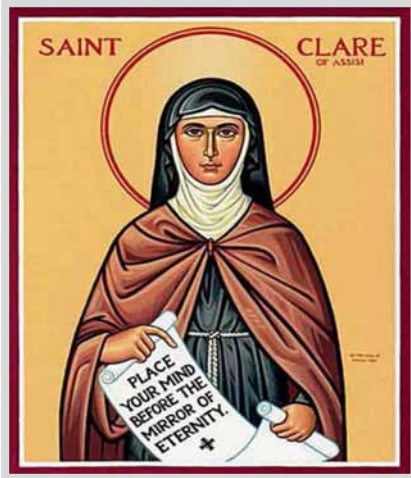


# THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI & SAINT STEPHEN

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.weebly.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

+++++

**Dear Padre,**

***A neighboring parish has eliminated the exchange of peace and sharing of the cup at Mass during flu season. Should our parish be concerned, too?***

The flu is contagious about twenty-four hours before symptoms develop, so churches make prudent decisions to help prevent its transmission. Should your parish be concerned? Yes. Panicked? No. Some churches take precautions to mitigate the spread of germs—such as bowing toward one another instead of shaking hands at the exchange of peace—but the risk of contracting an illness by taking one sip from a communion vessel is low. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there's a risk, but it is so small, it's barely detectable. The wine's alcohol content in a chalice made of precious metal helps minimize the risk. Communicants can further diminish this risk by refraining from the cup when they're sick with a respiratory infection or suffer from a compromised immune system. Ministers should do their part by wiping the chalice rim thoroughly with the purificator and rotating it after each communicant. It's advisable to use a clean cloth at every Mass, and the cup is best washed with soap and hot water before storing.

The Church teaches that Christ, whole and entire, is received even under only one species (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 282*). While drinking from the cup is an option, not an imposition, "Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds" (*GIRM 281*). For in this form the Eucharist clearly expresses the eternal Covenant ratified in the Blood of Christ.

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**November 10, 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.

**Monday, November 11, 2019**  
**NO MASS SCHEDULED**

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019**  
**8AM Joseph & Margaret Rutecki**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**  
**8AM Geraldine Palokas**

**Thursday, November 14, 2019**  
**8AM Thomas Konitsky**

**Friday, November 15, 2019**  
**8AM In Honor of David Romanko's 90<sup>th</sup>**  
**Birthday**

**Saturday, November 16, 2019**  
**4PM St. Clare Vigil Mass for Sunday—Joseph,**  
**Margaret, and Cathy Shellhamer**  
**St. Stephen Intention—Donald Dodd**

**Sunday, November 17, 2019 Thirty-third Sunday**  
**in Ordinary Time**  
**8:30AM Patricia Cleary**  
**9:30AM at St. Stephen—Donald J. Burns**  
**10:30AM Mary M. Betz**

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

It is during the month of November, that we remember all those who have died—our families, friends, members of our faith community, our neighbors of Port Carbon and St. Clair. We also remember those who have died homeless (without family or friends) and those who have tragically or violently died. During this month of All Souls please pray for these people and all the poor souls in purgatory. We remember all of the deceased at every Mass this month offered by our pastor especially those whose names are inscribed in our Book of Remembrance and on our altar.

It is also in this month of November, we recall the end of our Church or liturgical year. The last Sunday of November is the Solemnity of Christ the King. This is the last Sunday of our Church Year where we pray for Christ's return as our merciful judge and our glorious king who finally destroys the tyranny of sin and evil. Our scripture readings for these last remaining weeks focus on the end times and of death; but more importantly, they also affirm the Resurrection. We are a people of hope, because we believe that death is not the end. Death is a new beginning to our hope of

eternal life to comfort us as we recall our beloved dead and our own mortality.

#### **Second Collections**

**St. Clare of Assisi: November 10 will be for the Building Fund (Team 3). November 17 will be for Heat & Energy (Team 4).**

**St. Stephen: This week's will be for Cemetery Upkeep. Next week's will be for Fuel & Heat.**

#### **Veterans Day**

Veterans Day falls on the second Monday in November this year. The federal holiday is celebrated every year on Nov. 11, regardless of the day of the week on which it falls. First recognized as Armistice Day in 1919, Veterans Day marks the date when Germany and the allies signed a 1918 agreement to cease World War I hostilities. The fighting ceased on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day, saying: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory."

We salute those in our parishes who have served us to keep our great nation and us free. Naturally our greatest freedom is to be with God in Heaven – free from all anxiety, fear, and illness. Our Veterans provided us with the freedom of living in the greatest country in the world.

