



SAINT STEPHEN CHURCH Oil City, PA

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

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 March 1
7:00 AM John Dudzic (Peg & Jo)
12:10 PM (Church) Greg Pickens (K of C, Council #385)

TUESDAY March 2
7:00 AM Rick M. English (Frank/Sandy Machokas)

WEDNESDAY March 3
7:00 AM Doris Hargenrader (Theresa Guyton)
12:10 PM (Church) James Nelson (Felix Skiba)

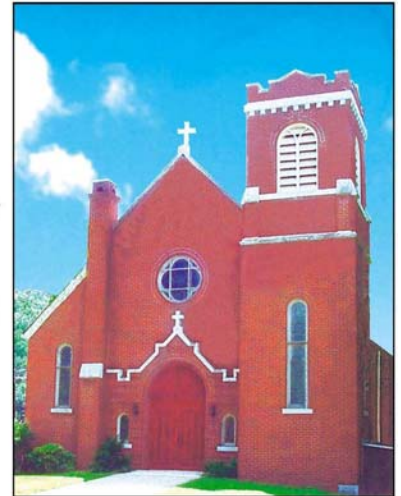
THURSDAY March 4
7:00 AM Sally & Leonard Valeski (Ted Jasielski)

FRIDAY March 5
7:00 AM Pat Kase (Fran & Frank)
12:10 PM (Church) Ed Cudzil (K of C, Council #385)
1:45 PM (School) Jeanne Lynch (Bill/Karen Gaddess)

SATURDAY March 6
7:00 AM For Our Bulletin Sponsors (Diocesan Publications)
5:30 PM (Vigil) Dave Goodman (Connie Sporer)

SUNDAY March 7, 3rd Sunday of Lent
7:30 AM Mary Lee Schossler (Family)
9:00 AM For Members of Our Parish Community
10:00 AM (St. Venantius) Tom Radaack (Jack Flannigan)
11:30 AM Frank W. Bechtel Jr. (Laura & Joseph Bechtel & Family)

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Monday, 12:00 noon

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY February 28
9-11 AM Religious Ed – School
6:00 PM Youth Group – Social Center

MONDAY March 1
1:00 PM Monday Afternoon Club - School
6:30 PM Msgr. Karg's Class - Social Center

TUESDAY March 2
7:00 PM RCIA – School

WEDNESDAY March 3
9:00 AM Stations of the Cross – St. Venantius
6:00 PM Festival Mtg. – Social Center

FRIDAY March 5
FIRST FRIDAY
Communion Calls throughout the morning
7:30-9 AM Adoration – Chapel
11 AM-1:30 PM Lenten Lunches – Social Center
5-6:45 PM Fish Fry - VCHS
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross – Church

SATURDAY March 6
4:00 p.m. Confessions - Church

Points to ponder from Fr. Matt

God manifests himself in the Old Testament by establishing a covenant. God initiates the agreement and seals it with the blood of the sacrifice. It is historical yet timeless.

We ritualize the covenant in a religious setting but we are called to enter into the covenant through the ordinary events in our lives.

The Covenant provided by Christ is an historical moment yet has everlasting effects. God sent his Son and sealed it with the blood of the cross.

Bishop Trautman will celebrate 25 years as a Bishop, 20 years in our Diocese. We will offer 25 days of prayer for the Bishop beginning Monday March 1. Please remember him in your personal prayers. On April 13 the Bishop will celebrate at the Cathedral in Erie.

Catholic Service Appeal: The first week February 14 17 people pledged a total of \$7,962 .00. Thank you so much. Let us all make a pledge.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 7

- MON:Dn 9:4-10/Lk 6:36-38
- TUES:..... Is 1:10-20/Mt 23:1-12
- WED:.....Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
- THURS:.....Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
- FRI: Gn 37:3-28/Mt 21:33-46
- SAT:Mt 7:14-20/Lk 15:1-32
- SUN:..... Ex 3:1-15/1 Cor 10:1-6/Ex 3:1-15/Cor 10:1-6

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE ~ On the mountain the appearance of Jesus changed. It is common to show a different face outside our family. Only with those closest to us do we dare reveal our real selves. Love in marriage and in our families is based on mutual acceptance and trust. It's the real deal.

