

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
From Pastor's Desk**

On Friday, September 28, we celebrated the actual memorial of Mary, Untier of Knots. For the past two years, our parish family prays this devotion as part of our celebration of Mary as Queen of May. Pope Francis said that "having a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary isn't just something that is nice or good to do, but is an obligation in the life of every Catholic-Christian. Devotion to Mary is not spiritual etiquette; it is a requirement of the Christian life, the gift of the Mother, the gift of every mother and every woman, is most precious for the Church, for she too is mother and woman." Pope Francis said in a recent homily. "If our faith is not to be reduced merely to an idea or a doctrine, all of us need a mother's heart, one which knows how to keep the tender love of God and to feel the heartbeat of all 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 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****
RONALD CARESTIA, SR. & PAT QUINN HOVAN (Carestia & Quinn Families)

Masses at St. Clare of Assisi
4PM Saturday (September 29) —Joseph & Joan Krynock (Children)

4PM Saturday (October 6) - People of the Parish
Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (September 30) Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Kathy Bambrick (24th Anniv) and Patrick Bambrick (Dorothy Shipe)

Sunday (October 7) Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—John McGovern (Flavia McGovern)

Sunday (October 14) Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Eva Stanus (Dolores Straka)

Sunday, September 23 Attendance
113 at St. Stephen
43 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

September 30: Fuel and Heat

October 7: Building Fund

Thank you for your generosity! Collection for 9/23 Weekly and Cash \$3,824.00. Thank you to those parishioners who mailed their yearly donations. 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 September 23 Cemetery \$435.00	-----
Needed to Date (13th week)	\$37,549.98
Collected to Date (13th week)	\$38,485.52
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(935.54)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

October 7
 Karen Kuperavage/Judy Johnson
October 14
 Maureen Challenger/Lisa Gasper
October 21
 Ed Tray/Elizabeth Harrison



Sunday, September 30
 Ciara Gilbert/Charissa Gilbert
Sunday, October 7
 Emily Gasper
Sunday, October 14
 Taylor Lazarchick

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 30 — Msgr. Handges

October 7 — Father Connolly
October 14 — Msgr. Handges
October 21 — Father Bill
October 28 — Father Connolly
November 4 — Father Connolly

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This Sunday at the 10:30 Mass at St. Clare of Assisi, we will dedicate and bless the Untier of Knots icon. It is a special gift given to us by a loving parishioner. We thank her for her kindness! Also on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows during our day of prayer in reparation for offenses against the Body of Christ, we prayed the chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. It, too, is a significant devotion to ask Mary to intercede on our behalf to her Son during times of suffering, sorrow, and anxiety.

Communion Calls

Due to Fr. Bill being in Rome the first week of October, some of our parish's Eucharistic Ministers will bring Holy Communion to the Sick and Shut-in's. The Ministers will call themselves to let one know the day and approximate time of arrival.

If one is unable to attend Church due to chronic illness or old age, please call the rectory to place one on the monthly communion call list.

Hospital Visits

Frequently we are NOT notified of a loved one's hospitalization and Fr. Bill is not aware until after that person is discharged or transferred to another facility. Please if a loved one is admitted to the hospital especially for something serious in nature, contact the rectory so Fr. Bill will do his best to visit.

Anointing of the Sick

When a person is seriously ill or anticipating surgery, the Sacrament of the Sick is highly recommended for spiritual healing and with God's Will, physical healing. Please call the rectory. We ask not to delay in calling especially if one is in danger of death or failing. Waiting till the last minute to call Fr. Bill might find him unavailable which creates more stress on the person.

Mandated Reporter Training

Mandatory for every parish volunteer. If you have not completed it, please call the office to be scheduled.

10/29 – St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven – 5:30 PM
11/12 – St. Richard, Barnesville – 5:30 PM

Change in the Mass Schedule

Please also Note there will be No Weekday Mass from Monday, October 8 through Tuesday, October 16 due to the parish pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi. Fr. Brensinger is covering the weekend Masses at St. Clare.

Wednesday, October 17 Mass will be offered at 6PM in the daily Mass Chapel.

Thursday, October 18 & Friday, October 19
8AM Mass

While Fr. Bill is Away

Please arrange funerals through the rectory Monday through Friday 9AM to 4PM. Our staff will obtain a priest to celebrate the Mass.

