

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

**April 21, 2019
From Pastor's Desk**

I recently heard about changing the name of the Easter Bunny to the "Caring Bunny" to make things more politically correct by not offending anyone. While I like my butter cream, coconut, and cherry cream Easter eggs, it's not about the Bunny or the jelly beans or even the new outfit! It is about Jesus who rose from the dead! That's the significance of the Easter Mystery. We need to be filled with joy, for we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord! Today we are filled with new hope for the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross to open the path to eternal life for us. Why do we desire to deny God the Father and His Son? How has a living, redeeming God become offensive? That first Easter morning, the Sanhedrin attempted to deny the victory over the grave too. Let us therefore shout all the louder – Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise! Christ is risen, indeed He is truly risen.

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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 BERTHA CORSON (Bob Corson)
St. Stephen Masses at St. Clare of Assisi
4PM Saturday April 27 — People of the Parish

Masses at St. Stephen
Sunday (April 21) Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord
9:30 AM—People of the Parish

Sunday (April 28) Second Sunday of Easter
9:30 AM—Vincent Gately (Agnes Gately)

Sunday (May 5) Third Sunday of Easter
First Holy Communion
9:30 AM—Anna Corson (Dorothy Legutko)

Sunday, April 14 Attendance 142 at St. Stephen;
38 at St. Clare

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

April 21: Easter Sunday (PLACE ALL OTHER ENVELOPES, INCLUDING HOLY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY, IN FIRST COLLECTION)

April 28: Cemetery Upkeep

May 5: Building Fund

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

Collection for April 14:

Weekly \$2,837.00; Fuel & Heat \$11.00; Building Fund \$33.00; Initial Offering \$5.00

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$170,800.00
2018/2019 Budget (All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection April 14 Cemetery \$	-----
Needed to Date (42nd week)	\$118,426.86
Collected to Date (42nd week)	\$113,897.25.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(7,418.07)

LECTORS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

April 21

Maureen Challenger/Judy Johnson

April 28

Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper



Sunday, April 14

Ciara and Charissa Gilbert

Sunday, April 21

Emily Gasper

Sunday, April 28

Aiden Brennan

Sunday, May 5

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, April 21 Easter Sunday — Father Bill

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

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The Rectory Office for Easter Holy Day & Holiday

The Rectory Office will close for business at 12 Noon on Holy Thursday and NOT reopen till Tuesday, April 23 at 9AM. The phone will be monitored for emergencies and deaths only.

PREP NEWS

End of the year Ice Cream party on Wed. April 24th. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

The Rectory Office for Easter Holy Day & Holiday

The Rectory Office will reopen for business on Tuesday, April 23 at 9AM. The phone will be monitored for emergencies and deaths only.

Changes in this Week's Mass Schedule

There will be NO daily Mass from Monday to Friday, April 22 to 26 to give our pastor a break after an extremely busy month of April. Many good things happened in our parishes in addition to Holy Week. There was the parish mission and the visitation of the relic of St. John Vianney's Incorrupt Heart. Sadly we had way too many funerals during that time period also. Please allow Fr. Bill to get a good rest.

Important Confirmation Announcement

There will be a mandatory Confirmation practice on Sunday, April 28 at 5pm. This practice will be held at the St. Patrick's Church in Pottsville. This practice is for the **Confirmation candidate and the sponsor.** If a sponsor cannot make it, please have a substitute adult stand in for him or her so that they can relay the information to the sponsor. ALL candidates should make every effort to be at this practice. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Dowd immediately.

Thank You

To Mary Margaret Burns, Maureen Challenger and Clare Lorence for doing a great job cleaning our church for Easter and to Carol Stencovage, Rich and Carol DeWitt for changing our church altar cloths and decorations every season.

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.

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, and 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!"

Upcoming Parish Events

April 30 Confirmation-4:30PM at St. Patrick's
May 5 St. Stephen First Holy Communion
May 19 St. Clare First Holy Communion
June 3 Nativity BVM Baccalaureate
June 4 Nativity Graduation
June 5 Assumption BVM 8th Grade Graduation
June 7 Pottsville Area High School Graduation



Nativity BVM High School Theatre Department

Don't forget Nativity BVM High School production of "Newsies" the weekend of April 26, 27, and 28. Based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899, this Disney musical tells the story of Jack Kelly, a rebellious newsboy who dreams of a life as an artist away from the big city. After publishing giant Joseph Pulitzer raises newspaper prices at the newsboys' expense, Kelly and his fellow **newsies** take action.

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions

On Sunday, April 28, 2019 Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, will be holding its fifth annual Divine Mercy Devotions at 3:00 PM at Divine Mercy Parish, 224 West Cherry St. These devotions will consist of: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Mid-afternoon Prayers from the Divine Office, Various Prayers and Readings, Homily, Periods of Reflection, Hymns, Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction. **Please note that the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will not be celebrated.** We are strongly encouraging all participants to celebrate in their own parishes the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

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.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

The 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, 319 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville. The next Mass will be at 5pm on Monday, April 29th.

Easter Gratitude & Blessing

This Lent was a sacred time with the help of many parishioners. First is Project "Up Pierogy Scope." Our parish volunteers made and cooked more pierogies this year than any other year; so many that three times we had to cease taking orders. The sale of Lenten pierogies is our best fund raiser but it is labor intensive. Without this fund raiser making ends meet would be difficult.

Next is for the first three weeks of Lent, Stations of the Cross were led by parishioners while Fr. Bill prayed Stations at St. Stephen's. John Matulevich, a candidate for the permanent diaconate in the Diocese served as leader of prayer. Thank you to our servers who rotated weekly.

Third on the list is our parish choir and musicians who helped with our Parish Mission, Stations of the Cross, The Relic Visitation, and the Easter Triduum. Your voices lifted our hearts in song!

Fourth needs to mention those who assisted with the parish mission from the services to the reception (which we enjoy each night), and Bernie, Irene, and AB for manning the religious goods store.

We would be remiss to not include the fifth on our list is our funeral choir which was way too busy especially the last two weeks of Lent. Many of our members are also pierogi workers.

Lastly would be everyone who made Holy Week prayerful – decorators, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, servers, ushers, sacristans, and all other volunteers. God bless everyone!

