



**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

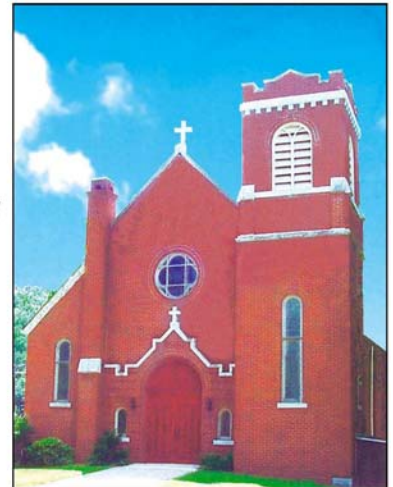
**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>February 22, The Chair of St. Peter</b>
7:00 AM	Reed Cronin LaVerde (Malachy, Dolly & Logan & our Angel Cole)
12:10 PM	(Church) Marvin Smith (Gordon/Pat Bickel)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>February 23</b>
7:00 AM	Martha Kamer (Family)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>February 24</b>
7:00 AM	Dec'd Sisters of St. Joseph (Sr. Emilie Rose)
12:10 PM	(Church) Bill Herron (Rick/Shari Cook)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>February 25</b>
7:00 AM	Loretta Leicht
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>February 26</b>
7:00 AM	Florence O'Neil (Polly & Family)
12:10 PM	(Church) James Mong (Joann Ryan)
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>February 27</b>
7:00 AM	Thomas Molyreaux (Bill/Regina McGrail & Family)
5:30 PM	(Vigil) For Members of Our Parish Community
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>February 28, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>
7:30 AM	Mark Snyder (FSG Staff)
9:00 AM	Jay Wenner (Wife & Daughter)
<b>10:00 AM</b>	(St. Venantius) Richard Guyton (Janet Radack)
11:30 AM	John T. Wasil (Margaret VaKoucan)

**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**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>February 21</b>
	<b>FOOD COLLECTION FOR ST. ELIZABETH CENTER</b>
	<b>Rite of Election for RCIA – St. Peter's, Erie</b>
6:00 PM	Confirmation – Social Center
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>February 22</b>
1:00 PM	Monday Afternoon Club - School
6:30 PM	Msgr. Karg's Class - Social Center
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>February 23</b>
7:00 PM	RCIA – Social Center
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>February 24</b>
9:00 AM	Stations of the Cross – St. Venantius
8:30 AM	Registration at School – No Kindergarten
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>February 25</b>
10:30 AM	Servants of St. Stephen - Rectory
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>February 26</b>
11 AM-1:30 PM	Lenten Lunches – Social Center
5-6:45 PM	Fish Fry - VCHS
7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross - Church
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>February 27</b>
4:00 p.m.	Confessions – Church
4:00 p.m.	Peaceful Solutions-Social Center

**Points to ponder from Fr. Matt**

The temptations Jesus endured are the same temptations we face. We want to be in control. The goals of the temptations are admirable, namely feeding the hungry, controlling the world with goodness, and trusting in God's providence. However we choose to accomplish them in ways that are less than admirable.

Lent teaches us again to realize our human limitations. We have to let God be supreme for us. Lent is a time to be aware that **we are dust** and not just wear it on our foreheads.

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Please return your Catholic Service Appeal envelopes today. Please be generous in the spirit of Lent.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22-28**

MON: ..... 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19  
TUES:..... Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15  
WED:..... Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32  
THURS:..... Est C 12:14-25/Mt 7:7-12  
FRI: ..... Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26  
SAT: ..... Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48  
SUN:..... Gn 15:5-18/Phil 3:17—4:1/Lk 9:28-36

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** ~ Jesus was led by the Spirit into "the wilderness." What is the wilderness to which the Holy Spirit is leading you this Lent? Are there uncharted areas in your marriage or family you avoid? Lent is not about making up our own plan, but letting God work out His plan in us.

**HAITI RELIEF:** Special thanks to all who so generously contributed to the relief efforts for Haiti. A check for \$7,516.00 was sent to Catholic Charities. Bishop Trautman assures us that 100% of the donations received will be used strictly to provide humanitarian relief.



