

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 27, 2019

From Pastor's Desk

On a routine occurrence over the last 35 years of my priesthood, someone has approached me asking for a letter of eligibility to be a godparent, a Confirmation sponsor, and every now & again, a best man or a maid of honor at the Sacrament of Matrimony. (Yes a priest can request that as part of the marriage paperwork). A letter of eligibility attests that I the priest know that the person named is an active and practicing Catholic. Some of these people have not been to Church or the Sacraments in years but they wish me to lie for them whereby they can be a godmother or a sponsor. Sadly they get upset with me because I won't lie for them. People wish to jeopardize a priest's integrity for a matter like this. Who is it going to hurt?

We have all been hearing or reading articles about the clergy sexual abuse crisis. A recent article I finished was written by a Dad on our Church trying to create safer environments for our children. His beef was that while he and other parents need to be vetted in countless hours of safe environment training, there still remains in the hearts of many Catholics the lack of trust and integrity of bishops and priests.

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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****

IN MEMORY OF NED BALDINGER (Linda & Al Baldinger)

Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4PM Saturday February 3—People of the Parish

4PM Saturday (February 10) - People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen

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 (February 10) Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM—Mary C. Balulis (Rich Kost)

Sunday, January 20 Attendance

35 at St. Stephen; 35 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 1/20: Weekly and Cash 1,305.00, includes mail ins; Fuel & Heat \$293.00; Building Fund \$46.00. 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
2018/2019 Budget (All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection January 20 Cemetery \$364.00	-----
Needed to Date (30th week)	\$86,653.80
Collected to Date (30th week)	\$81,302.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(5,351.55)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

February 3

Lisa Gasper/Maureen Challenger

February 10

Karen Kuperavage/Mary Ann Lubinsky



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 27 — Father Bill**

**February 3 — Father Connolly
February 10 — Father Reiley**

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The devil is "the Master of Lies." Lying, cover-ups, putting a spin on things get people in trouble every day. Little white lies can become big, scandalous problems! I believe we all understand the distinction in the gravity of each of these above mentioned situations, (one is far more serious than the other), but how can we once again trust in our bishops and priests?

This week is "Catholic Schools Week." This week we laud the importance of a faith-filled education based on Catholic Moral Teachings as personified in Jesus Christ and taught in our Catholic Schools. But many Catholics today do not choose Catholic Schools. An education in living a Catholic lifestyle is needed more than ever! There is a major difference between "a good person" and a person of Faith. Catholics need to be both! We all need to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect!

Change in this Week's Mass Schedule

Mass on Tuesday, January 29 will begin at 7:45AM due to Fr. Bill being at the Chancery Office.

Pierogie-ochial School At St. Clare

It comes around quicker and quicker every year! We will be starting on Monday, February 4 at 6PM with potato peelers and on Wednesday, February 6 for dough makers and pinchers.

Donations of sour cream, butter, eggs, and of course monetary donations are always graciously accepted.

We are in need of NEW workers. We do have fun and there is always lots of laughing.

The Sale of Lenten Pierogies is a vital and necessary fund raiser for St. Clare. Without it we cannot make ends meet. Your help is most welcome and most needed.

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

- March 16 First Penance
- March 31-April 2 St. Clare Parish Mission
- April 30—Confirmation
- May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
- May 18 St. Clare of Assisi Chinese Auction
- May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion

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.**

Something Exciting for our Parish Teens

This weekend hosted in our parish of St. Clare of Assisi begins the Alpha Program for Teens to grow in our Catholic Faith. The evening runs from 6-8PM and includes a wonderful dinner for the high school participants. The program is FREE and the cost of the dinners is covered by Schuylkill County parishes and their pastors (St. Ambrose, St. Michael the Archangel, Most Blessed Trinity, St. Clare of Assisi, St. Stephen). We are grateful to Briar Riegel and Caitlyn Corby for representing our parish.

Meeting nights are January 27, February 10, February 17, February 24, March 3, March 10,

And March 24

There is still time for any of our high school parishioners to join us. Please let Fr. Bill know.

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.

ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast

Next Sunday, February 3, 8-11:30AM at ICC Hall. \$7 adults, \$3 children under 8. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

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.

Spiritual Training: Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving – The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's Lenten morning of reflection on Saturday, **March 9, 2019**, at the **Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena** in Allentown. Refreshments will be offered beginning at 8:30 AM in the Parish Activity Center. Presentations by the **Most Reverend Alfred A Schlert** and **Rev. Bernard Ezaki** will begin in the Cathedral at 9:15 AM, ending by 11:30 AM. The Sacrament of Confession will be offered as well. To register for this free offering visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality

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 Scheck at the address below or email CCAD@allentowndioocese.org

Don't miss out! Get your Catholic Charities GALA RAFFLE TICKETS!

First Prize: An evening in Manhattan!

Includes 2 tickets to "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" on Broadway, dinner for two at Sardi's restaurant and roundtrip limo service.

(Provided by Joseph Benincasa, President, The Actor's Fund; and Corporate Limousine)

Second prize: Apple iPad Pro valued at \$1,000!

(Provided by Gary Iacocca, Yocco's)

Third prize: Pair of tickets to a 2019 Musikfest show of your choice at the Sands Steel Stage, admission for 2 to The Oasis bar, and parking at the Sands Steel Stage lot. Also included: 2 Musikfest Mugs, official 2019 Musikfest poster, one-year Silver ArtsQuest membership and \$100 in food and beverage tickets which can be used anywhere throughout the festival during 2019. *(Provided by ArtsQuest)*

Ticket cost: \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

Contact Sister Janice Marie Johnson (Gala Committee Member) at

610-871-5200, ext. 2280 to purchase.

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

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



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.