

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 8, 2018

From Pastor's Desk

When we gather together as a faith community to give glory to God each weekend, we expect that our experience will be similar to what it was the week before, or the week before that. Most likely this is how the faithful of Nazareth felt when they went to synagogue. Then one day, Jesus, son of Mary, a carpenter whom some may have known when he was a boy, stood up to preach. The teachings of Jesus are meant to bring comfort to the challenged and challenge the comfortable. There are times where the Gospel should make each of us feel a little uneasy about the way we live our lives. If the Gospel does not challenge us to live better lives as Catholic Christians, we are not hearing Jesus' message. Unlike the crowd in today's Gospel, may we be open to the Word of God entering in unexpected ways.

When we gather together as a faith community to give glory to God each weekend, our experiences should not be the same as the week before, or the week before that.

Rather each week brings a new set of challenges and reasons to be grateful; we need to bring those to God. We also need to make our Liturgies "living celebrations" just as the Body and Blood of Christ comes alive on our parish altar. We need good music, fuller participation and representation (everyone is involved and animated), and lectors who proclaim the Word of God making it stir our hearts and minds. If you do not find Liturgy to be invigorating, what can you bring to Mass to make it better?

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****

Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4PM Saturday (July 7) People of the Parish

4PM Saturday (July 14) - People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (July 8) Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sunday (July 15) Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Joseph J. Kreydt (Louise Kreydt) and Joseph & Joan Krynock (Children)

Sunday (July 22) Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Rita Matsko (M/M Thomas Dalvet) and William Kalymun (2nd Anniv) (Family)

Sunday, July 1 Attendance

37 people at St. Clare

111 people at St. Stephen

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

July 15: Fuel and Heat

July 22: Cemetery Upkeep

Collections: Weekly and Cash \$2,139.25; Building \$279.00; 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	\$170,800.00
2017/2018 Budget (All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection July 1	\$2,418.25
Cemetery \$	-----
Needed to Date (1st week)	\$2,888.46
Collected to Date (1st week)	\$1,706.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(470.21)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

July 8

Karen Kuperavage/Ed Tray

July 15

Maureen Challenger/Lisa Gasper

July 22

Ed Tray/Elizabeth Harrison

July 29

Judy Johnson/Maureen Challenger



Sunday, July 8

Neiko Eckley

Sunday, July 15

Aiden Brennan

Sunday, July 22

Neiko Eckley

Sunday, July 29

Annabella Chaklos

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, July 1 — Father Connolly

**July 8 — Father Bill
July 15 — Father Connolly
July 22 — Father Bill
July 29 — Missionary**

Vacation Bible School Meetings

Tuesday, July 3rd 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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Enjoy Your Summer

With this great weather to be outside and hopefully get some time away to be with family and friends, we pray for your leisure time and your safety. However, please remember that while you are away, the bills still keep coming.

Changes in the Mass Schedule

Fr. Bill is going to take a few days off next week. There will be no daily Mass Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Evening Prayer

This Wednesday the priests of the Deanery will gather for a period of prayer and fellowship at St. Clare of Assisi. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar beginning at 4PM and Evening Prayer will be prayed at 5PM. All our parishioners are invited to pray for and with our priests during this Holy Hour. It is also a great time to pray for the needs of Bishop Schlert, our Diocese, and an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life

10th Anniversary Parish Celebration Plans – Mark the Calendar!

On Sunday, August 12 we will celebrate the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi and the tenth anniversary of our parish under her patronage with a special Mass at 3PM and a picnic to follow “up da Gunny” till 7PM. Fr. Mark Searles will be our homilist for the Mass. The picnic will be catered by Hess Catering. The menu will include: B-B-Q chicken and ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, and pulled pork sandwiches. There will also be pasta salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, fresh fruit, nachos w/ salsa. The cost will be \$15 per person. Those attending need to bring their own refreshments.

Please use a reply form found in the back of the church so we can include you in the count. Payment is needed with the form. Deadline to submit an RSVP is Monday, August 6.

Important Mass Change on August 12

When we celebrate St. Clare of Assisi's 10th Anniversary on Sunday, August 12, there will be a change in the Sunday Mass schedule! **THERE WILL BE NO 10:30am Mass** that day due to many of our parishioners attending the anniversary Mass at 3pm followed by the parish picnic.

Mass Schedule Weekend of Sunday, August 12

Saturday at 4PM

Sunday at 8:30AM

Sunday at St. Stephen's 9:30AM

Sunday at 3PM followed by picnic

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.

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!!!

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.

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

July 17 - St. Stephen's 171st Anniversary 50-50 Drawing

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

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 \$4,610.00 from 65 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 FaithHopeCharityGives.org.

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.

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.

Father Bill has obtained 20 tickets for us to be in Vatican Square for the Canonization of Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Oscar Romero of Mexico. The canonization ceremony is our last full day in Rome.

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>

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.

Vacation Bible School Meetings

Vacation Bible School meetings are held every Tuesday night in St. Clare of Assisi Church Basement at 6:30. Everyone welcome!

We are looking for our older children to be crew leaders for Vacation Bible School. You will have fun and any time spent helping with VBS will count as service hours. This is especially important for our eighth graders who will be receiving Confirmation in 2019. If you want to volunteer to help, we would love to have you but you MUST attend a meeting in the Church Basement on July 10th from 6:30 to 7:30.

VBS Registration forms are in the back of both churches. Please drop the forms off at the rectory or place them in the collection baskets at Mass as soon as possible.

Dates for Bible School: July 23, 24, 25 and 26.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are asking for help with snacks and drinks for Bible School. Donations can be brought to the St. Clare Rectory or dropped off in the Church Hall any Tuesday night from 6:30 to 8:00.

We are truly grateful for all of the donations we receive. We are especially in need of the following items:

Goldfish crackers
Cases of water
Swedish fish
Juice boxes
M&M's
Capri Sun or Hugs drinks
Small pretzels
Paper Towels
Chips
Baby Wipes
Doritos
Corn Curls/ Cheese Balls

Monetary donations for watermelons, other fruit and ice cream