

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 12, 2019
From Pastor's Desk**

Mothers have a very protective instinct for their children. With all the hunters and hikers we have in Schuylkill County, we often hear if one sees a bear cub back away stealthfully it is because the Mama bear is very close. Folks who get between a Mama bear and her cubs are in for some very serious trouble! We are most grateful for our mothers who have protected us and we implore Our Blessed Mother to watch over our moms and protect them too! Happy Mother's Day! We honor all our Mothers both living and deceased in our Masses and prayers during this month of May.

While on the topic of protection, our Gospel for today has Jesus comparing Himself to a shepherd protecting His flock. He promises His disciples that He will hold them securely in His hands. On this Good Shepherd Sunday, let us also trust in Jesus' protecting love of us.

(Continued on Page 3)

**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.

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 JOHN McGOVERN (Flavia McGovern)
St. Stephen Masses at St. Clare of Assisi

4PM Saturday May 11 — People of the Parish

4PM Saturday May 18 — In Honor of St. Lucy for the Health
of Flavia McGovern

Masses at St. Stephen

**Sunday, May 12—Fourth Sunday of Easter/
Mother's Day**

9:30AM—Living and Deceased Mothers

Sunday, May 19—Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:30AM— Joseph J. Kreydt (6th Anniv) (Louise Kreydt)

Sunday, May 26—Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30AM— Bertha Corson and James Corson (Bob
Corson)

**Sunday, May 5 Attendance at St. Stephen 92
At St. Clare of Assisi 35**

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

May 12: Cemetery Upkeep

May 19: Fuel & Heat

May 26: Cemetery Upkeep

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

Collection for April 28:

**Weekly \$3,202.00 (includes anonymous donation
of \$1,500; Building Fund \$336.00**

SUNDAY COLLECTION

2016-2017 Budget	\$170,800.00
2018/2019 Budget (All Funds)	\$150,200.00
Amount Needed Weekly	\$2,888.46
Collection May 5	\$3,538.00
Cemetery \$	-----
Needed to Date (45th week)	\$129,980.70
Collected to Date (45th week)	\$121,614.25
Over/(Under) Budget	\$(8,366.45)

**LECTORS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

May 12

Lisa Gasper/Ed Tray

May 19

Maureen Challenger/Judy Johnson

May 26

Ed Tray/Lisa Gasper



Sunday, May 12

Jacob Challenger

Sunday, May 19

Ciara Gilbert and Charissa Gilbert

Sunday, May 26

Aiden Brennan

June 2

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 collec-
tion basket. Always use an envelope
with your name and the amount re-
corded on it.**

Grateful for Saying our Sunday Masses.

May 5 — Father Bill (First Communion)

May 12 — Unknown at this time

May 19 — Father Connolly

May 26 — Father Bill

Wednesday May Devotions

We will attempt to conduct outdoor recitation of the Mysteries of the Rosary on Wednesday evenings at 7PM in the designated locations. In the event of inclement weather, the rosary will be prayed in church (St. Clare May 15, 29 and St. Stephen May 22).

THIS WEEK'S ROSARY

May 15 the praying of the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary through the eyes of St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi in the church.

May 22 at St. Stephen's Grotto before the Statue of Madonna Della Strada

May 29 Candlelight Rosary for Mary Undoer of Knots at St. Clare of Assisi Grotto at 7PM followed by ice cream social

Other Celebrations to Mary

Mary Undoer of Knots

As has become our custom over the last few years, the trellis for ribbons will be erected in the Our Lady of Fatima Grotto. Ribbons with the prayer may be found in the basket in the rear of church. Please write your intention on the ribbon and attach it to the trellis. Keep the prayer and recite it daily throughout the month of May to have the Blessed Mother help undo the knots in one's life.

Memorial Day

For this Memorial Day Remembrance Mass, we invite you to bring a picture of a loved one who served in the defense of our great nation. Please make sure the picture is marked with who it is and to whom it belongs so it may be returned. If the picture is framed, please leave it in the frame. We need the picture by Thursday, May 23.

Thank you to the Anonymous Parishioner who gave a donation of \$1,500.00 to help with the deficit.

Upcoming Parish Events

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

Graduates Mass

We would like to honor our graduates from college, high school, and junior high. We ask any graduate who wishes to participate in this special Liturgy for you to contact the rectory by May 29 to make proper plans. We also ask that graduates dress in a respectable manner (please no shorts or tee shirts).

Easter Flowers

Please help yourself to any Easter flowers in the Sacristy.

Sunday Masses in May & June

Unless it affects us in a direct way, we still overlook the scarcity of priests. With our pastor having the responsibility of shepherding "two" fully operational parishes by himself, it would be extremely difficult to offer Masses in both churches without the help of our retired priests or those serving in specialized ministries in the Diocese. We are grateful to Msgr. Handges, Fr. Connolly, Fr. Reiley and Fr. Brensinger for their kindness over the last three years. Please continue to pray for them and encourage them.

They do not have to do what they do.

With that being said, May and June are very busy months and a number of weekends in the next eight weeks will find our pastor saying three Sunday Masses in two locations in a very narrow time frame.

This means no homily at either 8:30 or 9:30 Masses and no opportunity for him to greet the parishioners at the conclusion of Mass. It also means the probability of the 9:30 and 10:30 Masses beginning 5-10 minutes late. Please be patient and realize what our priests do for you!

Lastly, **DO NOT BLOCK WHERE OUR PASTOR PARKS HIS VEHICLE OR TAKE HIS PARKING PLACE!!!!**

Come to Mass a few minutes earlier and obtain a parking place that does not interfere with Father Bill. Doing so will result in Mass starting later than just 5 minutes because he has to find a parking space and walk a distance to church.

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA).

On this Mother's Day weekend please remember those Mothers who give tirelessly of themselves but have fallen upon hard times and have come to our Diocese and the Bishop's Annual Appeal for assistance. Next weekend is Commitment Sunday. If you have not done so already, please bring your pledge form to Mass next weekend. We need the support of all of our parish families to reach our parish BAA goal. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. If you have any questions, please call the parish office or visit the BAA website at Faith-HopeCharityGives.org.

Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Your generosity funds the annual budget for important Diocesan ministries in our area. You can make your gift online at FaithHopeCharityGives.org.

Cemetery Clean-Up

We ask lot owners to clear off all Easter decorations from the graves.

