

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

April 7, 2019

From Pastor's Desk

A study of the gods of the Hebrews' Old Testament neighbors casts images of cruel, vengeful gods who saw human beings as their play-things or for sport. If our God were a vengeful God, who could survive? We are sinful creatures, struggling to do good in God's eyes, but often coming up short. Even now, during this penitential season, we need to seek God's mercy. Fortunately, our God is a merciful God, always ready to forgive us. As we celebrate with each other today, let us thank God for this overflowing mercy and consider those whom we ourselves need to forgive.

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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 JEAN THOMAS (Jean Marie Thomas)

St. Stephen Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4PM Saturday April 6—Ronald Pavlick (Anne Pavlick)

4PM Saturday April 13 —Joseph & Joan Krynock (Children)

Masses at St. Stephen

Sunday (April 7) Fifth Sunday of Lent
9:30 AM—Leon Corson (Dorothy Legutko)

Sunday (April 14) Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Sunday (April 21) Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
9:30 AM—People of the Parish

Sunday, March 31 Attendance 95 at St. Stephen;
41 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 7: Building Fund

April 14: Cemetery Fund

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

Collection for March 31:

Weekly \$2917.00; Fuel & Heat \$453.00; Building Fund \$30.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$170,800.00
2018/2019 Budget (All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection March 31 Cemetery \$	-----
Needed to Date (40th week)	\$115,538.40
Collected to Date (40th week)	\$108,691.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(6,47.15)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

April 7

Judy Johnson/Maureen Challenger

April 14

Lisa Gasper/Ed Tray (also 2nd Reader)



Sunday, April 7

Jacob Challenger

Sunday, April 14

Ciara and Charissa Gilbert

Sunday, April 21

Emily Gasper

Sunday, April 28

Aiden Brennan

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, April 7 — Father Connolly

April 14 — Father Bill—NOTE: Confessions will be heard at 8:45AM this date

**April 21 Easter Sunday — Father Bill
 April 28 — Father Connolly
 May 5 — Father Bill (First Communion)**

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Help Urgently Needed This Thursday, April 11

We need help Thursday evening beginning at 6PM to clean the hall and set up tables and chairs for the Visitation of the Relic of St. John Vianney. Many hands make light work.

Palm Sunday Children's Mass

At our 10:30 Mass on Palm Sunday, April 14 we invite our grade school children and Moms of Dads of infants and toddlers to walk in the Palm Sunday procession at the start of Mass. Please meet in the church vestibule and Dottie Frie will assist you.

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

Tuesday, April 9 Stations of the Cross in St. Clare of Assisi at 6:00PM.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 4PM with Stations & Benediction at 6PM. Confessions will follow Stations.

Wednesday, April 10 Healing Our Church faith-sharing group in the St. Clare daily Mass Chapel from 6:30PM to 8PM.

Thursday, April 11 A Closer Look at the Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Discussion begins following the 8AM morning Mass. Coffee and Tea are available.

Friday, April 12 Visitation of the Relic of St. John Vianney's Incorrupt Heart

NO 8AM Mass. Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon by Bishop Schlert

1:30-5:30PM Novena prayer at the beginning of every half hour followed by Veneration of the Relic by the Faithful.

Confessions from 1:30-6PM.

5:45PM Recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

6PM Stations of the Cross

7PM Evening Prayer of the Church lead by Bishop Schlert

Volunteers from both parishes are needed. Please drop off the signup sheet or call the rectory ASAP!

Special Announcement about remaining Pierogy Sales

Pierogies will be sold this week on Thursday, April 11 from 11am to 2pm, due to the Visitation of the Relic of St. John Vianney on Friday, April 12.

Pierogies will be sold on Wednesday, April 17 from 11am to 2pm. To order, please call 429-0863, 429-0343, or 429-1942.

Thank you for supporting this vital and necessary fund raiser for our parish. Without it we cannot make ends meet. God bless all the workers for your tremendous efforts!

Help Needed with Pierogies

Potato Peelers are needed on Monday evenings at 6PM. Please bring your 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.

Our Lenten Obligation

The Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence which means Catholics abstain or refrain from eating meat.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE.

PREP NEWS

Our **last regular class is Wed. April 10th. No class on Wed. April 17th.**

Finally, we will have our **end of the year Ice Cream party on Wed. April 24th.** If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

ICC All You Can Eat Breakfast

This Sunday, 8-11:30AM at ICC Catering Hall. Adults, \$7, Children under 8, \$3. Benefits St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

Assumption BVM School Open House

Sunday, April 7, 5-7PM

Altar Servers are needed for Holy Week services. Please call the rectory.

St. Stephen Easter Egg Hunt

An Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 10 years old will be held on Palm Sunday, April 14, at 10:45 am on St. Stephen's upper parking lot. Please sign up at the front entry of the church or RSVP to saintstephen2@verizon.net or (570) 622-6600.

Easter Flower Memorials

If anyone would like to memorialize Easter Flowers or other church Easter decorations by making a \$10 donation, please write on the envelope with your donation the name of the person to be memorialized and your name. Please have the memorial to the collection basket or rectory by Tuesday, April 16 for the published list available on April 21. Memorials received after April 16 will be listed in a later bulletin.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament by Your Request!

On the Fridays of Lent, the Blessed Sacrament will be on the St. Clare 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?

Upcoming Events for Our Parishes

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 14 Easter Egg Hunt 10:45AM at St. Stephen's
April 30 Confirmation-4:30PM at St. Patrick's
May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
May 18 St. Clare of Assisi Chinese Auction
May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion



Holy Thursday Footwashing

We are looking for parishioners from both parishes willing to volunteer a foot to be washed this Holy Thursday. Please contact the rectory.

Attention Minor Ministers

We are still in need of servers, lectors, and Eucharistic Ministers to volunteer to assist at the Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday services. Please call the rectory this week with your availability and Fr. Bill will create a schedule so everyone has an opportunity.

Because We Are Catholic

Every year our diocese conducts a capital campaign to raise money to support our various ministries to the 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. Please RSVP to the rectory by Monday morning.**

Healing Mass

Fr. James Blount, Spiritual Director, Confessor, and Charismatic is set to be at St. Thomas More church, 1040 Flexer Ave., Allentown on Thursday, May 16. A Healing Mass will start at 6 p.m. Fr. Blount is a spiritual Advisor to the Flame of Love Movement of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the United States. His teachings depict his deep love for the Eucharist and his devotion to both Jesus and Mary.