A PRE-BAPTISM CLASS for parents anticipating the birth or baptism of their child will be offered Saturday, March 27 at 11 a.m. in the social center. First time parents are required to attend as well as parents who have not attended a class in the last 3 years. Please call the rectory at 677-3020 to register.



FIRST PENANCE: Our 2nd graders celebrated the Sacrament of Penance for the first time last weekend. Please pray for them and congratulate them if you see them: Erica Amsdell, Leah Amsdell, Ashley Barletta, Natalia Booth, Emily Duncan, Alex Finch, Ryan Groner, Andrew Harris, Sophie Horner, Ryan Kalamajka, Matthew McQuaide, Joshua Pagnotta, Lovica Pagnotta, Madeline Plumer, Samuel Puleo, Hunter Redfield, Richard Schneider, Sarah Teeter, Katrena Wagner.

SERVERS FOR – MARCH 6-7

- 5:30 Ryan/Rachael Stewart
- 7:30 Bryanna/Brandon Xander
- 9:00 Michaela Wagner/Lena Wheeler
- 11:30 Joseph Hopwood/Shana Kennedy

LECTORS FOR – MARCH 6-7

- 5:30 Marcia Schumacher
- 7:30 Mary McNellie
- 9:00 Daniel Wheeler
- 11:30 Doug Kennedy

EUCHARIST MINISTERS FOR – MARCH 6-7

- 5:30 Jean Allison, Nancy Dengel, Max Dudzic, Susan Stewart/Richard Stewart
- 7:30 Tom McNellie/Jan Urban
- 9:00 Bob/Rosalie Bablak, Rob/Jan McCall, Deb Mitchell
- 11:30 Bonnie Dart, Mary Kay Gill, Tom Karg, Kate Ostroske, Barb Plummer

THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:

YOUR PRAYERS are requested for the happy repose of the souls of Viola Falconi, mother of Mary Chapman who died recently. May she 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 **VENANGO SUPPLY, Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning** for sponsoring an ad weekly in our bulletin.

A DONATION TO the 2nd Century Fund was made for Frank W. Bechtel Jr. by Laura & Joseph Bechtel & Family. Viola Falconi; by The Tuesday Night Card Club.

A DONATION TO the School was made for Ed Cudzil from Mary & Russell Colson.

SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:



Our *Mary's Mantle* group thanks all who have so generously donated yarn or made a donation to purchase yarn so others can make blankets for our newly baptized. We appreciate your stewardship of "time and talent".



LENTEN LUNCHESES, sponsored by the Rosary Society, will be served each Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the social center. Come to Mass at 12:10 p.m. then join us for lunch downstairs. Menu includes soups, a variety of sandwiches, salad and desserts as well as hot/cold beverages. Dine in or take out.

DONATIONS for any of these items including bread, crackers, lettuce or a monetary gift to help defray costs would be appreciated. If you like to bake and could provide a dessert or make a great soup you can share please call Evelyn at 677-6079. Proceeds benefit those in need in our community. Consider sharing your time and talent this Lent!

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL (CSA): We hope you have prayerfully considered what your gift to our campaign will be this year. If you haven't already submitted, please drop in the collection or mail to the rectory this week if possible. We are grateful to those who have already pledged and to all who continue to make payments on the last campaign.



FIRST FRIDAY is this week (5th). Priests and a Eucharistic Minister will take communion to our homebound in the morning. Please consider spending time in Adoration after the 7 a.m. Mass in the Chapel until 9 a.m. We ask you call the rectory by Wednesday (677-3020) if you know someone who needs visited.

RCIA meets March 2 at 7 p.m. in the Social Center.

YOUTH GROUP Youth Group will meet this Sunday from 6:00-7:30 at St. Stephen Social Center. Crazy Cereal Night! Who said cereal was just for breakfast! This Sunday we will be tackling various topics related to Lent. Come and join in the fun!

