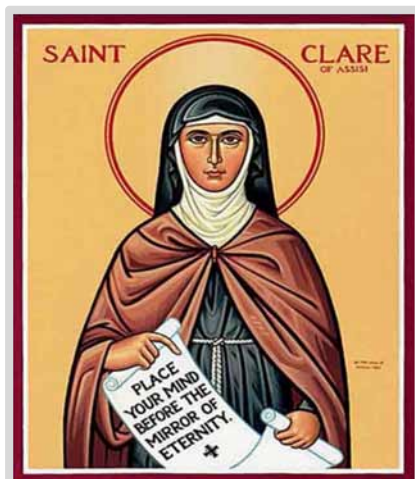


# THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI & SAINT STEPHEN

## PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. William F. Glosser, V.F., M.A., M.Div.



250 E. Hancock St.  
Saint Clair, PA 17970

Office Phone.....570-429-0370  
Rectory Phone.....570-429-0701  
St. Stephen Phone.....570-622-6600  
Office Fax.....570-429-0630  
Assumption BVM School.....570-622-0106  
Nativity BVM High School.....570-622-8110  
Immaculate Conception Hall.....570-429-0302

### Email

scassisi@ptd.net  
or  
saintstephen2@verizon.net



### Websites

stclareassisi.weebly.com  
saintstephen2.com

### Parish Registration

Parish registration is recommended for all individual persons and families who worship regularly and who intend to participate actively in the life of our parish by sharing their time, talents and treasure. Registration is necessary for celebrating Marriage and Baptism, as well as for the issuing of Sponsor Certificates.

### Director of Religious Education

Thomas Dowd

### Parish Religious Education Website

stcstsprep.weebly.com

### Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Mrs. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, MCC, LPC Direct: 1-800-791-9209

### Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT 1-610-332-0442, Ext 2019

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Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 27, 2019

### MASS TIMES

(Please check bulletin for changes)

Tuesday – Friday 8AM (Chapel)

Saturday – 4PM

Sunday- 8:30AM and 10:30AM

St. Stephen – 9:30AM

Holydays – Please check bulletin

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:15-3:45PM or call the rectory to schedule an appointment. St. Stephen Parish, please see Priest before Mass.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Prospective parents are expected to attend an instruction session. Please call the parish office to make arrangements and schedule an appointment.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made one year in advance to schedule and plan your wedding.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PREP/CCD classes are offered for our public grade school children. Classes are held Wednesday evenings 6PM to 7:30PM.

### Dear Padre,

*I see hate everywhere these days—in social media, politics, even between religions. Are we helpless to do anything about hatred?*

Traditionally, the Church promoted the idea of seven deadly sins. One might assume that hatred is one of these sins, but it's not. Hatred flows out of something else: It's a byproduct of the sins of envy, pride, anger, and avarice. The way to counter hatred is to promote virtues that are the opposite of the deadly sins from which hatred flows.

The virtue opposing the vice of envy is love. In love, we rejoice over our neighbor's good. 1 Thessalonians 5:15 talks about how we seek good for each person. The opposite of pride is humility. Today's Gospel parable of the Pharisee and tax collector praying together (Luke 18:9–14) speaks of true humility. The tax collector recognized a basic truth: that God is the creator, the source of our life and spirit. The virtue opposing anger is meekness. In meekness, we put aside our feelings to seek reconciliation with our neighbor. Jesus taught that we cannot bring our gift to the altar if we recall that our neighbor has something against us or vice versa (Matthew 5:23–24). Finally, the virtue that destroys avarice is poverty. Poverty doesn't mean giving away all our money; it means we strive to become rich in what matters to God (Luke 12:20) and to share with those who have less.

