

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER  
May 6, 2018  
From Pastor's Desk**

Last week the word "remain" was repeated over and over in the second reading and the Gospel. This week the word is "love." In both his first letter and his Gospel, John writes, "love one another." It is a command to all Jesus' disciples, from the Apostles at the Last Supper to all of us gathered around the table of the Lord today. To love one another as we are loved by God is what we are called to do.

It is typical to think of love as a feeling, the way we feel about a spouse, a parent, a child, a close friend; but Jesus uses it in a permanent condition. Love becomes a part of one's character. As a part of our character, it can't help but flow out of us when we interact with others.

We are also in the month of May and our reflections of love turn to our Blessed Mother. Mary teaches us how to remain in the love of God. In our Marian devotions, we pray to her for her intercession.

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**St. Stephen Roman Catholic Church  
216 Valley Street, Port Carbon PA 17965  
Phone: 570-622-6600 FAX: 570-429-0630  
E-mail Address - [saintstephen2@verizon.net](mailto:saintstephen2@verizon.net)  
Website - <http://saintstephen2.com>**

**MAIL TO:**

**250 E. Hancock St., Saint Clair, PA 17970**

**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](mailto:SCAssisi@ptd.net) or [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\*\***

**Masses at St. Clare of Assisi**

**4PM Saturday (May 5)** - Rita Matsko (Florence Toczek)  
(Children)

**4PM Saturday (May 12)** People of the Parish

**Masses at St. Stephen**

**Sunday (May 6) Sixth Sunday of Easter/First Holy Communion**

**9:30 AM**—Jean Macaluso (Ralph & Anne Serignese) and  
Walter Stutz (Hugh & Kathy McGowan)

**Wednesday (May 10) Vigil of the Ascension of the Lord**

**6:30PM — Joseph & Joan Krynock (Children)**

**Sunday (May 13) Seventh Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day**

**9:30 AM**—Living and Deceased Mothers of the Parish

**Sunday (May 20) Pentecost Sunday**

**9:30 AM**—Joseph J. Kreydt (5th Anniv) (Louise Kreydt)  
and Bertha Corson (5th Anniv) Bob Corson

**Sunday, April 29 Attendance**

**47 At St. Clare people**

**106 people At St. Stephen**

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**May 13:** Cemetery Upkeep

**May 20:** Fuel and Heat

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2,597.00; Building Fund \$441.00. Thank you for your generosity!

Please also note our posting of collection information to make budget, we are 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 April 29</b>	\$3,038.00
<b>Cemetery \$</b>	-----
Needed to Date <b>(44th week)</b>	\$141,225.00
Collected to Date <b>(44th week)</b>	\$132,735.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(8490.00)

**LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**May 13**

Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper

**May 20 and 27**

Judy Johnson/Elizabeth Harrison



**Sunday, May 13**

Emily Yordy

**Sunday, May 20**

Aiden Brennan

**Sunday, May 27**

Neiko Eckley

**\*\*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.**

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

**Mother's Day Remembrances**  
**Mothers' Day is Sunday, May 13. In addition to the breakfasts, dinners, flowers, and other wonderful presents, one of the greatest gifts we could offer are our prayers for our Mothers, living and deceased. Our Mothers were the first to teach us how to pray, to know and love God. Our Mothers made God ever present to us.**

**As we have done in the past, the parish is offering Mothers' Day Remembrance cards for both living and deceased mothers. The suggested offering is \$10. During the entire month of May (the month of God's Mother, Mary), our mothers will be remembered each time Mass is offered.**

**Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This week we welcome today's Celebrant,**  
**May 6 — Father Bill**  
**May 13 — Father Brensinger**  
**May 20 — Father Connolly**  
**May 27 — Father Bill**  
**June 3 — Father Bill**

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**PLEASE NOTE: OUR MAILING ADDRESS HAS CHANGED TO:  
C/O 250 E. HANCOCK ST.  
SAINT CLAIR, PA 17970**

**Ascension Thursday Mass Schedule**  
**Thursday, May 10 is a holy day of obligation as we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord into Heaven. Masses are Wednesday at 6:30PM at St. Stephen's and Thursday 8AM and 6:30PM at St. Clare.**

**Congratulations to our students who are receiving their First Holy Communion today!**

**Congratulations to Jacob Challenger who received the Sacrament of Confirmation with his classmates at St. Ambrose Church.**

#### **A Rosary to Honor Mary in May**

Join us Thursday evening May 17 at 6:30PM to pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. If the weather is conducive, we will offer the rosary outside at the Madonna Della Strada statue of Mary (bring a lawn chair). If the weather is rainy and or chilly, the rosary will be prayed in the church gazing upon our Marian Shrine. **If attendance merits, we will conduct similar on May 24<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**Bakeless Bake Sale (Donations appreciated)**  
Members of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** met on Monday, April 9, at 6:00 PM in the Rectory. **The annual Mothers' Day "Bakeless" Cookie Sale will take place next Sunday, May 13, at the 9:30 AM Mass.** All donations are gratefully accepted. Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 14 at 6:00 PM in the Rectory. We are still accepting non-perishable food donations in our boxes at both entrances to the Church.

#### **Time to Plan Parish Vacation Bible School for St. Clare & St. Stephen's Parishes**

All are invited to help plan this summer's VBS for our younger parishioners on Tuesday, May 15 at 6:30PM in St. Clare of Assisi Daily Mass Chapel. We need help and ideas! Remember about 100 children attend this fun-filled event every year!