**CALVARY/ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY NEWS:**

The mausoleum is open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. weekends. The wreaths purchased through the cemetery will be removed by cemetery personnel in March. Please note also that all

other artificial decorations; flowers, wreaths, etc., must be removed prior to the end of March.



**ST. PATTY'S DAY DANCE** featuring *Southern Knights* will be held Saturday, March 20 at the K of C from 8 p.m. to midnight. Doors open at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Cash bar only ~ BYO munchies.

There will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are available at the door or at the K of C Club bar Wednesday through Saturday from 5-10 p.m. or call 677-2081.

**SERVERS FOR – FEBRAURY 27-28**

5:30 Nicholas/Haley Barletta  
7:30 Elliot/Hayley Donze  
9:00 Jonah Jones/Mark Kulinski  
11:30 Jenna/Paige Loll, Julia Serbati

**LECTORS FOR – FEBRUARY 27-28**

5:30 Geralyn Neely  
7:30 Mike Horos  
9:00 Deb Lutz  
11:30 Connie Hall

**EUCCHARIST MINISTERS FOR – FEBRUARY 27-28**

5:30 Mareeta Durney, Ellen Flickner, Donna Goodman, Sandra Kerchner, Karen Shepard  
7:30 Cheryl Donze, Cynthia Noble  
9:00 Mike Deibert, Donna/Joseph Jones, Kathy/Leon Kulinski  
11:30 Bill/Elaine Klapec, Felicia Nelson, Dorothy Staub, Carol Sundo

**THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:**

**YOUR PRAYERS** are requested for the happy repose of the souls of *Marvin Gayetty and Thomas Wiltanger*. 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 *JANNEY, Howard Gierling, Don Ion & Alyssa Prettyman at 36 Seneca Street* for sponsoring an ad weekly in our bulletin.

**A DONATION TO the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Fund was made for Joseph S. Puleo** by Anna Mae Wilbert & Family.



**SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:**

*Coordinators* will meet Thursday (25<sup>th</sup>) at 10:30 a.m. at the Rectory.



**THE CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL** ~ Today is Commitment weekend for the Catholic Service Appeal. Our parish goal is \$82,000 and we would like to see all members of our parish make a gift to support this appeal. We will be reminded over the next few weeks why it is important for us to support

the CSA. Remember that any amount raised above our goal stays in this parish. No pledge is too small or too big.

We are grateful to many faithful parishioners who continue to make payments on our last campaign.

**EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES** were included in your February packet. Please feel free to put in the collection anytime. The deadline to submit to be published for Easter will be March 29<sup>th</sup>.

**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. The drawing will take place April 15.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



**RITE OF SENDING:** Today our parish sends those seeking the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter to meet Bishop Trautman at a ceremony at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie, known as the Rite of Election. In this ceremony, the Bishop accepts their intention to complete their preparation during Lent. After our 11:30 Mass today, we “send” them with our prayers and support.

### LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES:

**Daily Mass** is offered at 7 a.m. in the Reed Street Chapel and at 12:30 at Church on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during Lent.

**Stations of the Cross** at 9 a.m. each Wednesday at St. Venantius and on Friday at St. Stephen’s at 7 p.m.

**“Cry Justice, Cry Hope”** – Sessions Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the social center, begins February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Msgr. Karg and Sisters Clare Marie and Marian will lead you through this booklet by Sister Joan Chittister. The cost of the booklet is \$5.

**Rice Bowls** are available at the church entrances. Take one home and return at the end of Lent. Have one sacrificial meal at home and save the money that would typically be spent on a larger meal. Your gift will help feed the hungry.

**Fasting:** All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence from meat for those 14 years of age and older. They are also days of fasting for those ages 18-59 (whose health permits), meaning one full meal and 2 smaller meals. Eating between meals is not permitted. For complete Lenten regulations, visit [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org).

**Confession** is offered every Saturday at 4 p.m. at Church. Again this year all the priests in the area will be offering more opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent. Dates, times and locations will be published soon.



