

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
March 17, 2019
From Pastor's Desk**

When we meet someone for the first time often it is on a good day. We determine if we will find this relationship to be beneficial for both parties. If it is with a doctor, we hope that they can make us better. We are looking for compassion, competence, and a 'can-do' attitude. If it is for a social relationship, we want to know what we have in common, do we enjoy each other's company? Would I like this person to be a friend? If we do meet someone for the first time in crisis such as ... your house is on fire, don't you want to see firemen who know what they are doing? Their actions meticulous? Their concern for life and property?

If we believe in these people from the start in good times or a difficult situation, does that not instill more confidence in us when we see them at their worst? We desire to stick by them and believe in them; not run in fear!

Today we hear proclaimed the Gospel of the Transfiguration. We see Jesus in His glory and as the beloved Son and chosen of God. This vision enables us to listen to Him. Conversely, when we see Him

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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 JOSEPH J. KREYDT (Louise Kreydt)

St. Stephen Masses at St. Clare of Assisi
4PM Saturday March 23 —People of the Parish
4PM Saturday March 30 —People of the Parish
Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (March 17) Second Sunday of Lent
9:30 AM—James & Margaret Collins (Leibel Family)

Sunday (March 24) Third Sunday of Lent
9:30 AM—Joan Albertini (4th Anniv) (Al Albertini)

Sunday (March 31) Fourth Sunday of Lent
9:30 AM—Anna Marie Elo (18th Anniv) (Agnes Gately)

Sunday, March 10 Attendance 74 at St. Stephen;
55 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

March 17: Fuel & Heat

March 24: Cemetery Upkeep

Initial Offering is to help defray the costs of printing and mailing offering envelopes

Collection for March 10:

Weekly \$2,062.00

Catholic Home Missions \$222.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$170,800.00
2018/2019 Budget	
(All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection March 10	\$2,062.00
Cemetery \$335.00	-----
Needed to Date (37th week)	\$106,873.02
Collected to Date (37th week)	\$100,287.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(6,585.77)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

March 17 Karen Kuperavage/Ed Tray
March 24 Maureen Challenger/Judy Johnson
March 31 Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper



Sunday, March 17 Emily Gasper
Sunday, March 24 Aiden Brennan
Sunday, March 31 Annabella Chaklos

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,
March 17 — Msgr. Handges

March 24 — Father Connolly
March 31 — Father Bill—NOTE:
Confessions will be heard at 8:45AM this date and April 14

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in His agony in the garden, He is at the point of total despair. God the Father desires us to see His Son first in His glory whereby when evil besets upon Him, we have the confidence to know He will be the victor over death.

What the Pope Said...

Pope Francis suggests people give up gossiping for Lent. Lent is a good time to concentrate on fighting the urge to gossip about others and instead trying to correct one's own faults and defects, Pope Francis said. After reciting the Angelus prayer at noon Sunday with pilgrims in St. Peter's Square, the Pope said, "We all know it usually is easier or more comfortable to notice and condemn the defects and sins of others rather than seeing our own with that kind of clarity.

Pope Francis has urged Catholic faithful to free themselves from the "clutches of consumerism and the snarcs of selfishness" as he marked the start of Lent. Francis led a procession and then celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass at the basilica of Santa Sabina, one of Rome's most beautiful. In his homily, Francis said Lent is a "wakeup call for the soul" to rediscover the direction of life. (AP)

Our Lenten Obligation

The Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. No meat allowed.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament by Your Request!

On the Fridays of Lent, the Blessed Sacrament will be on the daily Mass Chapel altar for veneration and prayer from 8:30AM to 12 noon. Remember the Blessed Sacrament should never be publicly exposed where there are NOT adorers present. Will you make a commitment to sit with the Lord for 15 minutes, 30 minutes, 60 minutes?

A Public School teacher in Utah is on administrative leave after she forced a Catholic student to wash off the Ash Wednesday cross from his forehead. The fourth-grader had just returned to his school after attending Mass when his teacher called the ash marking "inappropriate" and gave him a hand wipe to clean it off in front of his classmates. The school district called the teacher's actions "unacceptable." (AP)

Lent in Our Parishes of St. Clare of Assisi & St. Stephen

Tuesday, March 19 Stations of the Cross in BOTH Parishes at 6:00PM.

St. Stephen's: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:45PM/Stations 6:00PM/Benediction following Stations/Confessions.

St. Clare: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 4PM/Stations 6:00PM lead by parishioners/simple resposition following Stations.

Wednesday, March 20 Healing Our Church faith sharing group in the daily Mass chapel from 6:30-8PM.

Thursday, March 21 A Closer Look at the Readings for the Third Sunday of Lent. Discussion begins following the 8AM morning Mass. Coffee and Tea are available.