#### **Cemetery Concerns**

Grass Cutting Season officially begins April through October. From now until mid-October, our cemetery is contracted to be cut every two weeks. Dependent upon the weather affecting how the grass grows, it costs \$885.00 per cut. Our Cemetery Upkeep Account is extremely low on funds. We ask you to please be generous to the cemetery collections so we can keep the cemetery looking presentable.

#### **Upcoming Parish Events**

May 6– St. Stephen First Holy Communion  
May 6 – Chinese Auction  
May 13 – Mothers' Day  
May 13 - Bakeless Cookie Sale  
May 15 - Vacation Bible School Meeting at SCA  
May 20 – St. Clare of Assisi First Holy Communion  
August 12 – St. Clare of Assisi 10th Anniversary Mass and Parish Picnic

#### **St. Clare of Assisi Parish Chinese Auction**

The time has come to auction off all those great prizes that have been accumulating in the church basement. Still time to "Shop and Drop" on Sat, May 5 from 3:00-6:00 and Sunday May 6 from 9:00 until time of auction @ 2:00. Delicious food including Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Pulled Pork, Chicken Fingers, French Fries, Bean Soup, and baked goods available both Saturday & Sunday. Hope you plan to attend and join in the fun and festivities!!

#### **Great News about our Trip to Assisi/Rome**

UniTours which is overseeing all the arrangements for our fabulous 10 day pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome has extended the deadline to reserve a spot on the pilgrimage until the beginning of July. Our trip will be from October 6-15, 2018 with a direct flight to Rome departing from JFK. We will charter a bus (an additional cost) to get us to JFK. The total cost of the trip is \$4,300.00 per person per double occupancy which includes air fare, hotels, group transportation in Italy and the following meals 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners. There will be some other incidental expenses not included in the trip cost.

We welcome and certainly could use a few more travelers with us; please tell your friends! For more information ask for a flyer or visit <http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly>

#### **Getting Ready for Memorial Day**

We ask all Lot Owners of our parish cemetery to kindly remove by May 1, all items on the graves of your loved ones (Christmas decorations, planters, wind catchers, solar-powered lights, etc.) to get the cemeteries ready for the Memorial Day holiday and summer. The parish nor our contracted grass cutters are responsible for ANYTHING placed upon graves. We ask not to place things of sentimental or monetary value on graves. Sadly some people have no respect for others.

#### **ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast**

This Sunday, 8 to 11:30AM, at ICC Hall, \$7 adults, \$3 Children under 8. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

### **Novena Time is Fast Approaching**

We all have some "knots" in our lives... and Mary can untie them! The devotion to Mary, Undoer of Knots has become more popular ever since Pope Francis encouraged the devotion in Argentina, and then spoke about it during his first year as pontiff. The theology of the devotion actually goes back to the second century. Saint Irenaeus wrote that, "The knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by the obedience of Mary; what the virgin Eve bound by her unbelief, the Virgin Mary loosened by her faith." Mary's faith unties the knot of sin! So we will pray that the Blessed Virgin Mary will intercede for us all, to untie the knots of sin in our lives – so that we may be purified and ever closer to God. The 9 day novena will begin at daily Mass on Tuesday, May 22. Candle-light Rosary will be on Thursday, May 31. Our former seminarian, now Fr. David Anthony will be our homilist for the evening. One can also Google praymorenovenas.com for the Mary Undoer of Knots novena and pray it at home.

### **Bishop's Annual Appeal Update**

We are grateful to our parishioners who have already made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. So far this year, we have raised \$2,415 from 29 donors. Last year our parish raised \$6,102.00 from 92 donors. As pastor my only hope and goal is that we as a parish can raise the same amount as last year.

The BAA in our County supports:

- Low income Housing for the Elderly and Disabled (Neumann Apts., Mary Queen of Peace Apts., and Holy Family Apts.)
- Holy Family Adult Day Care, Orwigsburg
- St. Patrick's Soup Kitchen
- The seminary education of Deacon John Hutta from Coaldale
- The care of our sick and elderly priests
- Catholic Charities of Schuylkill County, Pottsville

Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$300 gift to the BAA may be set-up with six \$50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those less fortunate will allow the ministries of our Diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can make your gift online at [FaithHopeCharityGives.org](http://FaithHopeCharityGives.org), or pick up a pledge form in the back of church or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.

**Nativity BVM High School** is accepting applications for a Mathematics Teacher for 2018-2019 School Year. Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, Mathematics Education or related field is required. Mathematics certification is preferred. Interested candidates should send resume, certifications and all clearances by June 15, 2018 to: Nativity BVM High School, Attn. Mrs. Lynn Sabol Principal One Lawtons Hill Pottsville, PA 17901 or email: [Isabol@nativitybvm.net](mailto:Isabol@nativitybvm.net)

**Adorers and Parishioners, Save the date: Sunday, 5/13, 3pm (Feast of Our Lady of Fatima),** St. Patrick's Main Church, we will have the Consecration of Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel to Immaculate Heart of Mary. Monsignor Edward O'Connor will lead the prayers...Divine Mercy Chaplet, Most Holy Rosary and Consecration Prayer to Immaculate Heart of Mary. Please plan to come to this special prayerful event.

**Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner,** Saturday May, 19, 2018, 3:00 PM —7:00PM, St. Charles Borromeo Parish Hall, 1115 Walnut, St., Ashland, PA. Tickets \$9.00. Eat in/Take Out Available. Children under 8 are free/Eat in Only. Dinner includes: Salad, Bread and Butter, Dessert. Tickets are available from any Knight Officer or you may call the Parish Office at 570-875-1521. All Proceeds Benefit the Knights of Columbus Sarto Council #1322 Projects.

# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DAY

