

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 20, 2019**

**From Pastor's Desk**

In Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ, I was struck with the scene where Jesus meets Mary on the road to Calvary. Mary is devastated and in grievous pain seeing her son in such a tortured and heinous state. Their eyes meet and Gibson has Jesus utter to her – "See I make all things new!" None of the four evangelists place these words on Jesus' lips at this time; rather they are found in two places – Isaiah 43:18 and Revelation 21:5. Even though one is an Old Testament passage and the other the last book of the New Testament, both speak of a new heaven and a new earth! Everything is recreated; recreated by the pouring forth of the Holy Spirit.

Last week, we heard Luke's account of the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus at His baptism. Jesus is recognized as no ordinary man but as being blessed and chosen by God. He will become the new Adam, the father of a new and better world. But since we know the story well, Jesus cannot be recognized as the Son of God until He lays down His human life for the sins of us all. Today we also

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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](mailto:SCAssisi@ptd.net) or [saintstephen2@verizon.net](mailto: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\*\***

**IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH J. KREYDT** (Louise Kreydt)  
**Masses at St. Clare of Assisi**

**4PM Saturday (January 26)** - Ned Baldinger (Linda & Al Baldinger)

**4PM Saturday**—People of the Parish

**Masses at St. Stephen**

**Sunday (January 20) Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 AM—Eva Stanus** (Lillian McBreen & Daughters)

**Sunday (January 27) Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 AM—Ray Barth** (Bob Corson)

**Sunday (February 3) Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**9:30 AM—Rev. John J. McNamara** (Sandra Lurwick)

**Sunday, January 5 Attendance**

**74 at St. Stephen; 40 at St. Clare**

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**January 27: Catholic Relief Services (please place all other envelopes in 1st Collection)**

**February 3: Building Fund**

Thank you for your generosity! Collection for 1/13: Weekly and Cash \$2,026.00; Fuel & Heat (12/30) \$465.00. 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**

<b>2016-2017 Budget</b>	\$170,800.00
<b>2018/2019 Budget (All Funds)</b>	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
<b>Collection January 13 Cemetery \$364.00</b>	-----
Needed to Date <b>(29th week)</b>	\$83,765.34
Collected to Date <b>(29th week)</b>	\$79,658.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(4,107.09)

**LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

**January 20**

Ed Tray/Maureen Challenger

**January 27**

Judy Johnson/Mary Ann Lubinsky



**Sunday, January 20**

Jacob Challenger

**Sunday, January 27**

Ciara Gilbert/Charissa Gilbert

**Sunday, February 3**

Emily Gasper

**Sunday, February 10**

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,  
 January 20 — Father Connolly**

**January 27 — Father Bill  
 February 3 — Father Connolly  
 February 10 — Father Reiley**

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hear St. Paul telling the newly baptized of Corinth that the Holy Spirit was behind all of new phenomena of the early Church. Everyone baptized will receive a unique and special gift from God that is meant to be shared to help recreate this new heaven and new earth. God is behind the newness described in today's readings: the new names given Jerusalem (my delight, espoused), the new wine of Cana (Jesus' first miracle removes shame), the new spiritual gifts in Corinth. No "same old, same old"; as the Book of Revelation states "God makes all things new!"

### Rest in Peace

God called home some wonderful parishioners and we pray their new home in heaven is very special. Joseph Struzinsky (son of Yvonne), Dorothy Steidle, Loretta Grubbs.

### Retreat

Fr. Bill will be making his winter retreat at the Jesuit Center, Wernersville from January 21 till 25. The rectory will be open Monday to Friday to conduct normal business. In the event of a death, funeral directors are to contact the office to make arrangements. Any Mass intentions scheduled for this week, Fr. Bill will offer those Masses at the Jesuit Center, unless family members wish to reschedule when the Mass will be offered in the parish.

### Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™

An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion, March 22-24, 2019. In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For \*registration information contact: Sr. Meg Cole, 1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free)

610-332-0442 Ext. 2019

[projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org)

\* Deadline for Registration is March 14th. For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)

## A Plea to our High School age Parishioners

In order to encourage and keep our young people strong in faith, Bishop Schlert has hired Annie Sarlo as a Youth Minister to work solely with the 17 parishes of Schuylkill County. Prior to Christmas, Father Bill sent a letter to all our high-school age parishioners inviting them to become participants in a special program to enfire and invigorate their

faith. This Program is called Alpha. The program will begin January 27 and run 6 weeks meeting for 2 hours on a Sunday evening. There is no fee for the program and a Sunday dinner appealing to teens is included. Father Bill really wishes to have our parish represented by two of our high school students. Please contact him if interested. Parents and Grandparents encourage your children **to become a part of this special faith event.** Please RSVP: [annie@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:annie@allentowndiocese.org) the Director of Youth Ministry for Schuylkill County: [annie@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:annie@allentowndiocese.org).

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

- March 16 First Penance
- March 24, 25, 26 St. Clare Parish Mission
- 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

### 2019 Mass Requests

We are now taking St. Stephen 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. If you wish to have your intention there, call our rectory number during business hours.

### Open House

**Assumption BVM School** is accepting registrations for grades K – 8 and Saint Patrick's Pre School @ ABVM is accepting registrations for the 2019-2020 school year. Open House is scheduled for Sunday, January 27, 2019 from 11:30 until 2pm. Tours are also available at any time by contacting the office 570-622-0106.

### Retreat

All Confirmandi in the Diocese of Allentown are invited to the **Confirming Faithful Families Retreat!** Registration is still open for the following rallies: **February 2, 2019 at St. Ambrose Parish, Schuylkill Haven.**

## Employment Opportunity

There is an immediate opening for a full-time Marketing and Communications Specialist. A Bachelor's degree and minimum of three years' experience in marketing, communications, fundraising or public relations is preferred. As part of the Advancement Team, the Marketing and Communications Specialist will assist the Director of Advancement with all components of an integrated, annual fundraising and marketing campaign, including fund development, social media, digital and print communications, special events, grant writing and research, database management, stewardship, marketing and administrative tasks. The position requires collaboration with agency staff, committee members and volunteers. The 37.5 hours per week may include work outside normal business hours. Some business travel required. Candidate must be willing to work within Catholic moral and social teachings.

EOE M/F/D/V

Please send cover letter and resume to Julie Schack at the address below or email [CCAD@allentowndioocese.org](mailto:CCAD@allentowndioocese.org)

**Catholic Schools week is Sunday, January 27 to Saturday, February 2, 2019.**



**The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Veneration of the First Class Relic of St. Pauline Visintainer** takes place on the last Monday of each month at 5pm in Our Lady's Chapel of St. Patrick Church, Pottsville. The next Mass will be 5pm on **Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>** at 5pm.

## Healing Our Church Discussion Groups Coming in Lent

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. *Healing Our Church* is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions "an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith." Discussions will take place during the six weeks of Lent. Watch for more information, including how to sign up, soon.

### Healing Our Church

During the Thursdays of Lent, our parishes will be conducting a program called "Healing Our Church" in lieu of our Thursday evening faith formation program. This program has been specifically designed to help all of us prayerfully cope with the Clergy sexual abuse crisis. One facet of the program is the need to have adults willing to lead discussion groups of the participants. There will be some training sessions for those willing to lead a small group. Fr. Bill will be present for all sessions. Please let Fr. Bill know of your interest to lead a group.

The six session topics are:

- Facing the Truth and the hurt caused
- Healing our wounds
- Rebuilding the Church
- Why do I remain Catholic? (participants will be encouraged to read a short book which Fr. Bill will provide)
- What we believe
- We are the Church