



**SAINT STEPHEN CHURCH**  
Oil City, PA

Rectory/Chapel	210 Reed St.	<b>677-3020</b>
St. Stephen Church	21 State St.	Oil City
St. Venantius	403 Main St.	Rouseville
St. Stephen School	214 Reed St.	<b>677-3035</b>
Venango Catholic H. S.	1505 W. First St.	<b>677-3098</b>
Religious Education	35 Pearl Ave.	<b>677-4004</b>
FAX #		<b>678-8841</b>

**SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**St. Stephen Church - 21 State Street, Oil City**  
Saturday: 5:30 pm Vigil  
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 11:30 am  
**St. Venantius Church - 403 Main St., Rouseville**  
Sunday: 10:00 am

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY February 1**  
7:00 AM James Stiller (Gene Olon)

**TUESDAY February 2, The Presentation of the Lord**  
7:00 AM Evelyn Driscoll (Evelyn & Fran Lauer)

**WEDNESDAY February 3, St. Blaise**  
7:00 AM Lawrence Grieff (Jim & Louise Colwell)

**THURSDAY February 4**  
7:00 AM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

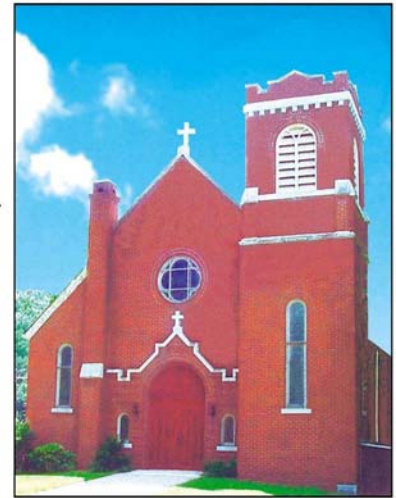
**FRIDAY February 5, St. Agatha**  
7:00 AM Rick M. English (Anna Mae Harry & Joe Leta)

**1:00 PM** (VCHS) Sally DeHaven (St. Stephen School Community)

**SATURDAY February 6, St. Paul Miki**  
7:00 AM Dr. Tod Todhunter (Family)  
5:30 PM (Vigil) Bill Herron (Polly)

**SUNDAY Febraury 7, 5<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday**  
7:30 AM Loretta Looby (Polly & the Cafeteria Workers)  
9:00 AM For Members of Our Parish Community  
**10:00 AM** (St. Venantius) Tom Radack (The Stack Family)  
11:30 AM Chuck & Nancy Deemer (Tom & Judy Karg)

**Rev. Matthew Ruyechan**, Pastor St. Stephen and Parochial Administrator, St. Venantius  
**Msgr. William C. ("Max") Karg**, Senior Associate  
**Rev. Mr. Terry Schmader**, Deacon  
**Mrs. Marge Hajduk**, Principal  
**Mrs. Dianne Phillips**, Religious Education Coordinator  
**Mrs. Kathy Mastalski**, Confirmation Coordinator  
**Mr. and Mrs. Brent/Laura Blake**, Youth Directors  
**Mrs. Tina McMahon**, Advancement Council Director



**SAINT VENANTIUS CHURCH**  
Rouseville, PA

**PRAYER NETWORK:**

Mary Firster (676-1219) or e-mail her at charm@cust.usachoice.net

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Baptisms on the 4th Sunday of the month. Please call the rectory to schedule an appointment for preparation sessions and Baptism.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Couples are to contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturdays at 4:00 pm at St. Stephen or by appointment.

**WEBSITE**

[www.saint-stephens.org](http://www.saint-stephens.org)

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:**

Monday, 12:00 noon

**THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY January 31**  
**Catholic Schools Week January 31-February 5**  
9-11 AM Religious Ed. – School  
See Inside for Retreat Information for Grades 7-8  
Noon-2 P.M. Open House for Helen Donze – OLHC  
4-6 P.M. Youth Group Cosmic Bowling – Masterson Lanes, Franklin

**MONDAY February 1**  
Forms Due from Public School Students wanting to become an Altar Server  
1:00 PM Monday Afternoon Club-School

**TUESDAY February 2**  
7:00 PM RCIA – Social Center

**WEDNESDAY February 3**  
Feast of St. Blaise  
(Throats will be blessed at all Masses next weekend)

**FRIDAY February 5**  
**FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNION CALLS THROUGHOUT THE MORNING**  
7:30-9 AM Adoration for First Friday - Chapel

**SATURDAY February 6**  
10 AM Pre-Baptism Class - St. Pat's, Franklin  
**10:00 AM-2 PM First Penance Retreat- Social Center**  
4:00 PM Confessions - Church

**Points to ponder from Fr. Matt**

Being a disciple for Jesus Christ we need keen insight, total commitment, and courage under fire. As evidenced in Jeremiah the most important need is to commit to God's love. We all experience resistance, mistrust, and rejection.

Jesus offered patience and kindness when he was rebuffed. May we follow the Lord's example in preparation for the Lenten season.

