

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUNE 24, 2018
From Pastor's Desk

While still in the womb, John the Baptist was called to prepare the people for the coming of the Lord. Today we as a Church celebrate the Nativity of John the Baptist. With all the births of significant individuals throughout the New Testament, only three are given the distinctive title to their birth announcements – the Nativity of Mary, the Nativity of John the Baptist, and the Nativity of Jesus. These announcements foretold of God the Father's Saving Plan for the Redemption of our sinful world. They were proclaimed and lived out in Faith. By the virtue of our own Baptism each of us shares in Christ's prophetic and salvific mission.



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
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 or 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 JOSEPH J. KREYDT (Louise Kreydt)

Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4PM Saturday (June 23) Joseph & Joan Krynock (Children)

4PM Saturday (June 30) - People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (June 24) Nativity of St. John the Baptist

9:30 AM—Bertha Corson (Bob Corson) and
Eva Stanus (Dorothy Legutko)

Sunday (July 1) Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Helen Bitterlich Family (Family) and
Jean Macaluso (Nancy King & Family)

Sunday (July 8) Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Francis Legutko (Dorothy Legutko) and
William Kalymun, Jr. (Bill & Grace Guers)

Sunday, June 17 Attendance

53 people at St. Clare

101 people at St. Stephen

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

July 1: Building Fund

July 8: Cemetery Upkeep

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2,963.00; Building Fund \$39.00; Fuel & Heat \$438.00. Peter's Pence \$370.00. 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

2016-2017 Budget	\$200,000.00
2017/2018 Budget	
(All Funds)	\$170,800.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$3,285.00
Collection June 17	\$3,440.00
Cemetery \$ 189.00	-----
Needed to Date (51st week)	\$167,535.00
Collected to Date (51st week)	\$156,645.00
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(10,890.00)

**LECTORS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

June 24

Judy Johnson/Elizabeth Harrison

July 1

Lisa Gasper/Maureen Challenger

July 8

Karen Kuperavage/Ed Tray

July 15

Maureen Challenger/Lisa Gasper



Sunday, June 24

Emily Gasper

Sunday, July 1

Taylor Lazarchick

Sunday, July 8

Neiko Eckley

Sanctuary Candles are available In Memory Of or In Honor Of or Special Intentions. The cost is \$15 for the 7-day candle. Call the rectory if you would like to schedule a candle for yourself or 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.

**Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses. This week we welcome today's Celebrant,
June 24 — Father Brensinger**

July 1 — Father Connolly

July 8 — Father Bill

July 15 — Father Connolly

July 22 — Father Bill

July 29 — Missionary

Vacation Bible School Meetings

Tuesday, June 26th at 6:30 in SCA Church Basement and every Tuesday night at 6:30 until further notice. Registrations Forms are in the back of the church. **Dates for Bible School: July 23, 24, 25 and 26.**

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Did you know Jesus was a refugee?

It says so in Matthew 2:13b-15. The Book of Leviticus 19:33-34 addresses how aliens and refugees are to be treated.

It is very true that our country is experiencing a difficulty with illegal aliens crossing our borders looking for a better life. But separating over 2,000 children from the arms of their parents is not the answer.

Check out the US Conference of Catholic Bishops teachings on immigration and refugees.

Joined in Holy Matrimony

On June 9, Katie Boran and Neil Dugal exchanged marital vows. Our prayers and best wishes to them! This was the first wedding in St. Stephen's in four years.

Upcoming Parish Events for St. Clare of Assisi and St. Stephen

August 12 – Celebration of the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi & 10th Anniversary of Founding of the Parish Mass at 3PM. Parish Picnic up the Gunny following Mass till 7PM

September 24 – Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love at 6:30PM with Bishop Schlert at St. Clare of Assisi

Important PREP News

New this summer, registration materials will be emailed to all families that have attended the PREP program in the previous year to be filled out at your convenience. **ALL** non-parishioners attending the St. Clare/St. Stephen PREP program must get written permission from their pastor to attend our program. Make sure all email addresses are written clearly since this is our main mode of communication. Place all material and payment in an envelope and either send to the rectory or place in the collection basket. Please send in registration by July 31st. Have a great Summer!!!