Hatred will be no more if we strive to be virtuous in the face of our envy, pride, anger, and avarice.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR

**Monday, October 28, 2019**  
**8AM Barry Brassington**

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019**  
**NO MASS SCHEDULED**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2019**  
**NO MASS SCHEDULED**

**Thursday, October 31, 2019**  
**NO MASS SCHEDULED**

**Friday, November 1, 2019 All Saints**  
**8AM (St. Stephen)—Elizabeth Evans Shirey**  
**6:30PM (St. Clare)—Elizabeth Didjunas**

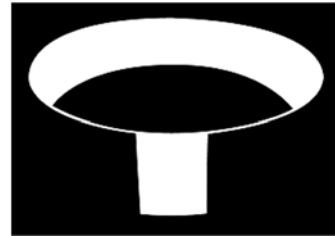
**Saturday, November 2, 2019**  
**8AM (St. Clare) All Souls**  
**4PM St. Clare Vigil Mass for Sunday—David Androsko**  
**St. Stephen Intention—Dorothy Stancavage**

**Sunday, November 3, 2019 Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**8:30AM Lorraine Houseknecht**  
**9:30AM at St. Stephen—Chet Ranawat**  
**10:30AM Stauffer & Uhrin Families**

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

Today is Priesthood Sunday which is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. Priesthood Sunday honors priests, without whom the Mass could not be offered and Sacraments could not be celebrated. **It is essential to note that** the number of priests and ordinations in the United States has steadily declined in the past 50 years. The men who answer the call to priesthood are special indeed, and they are working harder than ever before. Many priests are working multiple ministries and functions within their dioceses in addition to their serving in parishes. The last decade has severely injured the ministry of priesthood and its significant importance in the minds of many people especially Catholics. While the focus has been on "the bad priests", perhaps we need to concentrate on the faithful priests who represent Jesus Christ, His Gospel message, the Sacraments, and shepherd Jesus' Flocks.

"The witness of a priestly life well lived brings nobility to the Church, calls forth admiration among the faithful, and is a source of blessings for the community; it is the best way to promote vocations, the most authentic invitation to other young people to respond positively to the Lord's call. It is true collaboration in building the Kingdom of God!"—Pope Benedict XVI, Meeting with clergy and religious in Aparecida, Brazil, May 12, 2007.



### **Second Collections**

**St. Clare of Assisi: This week's will be for Heat & Energy (Team 4). Next week's will be for Heat & Energy (Team 1).**

**St. Stephen: This week's will be for Cemetery Upkeep. Next week's will be for the Building Fund.**

### **Changes in this Week's Mass Schedule**

Please note our Pastor will be taking a week's vacation this week Monday, October 28 to Thursday, October 30. Mass will be offered Monday morning October 28 at 8AM.

### **November Communion Calls**

Holy Communion will be brought to our sick and shut-ins on Monday, November 4. A phone call will be made prior to Fr. Bill's visit.

### **All Saints Day**

We celebrate the Feast of All Saints, a holy day of obligation on Friday, November 1. Masses will be offered at 8AM in St. Stephen's and 6:30PM in St. Clare. As is customary, we need volunteers to lector, serve and EM.

Mass Times	Lector	EM	Servers
8AM (St. Stephen's)			
6:30PM (St. Clare)	Sabrina McLaughlin	John Houseknecht	

### All Souls Day

November is the month of All Souls, our time to remember those who have died and to offer our prayers for the souls in purgatory. All Souls Remembrances will be on our altar and our parish Book of Remembrance in all the Masses Fr. Bill offers. Thank you to Irene Mashack, once again, for the beautiful calligraphy work. Mass for All Souls will be offered on Saturday, November 2 at 8AM in St. Clare of Assisi.

Mass Time	Lector	EM	Servers
8AM St. Clare			

### A Friendly Reminder

Eastern Standard Time begins next Sunday, November 3 at 2AM. We “FALL” back so we get an extra hour of sleep that weekend. Make sure you turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 2.

### Tuesday November 5 is Election Day

On Tuesday, November 5, Pennsylvanians will head to the polls in a primary election. Here in Schuylkill County, we will elect: County Commissioners, a treasurer, a county controller, a prothonotary, clerk of courts, register of wills, recorder of deeds, and coroner.

As a nation, we share many blessings and strengths, including a tradition of religious freedom and political participation. However, as a people, we face serious challenges that are both political and moral. This has always been so and as Catholics we are called to participate in public life in a manner consistent with the mission of our Lord, a mission that he has called us to share. This participation is our obligation as not only American citizens; but also Catholics TO VOTE. We should have informed consciences regarding those candidates that will protect human rights, dignity, and a good life for all peoples.

