

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 26, 2018
From Pastor's Desk**

Driving the streets of Port Carbon and St. Clair this past week brought me extreme sadness, many people lost many possessions in their homes – major appliances, furnaces, electrical panels, furniture, and memories. Despite the devastation many of these people suffered stoically in silence working in wet, soaked, muddy muck left behind by the Mill Creek. Too many of these people were elderly and I wondered who was there to help. Please pray for the folks flooded out and if there is some way perhaps you can assist them, please do so.

Many of these folks are our parishioners of St. Stephen's and St. Clare. We need to support them in any way possible. There was a sign of hope in a picture posted in the newspaper of three young Pottsville girls who decided to go to Port Carbon and help. One of those girls was St. Clare's Hannah Zimerofsky. We are proud of you and your friends Hannah!

Every year parishes across the Diocese participate in the Bishop's Annual Appeal. A fair percentage of the BAA is used to support the working of Catholic Charities.

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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
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 (September 1) People of the Parish

4PM Saturday (September 8) - People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (August 26) Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Betty Shapella (34th Anniv) and Joseph Shapella (Dorothy Shipe)

Sunday (September 2) Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Jean Macaluso, King & Maccarone Families (Nancy King and Family)

Sunday (September 9) Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—William Kalymun (John & Debbie Yacavosky)

Sunday, August 19 Attendance

111 at St. Stephen

32 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

September 2: Building Fund

September 9: Cemetery Upkeep

Thank you for your generosity! Collection for 8/19 Weekly and Cash \$3,075. (thank you to the parishioners who sent their yearly donation; Fuel & Heat \$539; Building \$99. Assumption BVM, \$416. Please also note our posting of collection information to make budget, we are in the red for fiscal year 2018-2019.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$170,800.00
2017/2018 Budget	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection August 19	\$3,713.00
Cemetery \$414.00	-----
Needed to Date (8th week)	\$23,107.68
Collected to Date (8th week)	\$22,104.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(1,003.43)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

September 2

Karen Kuperavage/Ed Tray

September 9

Judy Johnson/Maureen Challenger



Sunday, August 26

Taylor Lazarchick

Sunday, September 2

Aiden Brennan

Sunday, September 9

Neiko Eckley

Sunday, September 16

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. Today we welcome our Celebrant, August 26 — Father Reiley

September 2 — Father Connolly

September 9 — Msgr. Handges

September 16 — Father Bill

Annual Shower of Roses Festival

The Shrine of Therese, 15 E. Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning, sponsors the annual devotions to St. Therese on Oct. 7. Mass at 1PM, Rosary Procession 3PM, 4PM Benediction of Blessed Sacrament, Shower of Roses 5PM. Ethnic foods, vendors, music, spaghetti dinner.

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Catholic Charities a number of years ago created a local poverty relief fund to assist parts of our Diocese that experiences a disaster. Our Catholic Charities Office in Schuylkill County may be able to help. Call Catholic Charities at 570.628.3343.

Last Friday, Governor Wolf declared a "disaster emergency" for the County. The following webpage has been launched on the Schuylkill County EMA website for Flood Recovery Information for Residents. All applicable information will be posted here.

<http://www.scema.org/2018-flood-recovery/>

This past week and the weeks to come will be tough weeks for many Schuylkill County residents as they go through the arduous work of restoration in their homes and communities.

This past week was a tough week for our Catholic Church of Allentown as the grand jury report revealed the gory details of the ruination of lives going back fifty years. As Catholics we are angry, ashamed, and confused about trusting our priests. But we also need to remember, our Catholic Faith and Church are bigger than our clergy; WE ARE THE CHURCH! We all need to work together to build the City of God, in the same way we rebuild our flooded communities.

Blessing of Backpacks

As we begin the new school year for our parish children, we continue with our custom of blessing the backpacks. This will take place today. A special thank you to the donor who supplies us with back to school supplies for our children.

Be of Service to your Elders

The Schuylkill County Long Term Care Ombudsman is looking for volunteer ombudsmen to visit local nursing homes. No experience needed, just a willing heart and a cheerful spirit. No set hours; work on your own schedule. Free training, orientation, and continuing education provided. For further information, contact: Eileen Barlow, c/o MidPenn Legal Services 570-628-3931 extension 3304.

Healing Mass

On Monday, September 24 at 6:30 PM there will be a Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love. All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass here at St. Clare of Assisi 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.

St. Stephen is now taking orders for their sub sale through Metzinger Provision of Gordon (same provider as last year) until Sunday, September 9. Cost is \$6.00 per sub, with a choice of Italian or Ham. Subs will be available to pick up on Thursday, September 13 at the parish rectory between 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM. Orders will be taken after Mass each Sunday in the church vestibule, or by calling Joe at 570-449-1960 and leaving a message. Order forms will also be available for anyone wishing to take orders from family, friends, or co-workers. Thank you for patronizing our fundraiser.

ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast
Next Sunday, September 2, 8-11:30AM, at ICC Hall, \$7 adults, \$3 Children under 8. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

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

- Sept. 2 ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast
- Sept. 5 PREP begins at NBVM
- Sept 8 Flea Market and Food Faire at St. Clare
- Sept 9 Deadline to order subs
- Sept 13 Sub Pickup
- Sept 24 Healing Mass with Bishop Schlert
- March 16 First Penance
- Last Week of April—Confirmation TBA
- May 1 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
- May 15 St. Clare First Holy Communion

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.

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

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 as soon as possible. Have a great Summer!!!

All families who were enrolled in PREP last year had new registration forms e-mailed to your e-mail addresses. We ask you please complete the registration forms and return them to the parish office or place in the collection basket.

Anyone who did not receive this e-mail or does not have e-mail, or has a new child who was not at PREP last year, may download the registration form off the website or contact the rectory for a hard copy. Forms and new schedule can be found on the NEW PREP website: www.stcstsprep.weebly.com

Diocesan Family Festival

Our Diocesan Family Festival is scheduled for Sunday, September 30th at SteelStacks, Bethlehem, PA. This is a great day of faith and fun beginning with an outdoor Mass at 11:00 AM, (bring a chair or blanket) celebrated by Bishop Schlert and with sacred music provided by our Diocesan Choir. The day follows with fun games, live music, and tons of great homemade food. Students from all of our Diocesan Elementary Schools, High School, and Schools of Special Learning will be present to join in the festivities as well. Don't miss this once a year event as we celebrate our family of faith and Catholic Education. There's something for all ages and for all people across the five counties of our Diocese. We would love to see you there. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Annual Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass

Thinking of what to do for your wedding anniversary? Why not go to the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena? All married couples and their families regardless of how long you have been married are invited to a special Sunday Mass and social to follow. Couples celebrating 1-5, 10,15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 years or more will receive a special certificate.

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.

Sub Sale

**Fundraiser for St. Stephen Church, made by Metzinger Provision, Gordon, PA (40 years of sub-making experience)
Same provider as last year's Sub Sale.**

Choice of Italian or Ham— \$6.00 ea, for a 10 ½” Sub.

**Taking orders from now until Sunday, September 9.
Please pay for your order when ordering (preferred) or when picking up.**

Pick up date is Thursday, September 13 at the Parish Rectory between 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM.

Thank you for your patronage!