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The Feast of St. Blaise is Feb 3. We will bless throats at all the Masses on February 6-7.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1-7**

MON: ..... 2 Sm 15:13-30; 30:16:5-13  
TUES: ..... Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40  
WED: ..... 2 Sm 24:2-17/Mk 6:1-6  
THURS: ..... 1 Kgs 2:1-12/Mk 6:7-13  
FRI: ..... Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29  
SAT: ..... 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34  
SUN: ..... Is 6:1-8/1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 5:1-11

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** ~ In Jesus' day, there were some who refused to believe that a carpenter's son was capable of preaching or healing, and so they ridiculed Jesus instead of putting their faith in him. In today's world, we call this teasing or bullying. If your child has ever been teased or bullied, you know how painful it can be. Showing faith in your child gives them the courage to be strong in the midst of adversity.

**AN OPEN HOUSE:** Helen Caffrey Donze, long time member of St. Stephen Church, will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please come visit her during an Open House on TODAY, Sunday, (31<sup>st</sup>) at Our Lady Help of Christian Social Center from 12 to 2 p.m. She would love to see her family and friends young and old alike. Cards may be sent to 441 E. Bissell Avenue.

**ENCOURAGE THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** St. Valentine's Day will be here soon. Looking for a special gift for your spouse? What better than the gift of yourself and time away from your hectic schedule. February 19-21, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is the best gift for any married couple. Contact (814) 824-4600 or wwme.eriepa@gmail.com

**THE ROSARY SOCIETY** is having a "Tax Relief" 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased from members or at the rectory during normal business hours. The drawing will take place April 15.

**ST. VENANTIUS** has several dates open for the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Please call Jenny at 677-4230 to schedule.



**SPECIAL THANKS** to those in our Hospitality Group as well as others in the parish who have stepped up to volunteer to provide snacks for our RCIA class each Tuesday. If you would like to volunteer for an evening, please call Mary Firster at 676-1219.

**SERVERS FOR – FEBRUARY 6-7**

5:30 Rebecca/William Jones  
7:30 Leisel/Louis Kober  
9:00 Jonah Jones, Timothy/Daniel Staub  
11:30 Jennifer Flannigan/Mark Kulinski

**LECTORS FOR – FEBRUARY 6-7**

5:30 Rick McIntyre  
7:30 Sam Gordon  
9:00 Daniel Wheeler  
11:30 Leon Kulinski

**EUCCHARIST MINISTERS FOR – FEBRUARY 6-7**

5:30 Jean Allison, Max Dudzic, Maggie McMahon, Felicia Nelson, Doris Pickens  
7:30 Cynthia Noble, Diana Staab  
9:00 Bob/Rosalie Bablak, Donna/Joseph Jones, Dorothy Staub  
11:30 Bonnie Dart, Kathryn Ostroske, Barbara Plummer, Karen Shepard, Carol Sundo

**THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:**

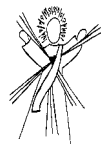
**YOUR PRAYERS** are requested for the happy repose of the souls of *Margaret (Peg) Holquist, James Pfenkler and James E. Gurnee* who died recently. May they rest in peace.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** those who are sick, in nursing homes or hospitalized, as well as those who serve us in the military.

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

We would like to thank **McMAHON BROTHERS INSURANCE (Malachy and Michael McMahon)** for sponsoring an ad weekly in our bulletin.

**SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:**



Thanks from all who have received meals from the *Welcome Home Group* and to all our cooks who prepare them. Anyone coming home from the hospital, having a baby or needing help can call Tina for meals at 676-0443.



**SPECIAL OFFERING**

**A SPECIAL COLLECTION will be taken up this weekend for Haiti Relief.**

Please make your checks payable to Catholic Charities of the Erie Diocese with a notation for "Haiti Relief". Bishop Trautman assures us that 100% of the donations received will be forwarded to Catholic Relief Services and will be used strictly to provide humanitarian relief in Haiti. A special envelope can be found in the pews for you to use.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:** Our local schools join all schools in the Erie Diocese and Catholic Schools throughout the United States in celebrating Catholic Schools week January 31-February 6. A full schedule of events is planned for students beginning with the 9 a.m. Mass today. Please continue to pray for our students and their teachers.

**BLESSING OF THROATS** will be administered next weekend at all Masses.

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**FIRST FRIDAY:** Fr. Matt, Msgr. Karg and a Eucharist Minister will visit and take Communion to our home bound in the morning. If you or someone you know who is unable to get to church and needs a visit, please call the rectory (677-3020) by Wednesday. Please consider spending some quiet time at Adoration after the 7:30 a.m. Mass in the Chapel until 9 a.m.

**ST. VENANTIUS** will be holding a tureen dinner TODAY (31<sup>st</sup>) at 3 p.m. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a well filled tureen and your own table service.