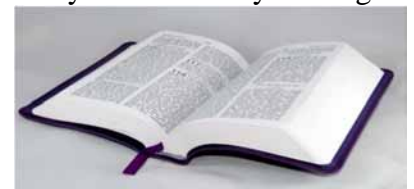
### Bus Trip to St. Ann’s Shrine, Scranton

**On Saturday, November 16 our Confirmation Class will be making their Confirmation Retreat at St. Ann’s Shrine, Scranton, PA. Every 8<sup>th</sup> Grader intending to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in both St. Clare and St. Stephen is expected to attend the retreat along with either a parent, Confirmation sponsor, or a responsible adult (over the age of 18). The Confirmandi go for FREE which also includes lunch. The bus will leave from the Carroll St. Parking lot at 7:15AM.**

**We also wish to invite any interested parishioner who would like to visit the Shrine to join us for the day which includes lunch and Mass. Cost will be \$20.**

### Bible Study to Prepare for Sunday Readings

Our weekly scripture study of the Sunday readings will meet after the 8AM Mass on Thursday, October 31. All are invited to listen and share

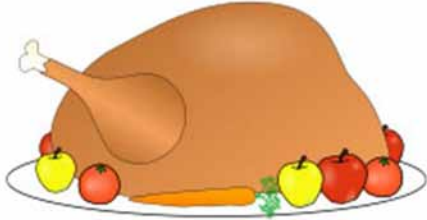



**Fall Fest Update**  
The time has come to auction off all those great prizes that have been accumulating in the church basement. Still time to “Shop and Drop” on Saturday, October 26, from 3:00-6:00 and Sunday, October 27, from 9AM until time of auction @ 2PM. The basket winners will be drawn beginning at 2PM, but you do not need to be present to win. Delicious food including Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Pulled Pork, Chicken Fingers, *FRESH CUT* French Fries, Soups, and baked goods available both Saturday & Sunday. Don’t forget to bring along an extra \$ or two to take a chance on the Trick or Treat Bag containing lottery tickets or on the Basket of Cheer! And check your cutlery at home—Rada knives and other cutlery will be available through a catalog sale. Hope you plan to attend and join in the fun and festivities!!

thoughts and details on the Sunday readings so we can be understand and apply them to our lives.

### **Holy Apostles Episcopal Church Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner**

Once again our parish of St. Clare of Assisi is helping with Holy Apostles' Thanksgiving Dinner for the members of our local community who are



homebound or have no one to share holiday dinner. **If you wish to donate a 12-14 lb. turkey, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY BEFORE PURCHASING!**

### **Parish Work Parties**

- Saturday, November 9: cleaning of Immaculate Conception Church
- Saturday, December 7: decorating the rectory and exterior for Christmas, bring up wreathes and trees from storage
- Sunday, December 22: setting up Christmas figurines in manger and arranging of flowers

### **St. Clare's Next Big Fundraiser**



On Saturday, December 7 from 5-7PM, the parish is offering a "Coal Region Special Ethnic Dinner."

The platter will include: a piece of smoked Kowalonek's Kielbasy, Halupkie, Haluskie, and Kugel (a baked bleenie), apple sauce, a beverage, and dessert. All this food for \$12.00 – eat in after Mass or take out.

Advanced Sale Tickets go on sale Sunday, October 27 at the Fall Fest: Choose & Win. Our goal is to sell 150 tickets or better.

We are in need of help for this fundraiser to be another success – food prep, hall set-up, Saturday morning heating food, table servers, takeout station, and clean up.

### **Upcoming Events**

**October 26-27 New SCA Revised Parish Event, "Fall Fest" (formerly Chinese Auction)**  
**November 9 St. Clare Parish Work Party**  
**November 16 Confirmation Retreat**  
**December 7 St. Clare Parish Work Party**  
**December 7 NEW SCA Parish Event!—Ethnic Dinner following 4PM Mass**  
**December 8 St. Stephen 50/50 Drawing**  
**December 22 St. Clare Parish Work Party**  
**March 14 First Penance**  
**March 22-24 Parish Lenten Mission "The 10 Commandments"**  
**April 29 Confirmation at St. John's**  
**May 3 First Communion at St. Stephen's**  
**May 17 First Communion at St. Clare**

### **St. Stephen News**

The Friends of St. Stephen wish to thank Everyone who supported its recent Lottery Board Raffle. The winner was Cathy B. from Summit Station. A total of \$527 was raised for our parish.