Thursday, March 21 Parish Adult Faith Formation begins in the daily Mass chapel. Starting time is 6:30PM to 8PM. Our topic this year is **No Greater Love: A Walk through Christ's Passion**, a study program that examines Christ's Passion and Death on the Cross. All are welcome! Cost of materials is \$15.

Friday, March 22 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:30AM till Noon in the daily Mass chapel.

Tuesday, March 26 Stations of the Cross in BOTH Parishes at 6:00PM.

St. Stephen's: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:45PM/Stations 6:00PM/Benediction following Stations/Confessions.

St. Clare: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 4PM/Stations 6:00PM lead by parishioners/simple resposition following Stations.

Wednesday, March 27 Healing Our Church faith-sharing group in the St. Clare daily Mass Chapel from 6:30PM to 8PM. Cost of materials \$15. All are welcome.

Thursday, March 28 A Closer Look at the Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Discussion begins following the 8AM morning Mass. Coffee and Tea are available.

Thursday, March 28 Parish Adult Faith Formation begins in the daily Mass chapel. Starting time is 6:30PM to 8PM. Our topic this year is **No Greater Love: A Walk through Christ's Passion**, a study program that examines Christ's Passion and Death on the Cross. All are welcome!

Congratulations to our First Penance Class of St. Clare of Assisi and St. Stephen

Taylor Adams	Callum Long
Sophia Bolich	Gavin Lutsky
Caleah Buletza	Maci McGeoy
Dylan Fessler	Charlette Rumberger
Parker Fishburn	Cameron Smith
Liam Garrity	Brady Sverchek
Wyatt Gerber	Daniel Tresize
Gino Joy	Frankie Uhrin
Collin Kadingo	Emma Womer
Brady Loftus	Connor Womer

Thanks to the ladies of the St. Clare of Assisi parish for making a wonderful luncheon for the children and their families.

Upcoming Events for Our Parishes

March 31-April 2 Parish Mission
April 8 Bishop's Mass at St. Ambrose to begin the Diocesan Appeal 6PM
April 12 Visitation of the Relic of St. John Vianney to St. Clare of Assisi
April 30 Confirmation-4:30PM at St. Patrick's
May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
May 18 Chinese Auction
May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion

Pierogi Sale at St. Clare of Assisi Church

Our pierogi sales continue! Order some by calling 429-0863, 429-0343, or 429-1942. Pickups are on Fridays from 11 am till 2 pm. Only \$7.50 a dozen for these yummy treats! This is one of our most successful fund raisers! Besides ordering some, you can also donate some ingredients (flour, sour cream, butter, onions, potatoes, cheese) or come help out Monday nights at 6 pm or Wednesday mornings at 9 am.

Help Needed with Pierogies

Potato Peelers are needed on Monday evenings at 6PM. Please bring you own potato peeler. Dough Makers and pinchers are needed on Wednesdays at 9AM. Donations of sour cream, butter, eggs, and of course monetary donations are always graciously accepted. The Sale of Lenten Pierogies is a vital and necessary fund raiser for our parish. Without it we cannot make ends meet. Your help is most welcome and most needed.

Because We Are Catholic

Every year our diocese conducts a capital campaign to raise money to support our various ministries to under privileged, the elderly, those who are mentally and developmentally challenged, the education of our seminarians, our elderly and infirmed priests to name a few. This campaign has been called the Bishop's Annual Appeal however, it is NOT about the bishop! Rather we do what we do "Because We Are Catholic!"

This year our Diocesan Appeal will begin with the Celebration of Mass asking God to bless our efforts to fulfill the Corporal Works of Mercy. Bishop Schlert will offer Mass on Monday, April 8 at 6PM in St. Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven. We are all invited! After Mass there will be a light social in the parish center. Hope you join us!

The Relic of St. John Vianney

St. John Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests and confessors. He lived at a time when the Catholic Church was being persecuted and priests did not wish to serve the Catholic Faithful in Ars, France because they were stubborn and the worst of sinners, St. John's bishop had little faith in his priest. This simple man of God changed all of that through prayer, devotion to God, service to his flock, and simple living.

Through the kindness of the Knights of Columbus, the heart relic of St. John Vianney will be in our Church of St. Clare of Assisi to be venerated. The relic will be here on Friday, April 12 beginning at noon. Mark your calendars. More details will follow.

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN HOSTING LENTEN EVENT

The Commission for Women invite all women to "Breakfast with the Bishop" event on Saturday, April 6, 2019 beginning with daily Mass at 8 AM at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown followed by Recitation of the Rosary, Breakfast and a Lenten Reflection by Bishop Schlert. Please join us as we gather together during this season of Lent for Prayer and Fellowship. To register, visit www.allentowndioocese.org/cfw-spirituality . Questions, email cfw@allentowndioocese.org or call Susan Teaford at 610-207-5763.