TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 2, 2018 From Pastor's Desk

It is Labor Day Weekend and a time we traditionally associate with one last trip to the Jersey Shore and the beginning of a new school vear. It is time to hunker down and get ready for winter and to put our minds on the work and the tasks ahead till next summer comes around. There are many lessons to be learned. In today's Gospel, Jesus tries to teach the Pharisees and the Scribes the importance of what we have in our hearts. He calls them hypocrites for concentrating on the unclean hands instead of unclean hearts. Many people are harsh with their criticism but do not lift a finger to help, others are quick to pick out the flaws in others while keeping hidden their own. Both our first two readings today address our behavior. What does your behavior reveal about you? What's in your heart? What lessons can we learn and what lessons can we teach to benefit others around us?

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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 Holydays and changes. We are handicap-accessible

<u>CHANGES OF ADDRESS</u> 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 <u>again</u> 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 (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 (September 16) Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Joseph J. Kreydt (Louise Kreydt)

Sunday, August 26 Attendance 112 at St. Stephen 43 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

September 9: Cemetery Upkeep

September 16: Fuel and Heat

Thank you for your generosity! Collection for 8/26 Weekly and Cash \$2,470.00. 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	
(All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection August 26	\$2,470.00
Cemetery \$413.00	
Needed to Date (9th week)	\$25,996.14
Collected to Date (9th week)	\$24,574.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(1,421.89)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

September 9

Judy Johnson/Maureen Challenger

September 16

Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper



Sunday, September 2

Aiden Brennan

Sunday, September 9

Neiko Eckley

Sunday, September 16

Annabella Chaklos

Sunday, September 23

Jacob Challenger

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, September 2 — Father Connolly

> September 9 — Msgr. Handges September 16 — Father Bill September 23 — 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.

(Continued from Page 1) Were You Seriously Affected by the Flood?

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. 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 570.628.3343.

Governor Wolf declared a "disaster emergency" for the County on August 16 which will hopefully provide Federal Disaster funding. 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/

Changes in this Week's Mass Schedule

Mass for Labor Day, September 3 will be at 9AM. If the skies are clear and sunny, Mass will be offered in the Queen of the Universe Cemetery by the statue of the Blessed Mother. Please bring a lawn chair. If there is a threat of rain, the Mass will be offered in St. Clare of Assisi main church.

THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY.

Mass on Tuesday, September 4 will be at 6PM in the Daily Mass Chapel.

Holy Communion to Sick & Shut-ins

Holy Communion will be distributed to the sick & shut-ins of the parishes on Wednesday and Thursday, September 5 and 6.

First Friday & First Saturday Devotions
We will honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus with
Mass on Friday, September 7 in the daily
Mass chapel. There will be no Mass on Saturday, September 8, due to the Flea Market.

Day of Sadness & Reparation

On Saturday, September 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Clare of Assisi will conduct a day of sadness and reparation for those hurt and affected by the Clergy Sexual Abuse Scandal. There will be Mass at 8AM followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 4PM Mass and then till 8PM with Benediction. A special schedule of worship will be forth coming.

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 Today, 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 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
- -May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

ALL non-parishioners attending the St. Clare/St. Stephen PREP program <u>must</u> get written permission from their pastor to attend our program.

PREP BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, AT 6PM AT NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL. ALL MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND CLASS. NO WALK-IN REGISTRATIONS THE FIRST NIGHT

Registration forms can be found on the NEW PREP website:

www.stcstsprep.weebly.com

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 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.

Annual Food Faire & Flea market

Sunday, 9/2, is the last day for dropping off flea market items. If you are donating something for the baked goods table for Saturday, you may bring it Friday, 9/7, from 10 a.m. till noon, or 6 p.m. till 8:00 p.m., or Saturday morning between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Please, do <u>not</u> bring anything that needs refrigeration. Soups and such for the kitchen—please bring them, already hot, between 8 and 8:45 a.m. Volunteers coming to help sort items this week should come on Wednesday or Thursday, from 6:30 till 8:00 or Friday, from 6:00 till 8:00.

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.

PRIEST, PROPHET, KING: The Archangels and the Masculine Spirit – The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's morning of reflection on Saturday, September 29, 2018, at Queenship of Mary in Northampton. An optional Holy Mass will be offered at 8:00 AM followed by refreshments. Presentations by Msgr. John Martin, Rev. Patrick Lamb, and Rev. Eugene Ritz will begin at 9:15 AM. To register for this free offering visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality

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!