Trick or Treat – Friends of St. Stephen's will distribute candy during Port Carbon Trick or Treat Night on Halloween (Thu Oct 31). The fun begins at 6 pm on the Valley Street steps!

St. Stephen Advent 50-50 Drawing – Sun Dec 8 – tickets are on sale beginning today, October 27! Sellers are needed – if you are interested in taking tickets to sell, please contact Sue at (570) 449-8985, or see one of our members after Sunday Mass to help make our effort a success.

### **St. Stephen Celebrant Schedule**

October 27 Father Bill  
November 1 (All Saints) Msgr. Handges  
November 3 Father Connolly

### **Attention Contractors, Plumbers, Electricians, Exterminators and Handymen**

\*\*Also open to interested Professionals and Caregivers!

There will be a FREE seminar on How to Protect Your Elderly Customers from SCAM artists. This will be Thursday, November 14 in St. Clare of Assisi Hall beginning at 6:30PM. A free meal will be provided.

## Sunday Mass Attendance – Week of October 20, 2019

4PM: 213 people (40 from St. Stephen)

8:30AM 127 people

9:30AM 83 people

10:30AM 127 people

## Sunday Collections -- Week of October 13, 2019

St. Clare

Plate: \$4,281.00

Building Fund: \$1,125.00

Candles: \$93.00

St. Stephen

Plate: \$2,116.00

Cemetery: \$334.00

## Sunday Collections – Week of October 20, 2019

St. Clare

Plate: \$4,137.00

Heat & Energy: \$1,076.00

Building Fund: \$160.00

Cemetery: \$25.00

AD Times: \$15.00

Mission Sunday: \$603.00

Candles: \$81.00

St. Stephen

Plate: \$2,148.00

Fuel & Heat: \$301.00

Mission Sunday: \$273.00

Cemetery: \$11.00

## Very Important PREP Information

Our Parish Religious Education Program has begun. The program meets every Wednesday from 6-7:30PM at Nativity High School. Visit the PREP website: [www.stcstsprep.weebly.com](http://www.stcstsprep.weebly.com) for information about schedules and upcoming events, time changes or cancellations.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our ministry to the sick via our prayer shawls has quieted down but our ladies are still knitting away and we have many prayer shawls available. If you have a loved one who is chronically ill, elderly or in need of prayers, please ask us for a prayer shawl. Each prayer shawl is hand-



made and the person knitting it prays while making it. The prayer intention is for a person who is sick or in need of prayers. It is our hope that the prayers of our entire parish family bring comfort and healing to this person.

Please watch the bulletin for an upcoming evening Mass offered for the sick of the parish and the blessing of prayer shawls.

## Halloween & the Irish

**Did one ever think where Halloween customs came from? Well they came from the Celts back in the 4<sup>th</sup> century.**

**Dressing in Costume: Even though Christianized by the likes of St. Canicus, Kieran, and Columban (and other Irish monks), on Halloween the Celts believed that the spirits and ghosts of the dead came back to roam the earth. People wore masks and “dressed up” in an outfit to look like one of the spirits to avoid being recognized as one of the living.**

**Jack-O-Lanterns: On the Emerald Island lived a miserable man named Jack who tricked the devil. Unable to enter heaven or hell after death, he was destined to roam the earth listlessly.**

**Jack placed a burning ember of coal in a carved out turnip and used it as a lantern to keep**



**evil spirits away. When the Irish migrated to America, turnips were replaced with pumpkins.**

**Trick or Treating: In preparation for All Hallows Eve (the Feast of All Saints), the poor would call upon the rich folks and request money, gifts, and food. The food was gathered for a huge, communal feast of the poor.**

**When St. Patrick came upon the scene in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, he helped to dissolve more fully the pagan significance of Halloween, but the fun persisted even coming across the Atlantic Ocean to America.**

## St. Michael's Election Day Pork & Sauerkraut

Parish Center Cafeteria, 538 Sunbury St., Minersville, Tuesday, November 5, 12 noon to 6PM. Eat In or Take Out. Adult \$9.00; Child (under 10) \$5.00, includes Pork 'N Kraut, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce, roll, beverage & dessert.

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[www.stjohnneumanncouncil14009.org](http://www.stjohnneumanncouncil14009.org)



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