Attention Parish Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

There will be a Morning of Reflection and Catechesis on Saturday, December 1 in St. Clare of Assisi Church Hall. The day will begin with Mass at 8AM followed by breakfast. At 9AM we will pray Morning Prayer together followed by a talk on our liturgical readings for the Season of Advent. There will also be instruction on changes to the role of the Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist by the Diocese. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend as some important information will be shared.

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

- November 1 Feast of All Saints holy day
- November 4 EST begins. "Fall Back" on your clocks
- December 1 Morning of Reflection and Catechesis for Lectors and Eucharistic Minister.
- March 16 First Penance
- Last Week of April—Confirmation TBA
- May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
- May 18-19 St. Clare of Assisi Chinese Auction
- May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion

Once Again our Thanks

I hope many of you read the great article in our diocesan newspaper, The AD Times, about the Day of Prayer & Reparation held in our parish on September 15. It was a very prayerful experience but only because of the people who came to pray the various devotions and spend time before the Blessed Sacrament in silent prayer. God bless!

The Month of October

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to a pious tradition, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others. "Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven. "If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value."

The rosary devotion finds its roots in Irish monks who left the monasteries to minister to the people. The people noticed that the monks carried a circlet of 150 round beads. Each bead represented one of the 150 psalms of the Old Testament that the monks prayed. Realizing that peasants would not be able to remember by rote the psalms, the monks taught them to pray the 150 beaded circlet with Hail Mary's while meditating on Jesus' life through the eyes of His Blessed Mother.

Prayer to Mary, Undoer of Knots

Virgin Mary, Mother of fair love, Mother who never refuses to come to the aid of a child in need, Mother whose hands never cease to serve your beloved children because they are moved by the divine love and immense mercy that exists in your heart, cast your compassionate eyes upon me and see the snarl of knots that exist in my life.

You know very well how desperate I am, my pain and how I am bound by these knots. Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of His children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. No one, not even the evil one himself, can take it away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone. Powerful Mother, by your grace and intercessory power with Your Son and My Liberator, Jesus, take into your hands today this knot...I beg you to undo it for the glory of God, once for all, You are my hope.

O my Lady, you are the only consolation God gives me, the fortification of my feeble strength, the enrichment of my destitution and with Christ the freedom from my chains.

Hear my plea.

Keep me, guide me, protect me, o safe refuge!

Mary, Undoer of Knots, pray for me

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.

St. Patrick Church Spaghetti Dinner

All You Can Eat Homemade Spaghetti Dinner Sponsored by St. Patrick Church, Sunday, October 7, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm, St. Patrick Parish Center, 319 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville. Eat in or Take out, Adults: \$8; Children: \$3.50

ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST PIEROGI

SALE: October 7, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Parish Center, 120 Oak Street, Minersville. \$7 per dozen – cooked or frozen. Baked goods available. Call 570-544-2211 to pre-order. COME CELEBRATE NATIONAL PIEROGI DAY!

"America Needs Fatima" Rosary Rally to be held on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at Noon in the parking lot of St. Ambrose Church, Schuylkill Haven. Please join in honoring Our Lady and praying for our Nation as we celebrate the 101st anniversary of Fatima. You are welcome to bring a lawn chair if needed. Please arrive a few minutes before noon.

9th Annual Nativity BVM High School Golf Team Fundraiser Tournament (DATE CHANGE)

Sunday, October 14 at Mountain Valley Golf Course, 4-person Scramble, 9am Shotgun Start. Registration and Buffet Breakfast begin at 7:30am. Cost \$90 per golfer and includes: Breakfast Buffet, Greens Fees, Cart, Gifts, Refreshments, various contests and the Mountain Valley Picnic. Teams must include foursomes. \$25 for picnic only. To register or become a sponsor, contact Athletic Director Josh Muldowney or Coach Dan Lisella at 570-622-8110 or email nativitybvmgolfers@gmail.com.

GOOD WILL FIRE CO #1 PORT CARBON

"DUCKS ON FIRE RACE," 10/13 @ 4 P.M., QUACKERS \$5.

AVAILABLE AT FIRE HOUSE 6-8, 10-4 & 10-11
BENEFITS: GOOD WILL HOSE CO