MONDAY AFTERNOON CLUB meets March 1 at school at 1 p.m.

MSGR. KARG and Sisters Clare Marie and Marion, are having a program Monday evenings in Lent from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the social center. All are welcome.

RELIGIOUS ED. Students meet from 9-11 a.m. today (28th) at the school.

STATIONS of the Cross are offered Wednesday at St. Venantius at 9 a.m. and Friday at 7 p.m. at St. Stephen's.



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; 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Venango Campus AND the Official World Day of Prayer Service at 7 p.m. at Rhoades Auditorium, Venango Campus.

FESTIVAL MEETING-Anyone interested in helping or has any new ideas for this years festival are encouraged to attend a meeting Wednesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Center.

CONFESSION is offered every Saturday at 4 p.m. at Church. In order to allow more opportunities during Lent to experience the Sacrament of Penance, the Oil City Catholic Community will offer these additional times:

March 9 (Tuesday) 5-7 p.m. at St. Stephen (Fr. Malthaner)
March 15 (Monday) 5-7 p.m. at St. Joseph (Msgr. Swoger)
March 19 (Friday) 6-7 p.m. at VCHS (Fr. Matt)
March 20 (Saturday) 3-5 p.m. at St. Stephen (Fr. Matt/Msgr. Karg)
March 21 (Sunday) 2-4 p.m. at Assumption (Msgr. Swoger)
March 23 (Tuesday) 7 p.m. at St. Stephen-OIL CITY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PENANCE SERVICE. Note: This is the only Penance Service in the Oil City area.
March 26 (Friday) at VCHS 6-7 p.m. (Msgr. Swoger)
March 27 (Saturday) at St. Stephen (Fr. Matt, Msgr. Karg and Fr. Malthaner)

Note: March 28 4 p.m. (Palm Sunday) Penance Service at St. Pat's



THE SOUPFEST is Wednesday, March 10 from 5-6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. There will be over 40 varieties of Polly's homemade soup and bread, dessert tray and beverages. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children under 12 and free for children under 6. Bring your own bowl and spoon. Cups and napkins provided. There will also be a 50/50. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

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.

ALTER SERVER TRAINING for Public school students will be held 3 Sundays in March (14-21-28) from 1-3 p.m. at the church.



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.

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

Pierogis for sale on Tuesday's during Lent. March 2: Sauerkraut (\$9/doz.) March 9: Velveeta (\$8/doz.). Call 677-3885 anytime or 677-4015 from 7 – 10 a.m. Monday for Tuesday pickup.

Cookbooks with Lenten/Easter recipes from the Assumption Polish cookbooks on sale at Pierogi Palace, Gates & Burns; Double Bloom and St. Joseph Rectory. Cost is \$12. For large orders call Anna Marie Larkin at 677-3784.

DAFFODIL DAYS: Call the American Cancer Society (677-6067) or Bonnie Zacherl (827-6397) or e-mail her at jstevenson@zoominternet.net to order your flowers. Advance orders by March 12. Daffodils come in bunches of 10 for \$10; 1 bunch/etched vase \$15; Bear & Bunch (Boyd's Bear/1 bunch) \$25.

FISH FRY at Rouseville Vol. Fire Dept., 303 3rd Ave., from 4:30-7 p.m. every Friday until April 2nd. Cost is \$8.50/adults; \$8/seniors and kids 12 and under \$6. Take outs available.



TOUR WITH MSGR. KARG: Last call to sign up for a 12 day trip to see the famous Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. The tour also includes visits to Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Munich, Lucerne & Heidelberg in September. For more information or a flyer, please stop by or call the rectory ASAP (677-3020) during normal business hours.

A MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA for mom's and girls ages 10-12 years old will be held Sunday, March 21 from noon to 2:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church in Brookville. Plan to attend to learn more about God's plan for love and His gifts of sexuality, chastity, and fertility. Reservations required. Cost is \$15/family (\$12 in advance). Call Penny at 814-648-0839 or get a form from St. Stephen School. This program is sponsored by the Erie Diocesan Natural Family Planning/Chastity Education.