**LENTEN LUNCHESES** are back! Join us Fridays in Lent (except Good Friday) in the social center from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Plan on attending Mass at 12:10 p.m. and then enjoy lunch downstairs. The menu will include soups, a variety of sandwiches, salad and desserts as well as hot/cold beverages. DONATIONS for any of these items or monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Please call Evelyn at 677-6079 if you would like to donate.

**RCIA** will meet Tuesday (23<sup>rd</sup>) in the Social Center.

**CONFIRMATION** class this evening (Sunday) at 6 p.m. in the social center.

**THE FOOD COLLECTION** this weekend will be given to the St. Elizabeth Center. Please leave your donations in the blue bins at the church entrances.

**PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS Prayer group** will meet Saturday, February 27 at 4 p.m. in the social center (weather permitting). Please feel free to join others in prayer.

**MONDAY AFTERNOON CLUB** meets at 1 p.m. (22<sup>nd</sup>) at school.

**RELIGIOUS ED. NEWS:** Congratulations to our students at St. Stephen’s who celebrated First Penance this weekend (20<sup>th</sup>). Please continue to pray for students at St. Joseph and Assumption who will celebrate February 27<sup>th</sup> and Our Lady Help of Christian celebrate February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Class will be held February 21 and 28 at the regular time.

### ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

St. Stephen School will be having registration on February 24<sup>th</sup> for Kindergarten thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade from 9 am-11am and noon-2:30 pm. Tuition assistance forms are available for families who qualify and some applications are due by March 31. Those who attend should take the following information: immunization records, birth certificate (child must be 5 before Aug. 1, 2010), birth dates of other children in the family, baptismal certificate (if not baptized in St. Stephen Church), child’s social security number and a baby book (for health history). There will be a \$50 per family registration fee, which will be applied to the 2010-11 tuition. Please call the school for more information 677-3035.

Congratulations to the Boys Basketball team and the Cheerleaders for hosting a successful tournament last weekend. Thank you to our athletic committee, coaches, parents and fans that supported the games or helped in any way.

The next **SoupFest** will be Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Plan to come and sample some of the many different homemade soups offered. Mark your calendars...tell your friends...and watch for more details in upcoming bulletins.

### VCHS NEWS

Come to the all you can eat Fish Fry served each Friday in Lent (except Good Friday) from 5-6:45 p.m. Menu includes baked or fried fish, baked potato or French fries, coleslaw, beverages and dessert. Cost is \$8.50/adults; \$8/seniors; \$6/students; preschool is \$3.50 and pizza is \$2/slice. Take out available at 4:45 p.m. Proceeds benefit the students.

Donations are still being accepted for the “Realityworks” Real Care Baby infant simulators. Your gift, no matter how big or how small, can be made to VC with a notation for “Real Care Baby.”

**THE BUS TRIP** to Salamanca, sponsored by St. Joseph’s will leave K-Mart parking lot next Saturday (27<sup>th</sup>) at 8 a.m. and return at 8 p.m.

**ASSUMPTION Parish** will offer Polish Lenten services Sundays at 3 p.m. (Bitter Lamentations) & Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7 p.m.

They will have pierogis for sale on Tuesday’s during Lent. Prices are \$8 per dozen for Potato/Velveeta or Potato/Cottage Cheese and \$9 a dozen for sauerkraut. This week (16<sup>th</sup>) is Velveeta. Call 677-3885 anytime or 677-4015 from 7 – 10 a.m. Monday for Tuesday pickup.



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Friday, March 5, people of many faith traditions will join together in a day of prayer to support millions of God’s people suffering from violence, exploitation, poverty and devastation in Haiti. All are invited to participate in Individual Prayer Reflections locally: 7 am-3 pm at Trinity United Methodist; 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Titus; 3a.m. – 7 p.m. Venango Campus AND the Official World Day of Prayer Service at 7 p.m. at Rhoades Auditorium, Venango Campus.

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET, Benediction and Adoration** will be held Wednesday, February 24 at Assumption at 7:07 p.m. Join us in praying for our Priests in *the year of the priest*.

**RECYCLE your old CELL PHONES** and help out area Catholic schools. Just drop off your old cell in the special box in the servers sacristy or take them to VC or St. Stephen’s.