25) Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:30 AM—Ronald Pavlick (Anne Pavlick) and
Joan Albertini (3rd Anniv) (Al Albertini)
Father Bill

Sunday (April 1) Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

9:30 AM—People of the Parish
Father Connolly

Sunday (April 8) Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday

9:30 AM—Eva Stanus (Nancy Lescavage) and
Anna Marie Elo (17th Anniv) (Agnes Gately)
Father Bill

Sunday, March 18 Attendance
55 At St. Clare people
113 people At St. Stephen

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 1: Easter Sunday (1st Collection will be
Weekly and Building Fund)

April 8: Cemetery Upkeep

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2158.00; Fuel and
Heat \$528.00; Thank you for your generosity!
Please also note our posting of collection informa-
tion to make budget, we are 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 March 18	\$2,686.00
Cemetery \$	-----
Needed to Date (38th week)	\$124,830.00
Collected to Date (38th week)	\$117,993.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(6,837.00)

**LECTORS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

April 1
Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper



Easter Sunday, April 1
9:30 AM—Neiko Eckley

Sunday, April 8
Annabella Chaklos

Sunday, April 15
Jacob Challenger

Sunday, April 22
Jacob Challenger

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

Please disregard the Mother's Day envelopes in the latest mailing. We will have new Spiritual Bouquet cards for this year.

Do not place loose checks in the collection basket. Always use an envelope with your name and the amount recorded on it.

**Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This week we welcome today's Celebrant, Father Connolly
March 25 — Father Bill**

**Easter Sunday
April 1 — Father Connolly
April 8 — Father Bill
April 15 — Father Bill**

Easter Hours

The Rectory Office will close at noon on Holy Thursday, March 29 and will re-open on Tuesday, April 3 at 9am.

(Continued from Page 1)

Lenten Confessions

Last Chance for Confession before Easter

Sunday -- 8:45AM -9:15AM at St. Stephen's

Tuesday -- 6:30PM at St. Clare's following Stations

Stations of the Cross

Stations will be at St. Clare of Assisi on Tuesday March 27 at 6PM with Benediction and Confessions. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar for private prayer and devotion beginning at 4PM.

Good Friday Lenten Dietary Restrictions

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.

Attention PREP Parents

There is NO PREP this Wednesday, March 28. Classes resume Wednesday, April 4.

Help Still Needed for Holy Week

Holy Thursday

1 Altar Server

Good Friday

1 Altar Server

1 female lector for the Passion

Easter Sunday Morning

8:30AM Mass: 2 Altar Servers and a Lector

10:30AM Mass: 1 Eucharistic Minister

ICC Easter Food Sale

Pick-up for the ICC Caterers prepared holiday foods is March 30 between 10am and 1pm. If there is a concern about pick-up call Diana 570-628-4676 or Joe 570-622-1838.

Upcoming Parish Events

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 Communion

August 12 – St. Clare of Assisi 10th Anniversary Mass and Parish Picnic

Divine Mercy 50-50 Drawing – Ticket Sellers Needed! Drawing will be held at 11 am on Sunday, April 8 in St. Stephen Rectory. If you are able to sell 50-50 tickets, please pick them up at each church entrance today after 9:30 am Mass, or at the St. Clare parish office during business hours. **Tickets are also available for purchase - \$1 each, 6 for \$5.**

Parish 10 Day Pilgrimage to Assisi & Rome

WHAT: To celebrate the 10th 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>

Pierogi News

St. Clare of Assisi Parish is grateful for the delicious Friday Lenten meals provided through the hard work of our pierogi crews! Please say an extra prayer for them! Ingredients or monetary donations are still most welcome. Remember: order by Wednesday, pick up on Holy Thursday this week. 11 a. m. – 2 p.m. \$7.50 for a dozen (cooked with butter & onions, cooked with butter only, or uncooked frozen) pierogies. Call 429-0863, 429-0512, 429-0343, or 429-1942.

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 the church for the collection of your old palm. We will later burn this palm to make ashes for next Ash Wednesday.



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TO OUR PARISH
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JULY 17, 1847**

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