#### **Bus Trip to St. Ann's Shrine, Scranton & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreat Updated Information**

The trip is this Saturday November 16, 2019. Monday noon is the last day for parishioners to sign up. The cost for the Confirmation class is FREE. Chaperones and parishioners, the cost is \$20 which includes lunch. Every 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmandi is expected to attend the retreat whether you attend St. Clair, Pottsville, or Assumption BVM. This is a parish event. Each student should bring a chaperone: parent, Confirmation sponsor or an adult (over 18).  
7:30AM Depart from Carroll St. Lot  
9AM Arrival at St. Ann's Shrine, Scranton  
9:15AM

- Talk on St. Ann
- Talk on Confirmation
- Tour/ Stations or Rosary

12PM Mass in Basilica

12:30PM Lunch

1PM Departure

2PM Arrival back Carroll St. Lot

## The Celebration of Advent

In the four weeks of Advent, we attempt to make tangible some of our spiritual preparations for Christmas.

### St. Nicholas Shoes

Saturday, November 30/Sunday, December 1: We ask our children to bring one of their shoes to church this weekend (marked with one's name). Friday, December 6 is the Feast of St. Nicholas, a great saint who became Santa Claus. For every shoe placed in front of the altar 11/30 & 12/1, the child will find treats from St. Nicholas in their shoe on December 7 & 8.

### Welcome the Season

At 6PM on the First Sunday of Advent evening, December 1, join us in a solemn celebration of Advent Vespers featuring Tammy Wapinsky and some of her students. The service will feature the Divine Office using Gregorian chant to sing the psalter (psalms). The service will also include the solemn lighting of the Advent Wreath and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar at 5PM. Confessions will also be heard from 5-6PM and following Vespers.

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

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

**By Request:** There will also be a Children's Meal offered. Mac & Cheese and chicken fingers for \$6.00. **Advanced Sale Tickets Only!** 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. Please see the volunteer insert in this bulletin or the chart in the rear of church.

Attention Bakers! We need cakes, cookies, and pies to serve at the dinner. Would you please help us out with dessert?

There will also be a 50/50 and a raffle.



### **St. Stephen News**

St. Stephen Advent 50-50 Drawing – Sun Dec 8 – tickets are on sale now! 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.

The Friends of St. Stephen will host a Coffee Social after Mass on Sunday, November 10. We will meet outside the side entrance, weather permitting, or in the vestibule at the rear entrance. Come join us for fellowship and a sample of Sue's pumpkin roll.

### **Celebration of Immaculate Conception (A Holy Day BUT NOT an Obligation this year)**

Due to December 8 falling on a Sunday this year, the Church celebrates the Second Sunday of Advent instead of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We will observe the Immaculate Conception on Monday, December 9 with Mass at 8AM in the former Immaculate Conception Church. Because the holy day falls on a Monday the obligation to attend Mass that day is removed.

### **Parish Work Parties**

- Saturday, December 7: decorating the rectory and exterior for Christmas, bring up wreaths and trees from storage
- Sunday, December 22: setting up Christmas figurines in manger and arranging of flowers

### **PREP Confessions Before Christmas**

On Wednesday, December 4, Grades 3-8 will report to St. Clare of Assisi Church at 6PM for Confessions. There will be a couple of priests to make confessions going quickly. Parents are asked to stay (and consider making your own confession for Christmas) as your child can depart as soon as their confession is heard. Grades K through 2, will have the evening off.

PREP 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.

### **Upcoming Events**

**November 16 Confirmation Retreat**

**December 4 PREP Confessions**

**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 Celebrant Schedule**

November 10 Father Maletz  
 November 17 Father Bill  
 November 24 Msgr. Handges

**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.

<b>WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>10/27/19</b>
Contributions - Sunday Envelopes	\$ 4,000
Contributions - Other Sunday Giving (loose)	\$ 400
Total Plate	\$ 4,400
Needed to meet Church Budget	\$ 4,558
Total Contributions 7/1/19 to now	\$ 78,640
YTD Budget to now	\$ 77,481
Total Over (Under) Budget	\$ 1,159

**Sunday Mass Collections for November 3 not available by deadline.**

<b>Sunday Mass Attendance</b>	<b>11/3/2019</b>
4 PM	218
8:30 AM	154
9:30 AM	76
10:30 AM	153

**Congratulations to the Nativity’s Golden Girls Volleyball Team**

Nativity’s Girls Volleyball under the mentorship of veteran Coach Jenn Daubert won their second straight District 11 Class A volleyball championship on October 30. The Golden Girls were Hershey bound November 5. As this bulletin needed to go to press before Tuesday, we hope they advanced to the State title. Congratulations to our parishes’ parishioners –

Kierstyn Strausser and Brianna Honish and their fellow team mates.

**Prayers for “6”**

We ask for your healing prayers for North Schuylkill quarterback, Jayden Leiby #6 who was seriously injured while making a tackle on October 28.