**RCIA** meets Tuesday, February 2 at 7 p.m. in the social center.



**THE YOUTH GROUP** will have a Family Cosmic Bowling Night at Masterson Family Lanes TODAY, Sunday, January 31 from 4-6 p.m. Family members of Youth Group members are welcome to attend! Moms, Dads, brothers and sisters. Cost is \$10 per person and includes unlimited Cosmic bowling, shoes, pizza, pop and snacks. Please have cash or check (payable to Oil City Catholic Youth Group) that night as the money will be collected and paid as a group. Permission slips only needed if parents do not attend and can be picked up at the rectory during normal business hours.

**NEW PRAYER NETWORK** list of petitions are available this weekend. Those who participate in praying for others intentions can pick up new schedules in the old baptistry this weekend.

**NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES** for Servers, Greeters, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers can be found in the server's sacristy. Please take a moment after Mass to pick up yours (one per family) and check off your name so that we know you received. The new schedule begins next weekend.

**RELIGIOUS ED NEWS:** We have our **regular classes** today. **All 7th Graders** will meet in the **Social Hall** at **9 am** for their class and meet their parents upstairs in the Church for the **11:30** Mass. **All 8th Graders** will meet at **St. Stephen School** with the rest of the students for classes and proceed down to Mass with Mr. Guth. They may also sit with their families. After Mass, all **7th & 8th Grade** students will proceed to the **Social Hall** for lunch & their retreat. **Parents** are asked to come to the **retreat** at **2:30 pm**.

**Please pray** for all of our students who are preparing for their **First Reconciliation** and who will be having their **retreat** on **Saturday, February 6** at **St. Stephen Social Hall** from **10 am** to **2 pm**. Students must bring a **lunch** and their **8 lesson booklet**. Refreshments will be provided and dress is casual.

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING:** Registration forms for Public School students interested in becoming Altar Servers are in the Servers Sacristy. The forms should be completed, signed by a parent and returned to the rectory by February 1. Training sessions will be in March.



**CAN YOU HELP?** A volunteer is needed to take Communion to the homebound on the weekend. If you are not currently a Eucharistic Minister, someone will train you to take Communion and visit parishioners unable to get to church. This only involves a few hours a year. If you can help or have any questions, please call Tina at 676-0443.

We are most grateful to those who currently visit and take Communion so faithfully to our homebound.

## ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK activities include:

Monday: Guardian Angel Day

Tuesday: "Bring a guest to lunch day"

Wednesday: Wear pajamas to school, a movie, Teacher Luncheon, and make valentine cards for nursing homes.

Thursday: Crazy George basketball show at 1:30 p.m. and a Prayer Service, Family Entertainment and fellowship at VCHS at 7 p.m.

Friday: Students from St. Stephen, VC and St. Patrick will spend the day together at VC with a Mass at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Our boy's team plays I.C. at 1 p.m. today (31<sup>st</sup>) at school and host St. Joseph's Saturday (6<sup>th</sup>) at 11 a.m. in the school gym. Come support our team.

Lottery tickets for February/March will be available after Masses this weekend or you can contact the school.

AN OPEN HOUSE for prospective parents & students on February 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. We invite you to come and see what Catholic Education is all about. During this Open House you will be able to see the classroom in action. If you have any immediate questions you will be able to address them at that time. Applications for tuition assistance are available to those who qualify. The STAR Grant Applications are due to the Diocese by March 31, 2010. Please call the school for an application.

## VENANGO CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

This week we will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. Thursday is a Prayer Service at 7 p.m. and on Friday all local elementary Catholic schools will spend the day at V.C., with many planned activities and an all school Mass at 1 p.m.

Boy's basketball: Wed. (3<sup>rd</sup>) at E. Forest; Friday at Redbank Valley. All games start at 6 p.m.

Girl's basketball: Tuesday (2<sup>nd</sup>) at E. Forest; Friday at Redbank Valley. All games start at 6 p.m.



**THE NEXT BAPTISMAL PREPARATION** class in our area will be held at St. Patrick's in Franklin next Saturday, February 6 at 10 a.m. in the Staff Room of Dion Auditorium. Parents who wish to participate in the Sacrament of Baptism for their child must attend if you haven't attended in the last 3 years. Please call 437-5763 for reservations.

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH** will be having an adult education series for the Lenten season. Watch for more details.

**ALSO: A SPAGHETTI DINNER**, hosted by St. Joseph Church, will be held Sunday, February 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the *Knights of Columbus*, 111 Petroleum St. in the social hall. The Rosary Society will also have a bake sale during the dinner. Chair massage therapy will also be offered with the proceeds to benefit St. Joseph Parish. Cost: Adults: \$6; Seniors/Students: \$5; Children 6-10: \$2; children 5 & under: Free.

**A CASINO BUS TRIP** is being organized by St. Joseph Church to Seneca Allegheny in Salamanca on February 27. The bus will leave K-Mart parking lot at 8 a.m. and return at 8 p.m. \$20 in slot points and \$5 in food. Cost: \$30. For reservations call Clara Taft @ 676-6954 or Minnie Fink @ 677-4381.

**A PRE-CANA session**, sponsored by St. Patrick Church, for those preparing for marriage will be held at St. Thomas More House of Prayer Saturday and Sunday, February 20-21. Please call the parish office (437-5763) to pre-register.