

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 4, 2018
From Pastor's Desk**

Friday a week ago, some of my friends and I drove to Emmitsburg, MD for a quite unique twist on Halloween. We went to a "Back from the Dead" cemetery walk held at the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. There were no ghouls or goblins, no witches or ghosts, instead we met a number of saints in our walk among the gravestones. At the very beginning of the walk we met the cemetery grave digger, who told us to "Remember your death, prepare for your death, live your life in light of your death." Have we not been hearing similar sentiments in many of our Sunday readings?

This week we celebrated the twin holy days of All Saints and All Souls, bringing those who have died to the front of our minds. Focusing on them, we reflect on what is truly important in this life. Perhaps the scribe who comes to Jesus to ask, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" is thinking that way. He certainly was after Jesus told him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." Our whole purpose of living life on earth is to merit heaven. Let us contemplate this today as we celebrate the Eucharist.

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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 (November 10) - Edward P. Lubinsky (Mary Ann & Family)

4PM Saturday (November 17) - People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (November 4) Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Veronica McGovern (Sue Shober)

Sunday (November 11) Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Elizabeth Fidler (Patty Pryce)

Sunday (November 18) Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Joseph Shapella (39th Anniv) & Betty Shapella (Dorothy Shipe)

**Sunday, October 28 Attendance
88 at St. Stephen; 75 at St. Clare**

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

November 11: Cemetery

November 18: Local Poverty Relief

Thank you for your generosity! Collection for 10/28 Weekly and Cash \$2,193.00. 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 October 28	\$2,193.00
Cemetery \$317.00	-----
Needed to Date (18th week)	\$51,992.28
Collected to Date (18th week)	\$50,290.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(1,702.03)

**LECTORS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

November 4

Judy Johnson/Ed Tray

November 11

Karen Kuperavage/Lisa Gasper

November 18

Maureen Challenger/Judy Johnson



Sunday, November 4

Jacob Challenger

Sunday, November 11

Ciara Gilbert/Charissa Gilbert

Sunday, November 18

Emily Gasper

Sunday, November 25

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,
November 4 — Father Connolly**

November 11 — Father Bill

November 18 — Father

Brensinger

November 25 — Father Bill

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2019 Mass Book

We are now taking Mass requests for 2019. Please visit the rectory at St. Clare of Assisi Tues through Fri 10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm to schedule your Masses. We also have a St. Stephen's intention at every 4PM Mass at St. Clare.

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

Thursday Bible Study Resumes

Beginning Thursday, November 29, following the 8am Mass, we will begin reviewing the Sunday readings once again. Coffee will be available. We will be using the At Home with the Word Book. If you wish to purchase a book, it is \$12. Please call the rectory.

Prayer for All Souls

Merciful God,
I entrust the souls of [mention names] and all my dearly departed to Your fatherly care.
I pray they have received the promise of Heaven, and that they experience eternal joy in your presence.
Give courage and faith to the bereaved and all of us still on our earthly pilgrimage, so we may one day be reunited in the warm embrace of your love.
Amen.

Store Gift Cards that benefit our Catholic Schools

Both Assumption and Nativity can sell gift cards for local grocery stores, department stores in Schuylkill County as well as Berks County and the Lehigh Valley, gasoline gift cards, etc. The school receives a percentage of the sale of these gift cards. ? Contact the school office for more information.

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

- December 1 Morning of Reflection and Catechesis for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers
- March 16 First Penance
- April 30—Confirmation
- May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
- May 18-19 St. Clare of Assisi Chinese Auction
- May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion

Food Baskets

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society met at 6:00 PM Monday evening, Sept. 9. The members present decided to give food baskets to needy people. Any person who knows someone please give the name to Liz Harrison, president, at 570-573-3894.

St. Stephen's Dine Out at the Crimson House!

Wednesday, November 28. The church will receive 10% of all food sales from Noon till 10 PM. Plus, take a chance on our beautiful baskets, including gift cards, Christmas centerpieces, and lottery tree. Reservations are suggested (570-728-2512). If you wish to donate a gift card or basket, please contact Sam Kane at 570-691-4228.

You are invited to a special event "The Master Craftsman: God's Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)"

co-sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church. Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God's guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope.

The event will take place on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103).

This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided.

To register for this event, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman. For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at Ffrias@allentowndiocese.org.

ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast—Today November 4, 8-11:30 at ICC Hall. \$7 adults, \$3 children under 8. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

Mandated Reporter Training

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

11/12 – St. Richard, Barnesville – 5:30 PM

Spaghetti Dinner

Knights of Columbus Council 14009, on Saturday November 10, 2018 after 4:00 o'clock Mass at St. Clare of Assisi Parish Hall. Cost : \$8.00 Adults; \$4.00 Kids under 12. Members of K of C will be selling tickets before every Mass at St. Clare.

The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will be delivering a Turkey Dinner

complete with Turkey, Fillings, Yams, Gravy, Vegetable, and Dessert to all residents of Schuylkill County who are in need of a meal for this Thanksgiving Day, November 22. If you know of a person who is in need of a meal, please call 570-628-3333, 570-516-9514 or 570-773-0627 and please leave the following information if no one answers the phone: Name and phone number. We will get back to you. You can also contact us at kofc431@yahoo.com. The only requirement we have for the meal is that the person be home. Closing date to order is November 15, 2018 at 5PM so that we can order the required items for the meal.

VENDOR AND CRAFT SHOW

St. Charles Borromeo Parish will be hosting their first annual Vendor and Craft Show, on November 10th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in their Parish Centre, 1115 Walnut St., Ashland. Current vendors are: Crochet and Craft Vendors, Parish Christmas Table, Scentsy, Custom Jewelry, Young Living Essential Oils, Thirty-One, Paparazzi, and Avon. There will also be home-made food and baked goods for sale! For more information, or to become a vendor, please call the Parish Office at 570-875-1521 or email at catholicchurchashland@msn.com

ICC Thanksgiving Food Sale

Halupkie, Bread Filling, City Chicken, Pierogies, etc. Orders due November 12th. Order forms at church entrances.

Seven Days of Prayer and Penance

Bishop Alfred Schlert is inviting the faithful to join him in seven days of prayer leading up to the national meeting of bishops in mid-November, at which critical decisions will be made in response to the clergy sexual abuse crisis. Bishop Schlert and his brother bishops will be in a period of intensive prayer and fasting from Nov. 5 through Nov. 11. All are welcome to join him in praying for healing and support of victims, for conversion and just punishment of perpetrators, and for strength for the bishops to protect and leading their sheep from all harm.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"You shall love God . . . and love your neighbor as yourself", Jesus instructs us in today's gospel. In marriage, our very closest "neighbor" is our spouse. Attend a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend to learn how to deepen your love for each other. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist

Invite You To A Special Weekend Retreat: A Time Apart With Jesus to Grow in Your Spiritual Life Friday evening, November 2 — Sunday at Noon, November 4, 2018.

The retreat is offered by Sister Joan Noreen, Co-Founder of OLME and 1999 – 2018 EWTN Host of "Eucharistic Journey." The retreat is held at the Ave Maria Retreat House in Doylestown, PA. This retreat includes Daily Eucharist, Eucharistic Adoration, conferences on Catholic Spirituality, Prayer with Sacred Scripture, Liturgy of the Hours, and much more. For more information, please contact:

**Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist,
640 E. Main St., Birdsboro, PA 19508
olme@olme.org è 610-582-3333
www.olme.org**