**Upcoming Thanksgiving Day Dinners Holy Apostles Episcopal Church Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner**

If you wish to donate a turkey to help the cause, it is important to call the rectory prior to your purchase. We do not want to have more turkeys than what can be used. If we receive turkeys now they can be frozen; closer to Thanksgiving they must be thawed. We need 9 more turkeys.

If you wish to donate a 12-14 lb. turkey, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY BEFORE PURCHASING!

**Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Dinner**

The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will be delivering a Turkey Dinner complete with turkey, filling, yams, gravy, vegetable and dessert to all Schuylkill County residents in need on Thanksgiving Day. If you know of a person in need of a meal, or if you are a person in need of a meal, call 570-628-3333, 570-617-5771 or 570-516-9514. If no one answers, leave your Name and Telephone Number and someone will return your call. Deadline to order is November 22 at 5pm.

**Diocesan Men’s Conference Saturday, November 23**

Saturday, November 23 at DeSales University, join Bishop Schlert, Fr. Jim Greenfield (president of DeSales), Sam Guzman (editor of the Catholic Gentleman), Gus Lloyd (radio host of Seize the Day), and Dr. Ralph Martin (Catholic author) for **Standing Firm in Faith**. Registration information can be found in the rear of the Church.

**Chosen, Blessed, Shared Endowment for the Care of Retired Priests**

In your mail you will be receiving from the diocese information about the Annual Campaign for the Care of our Retired and Infirm Priests of the diocese who have served faithfully in our parishes. Please be generous to this campaign.

## RECENT MEMORIALS

### St. Clare of Assisi

#### In Memory of Joan C. Brennan

\$20 MaryAnn & Joe Stencovage  
\$15 Betty Greenback  
\$20 Nikki Balulis  
\$20 Robert Whalen  
\$20 Tom Maley  
\$30 Dottie, Pat, & Tim Hand

#### In Memory of Joseph Mashack

\$30 Mary Kratzer

#### In Memory of Robert J. Panchari

\$200 Barbara & Dean Padfield  
\$70 Friends at Empire  
\$25 Lynn A. Harkins  
\$25 Janet & David Allan Gilli  
\$50 Deb & Bob Shaud  
\$30 Richard Tomko  
\$100 Theresa Panchison & Family  
\$15 Dolores Lipinsky  
\$50 William & Midge Umbenhaur  
\$10 Betty Adamick  
\$10 Joan & John Holden  
\$10 Mr. & Mrs. Jay DeNapoli & Daughter

### St. Stephen

#### In Memory of Donald Burns

\$50 Bill & MaryAnn Pugh

### Opening of the Mass Book for 2020

**On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11/12-13-14 from 10am-12 noon, 1pm-3pm, the parish's Mass Intention Book will be opened to the parishioners to request Masses for the next year.** Some guidelines are set forth below to maintain a sense of fairness since there are frequently more Mass intentions to be requested than we have dates for Masses. We will try to honor your requests; but please remember the size of the parish and other parishioners' desires to also schedule Masses for their loved ones. A pastor may only accept enough Masses to be said in one year. (We currently have a backlog of Masses to be said). A pastor is required to say one Mass monthly for the living and deceased of the parish. (We are trying

to fulfill this obligation with Masses on Christmas, Easter, and **First Saturdays**).

1. Due to the large volume of requested Masses each year, we will only accept two (2) of the same intention for the year. We would recommend that if you have a large family, that you would consider making it a family intention as opposed for each individual member of your family.
2. Mass Intention requests for Saturdays and Sundays are the most requested day. This must be first come, first served. However, if you wish a Mass offered on a weekend, family members or their designees must bring up the offertory gifts.
3. Our pastor will do his very best to honor the requested dates for scheduled Masses. However, there might arise times where Masses need to be rescheduled to a later date or time. Your understanding in regards to this matter is sought.
4. Once the Mass Book is closed, no other intentions will be accepted. This is to assure that unsaid Masses from previous years are offered in proper fashion and to attempt to allow Mass being offered for someone who dies recently.
5. For deaths that occur within the course of the year, in addition to the funeral Mass, the pastor at his discretion will make every effort to provide another scheduled Mass for the recently deceased. Once again this might not always be possible because of the number of deaths that occur that year and to offer back Masses.
6. Mass Cards issued during the course of the year will not be given a celebration date. For instance, if John Doe passes away and 30 people request a Mass Card, the schedule will not allow 30 Masses to be said for John Doe in that given year.

This policy has been written with the fairness of all our parishioners in mind. It is the fact that a Mass is being offered for someone that is more important than when it is celebrated. For your loved one, every day in Heaven is their birthday, or Christmas, or the day of their being with God. Your cooperation will be deeply appreciated.



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