St. Stephen 171st Anniversary 50-50 Drawing – Ticket Sellers Needed! Drawing will be held at 7 pm on Tuesday, July 17 in St. Stephen Rectory. If you are able to sell 50-50 tickets, please pick them up at the 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.

Communion Calls

Holy Communion will be brought to the sick and the shut-ins of the parish this Wednesday, June 27 and Thursday June 28. A phone call will be made prior to Fr. Bill's visit.

Looking for new Altar Servers

It is that time to train a new class of altar servers to serve at God's holy altar for Mass. All parish youth who have made their First Holy Communion are welcome! Please call the rectory so we may have an idea of how many servers there will be and set up training dates.

Mission Co-OP

Our parish is scheduled for a missionary to visit on July 29 to promote the cause of evangelization of the Gospel. Please utilize your mission co-op envelope found in your packet that weekend.

Healing Mass

On Monday, September 24 at 6:30 PM there will be a Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love here at St. Clare of Assisi. All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass with The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert as celebrant and homilist. Following Mass there will be a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for confession. The evening will conclude with Benediction at 8:30 PM.

Diocesan Red, White, & Blue Mass

All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, & their Families are invited to join to Bishop Alfred A. Schlert as he celebrates the First Red, White, & Blue Mass on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please wear your uniforms.

Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

We are grateful to our parishioners who have already made a donation or pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. So far this year, we have raised or pledged \$4,285.00 from 60 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. 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 Faith-HopeCharityGives.org.

Looking for Help

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

The kids just finished school less than 2 weeks ago, but it is necessary for us to begin planning and preparing for our next school year and religious education. We are in need of hall monitors to sit in the halls near the bathrooms to make sure our children are safe. Hall monitors can bring a book or a laptop while performing this duty.

We are in need of classroom aides to assist our catechists in those classes where there are a large number of children or projects needing help or supervision.

We could always use some more catechists or substitutes to teach our young people. How can we expect our children to pass on the faith if we do not pass it on to them?

All these positions will require compliance with State and Diocesan Codes of Conduct. While not extensive, it will take some time to receive back clearance checks. Therefore, it helps if we begin now. For more information please speak with Tom Dowd, Fr. Bill, or Mary Ann Lubinsky.

Service Hours for Confirmation & High School

Service hours are required for those to be confirmed next Spring, as well as to fulfill graduation requirements for Nativity BVM High School and many clubs and organizations at Pottsville High School. Our 8th grade and high school parishioners can easily obtain their service hours over the summer by helping around the parish. Vacation Bible School to be held in July can be a great way to fulfill service hours but also have fun! See Dottie Frie for more information or call the rectory.

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/](http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly)

[FrGlosserItaly](http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly)

The Office for Vocations, in conjunction with the Saint Andrew Committee, will be conducting its Sixth Annual Quo Vadis Vocation Camp and Fourth Annual Fiat Days Vocation Camp, from Sunday, July 15 to Thursday, July 19, 2018 on the campus of DeSales University. Both camps are open to young men and women from ages 14 to 18 (including the newly graduated). There are a limited number of spaces available. For more details and registration material, please see our webpages at www.allentowndiocese.org/quo-vadis and www.allentowndiocese.org/fiat-days. **The registration fee is \$75. Registration deadline is June 29. No registrations after the deadline will be accepted, and there are no walk-ins.**

This Past Week's Daily Scripture Readings

Our daily Mass reading for this past week can be summed up in the saying "turn the other cheek." It has long been a practice to seek revenge and retribution for injustices committed against us. Jesus says this is not the way of my disciples. The following poem was found written on a wall in a Mother Teresa's Home for Children, Calcutta, India. It becomes a good meditation for us when we are wronged.

Do It Anyway

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. BE KIND ANYWAY

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. BE SUCCESSFUL ANYWAY

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you. BE HONEST ANYWAY

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. CREATE ANYWAY.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. BE HAPPY ANYWAY.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten. DO GOOD ANYWAY.

Give the best you have, and it never will be enough. GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.

No good deed goes unpunished. DO ACTS OF KINDNESS ANYWAY.

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD. IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY!