



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 December 21
7:00 AM Rick English (Tom & Judy Karg)

TUESDAY December 22
7:00 AM James Lauer (Mom & Dad)

WEDNESDAY December 23
7:00 AM Daniel Daubenspeck (Family)

THURSDAY December 24
5:15 PM (St. Venantius) Joan Frena (The Frena Family)
5:30 PM (Vigil) Jason Kushner (Mom & Dad)

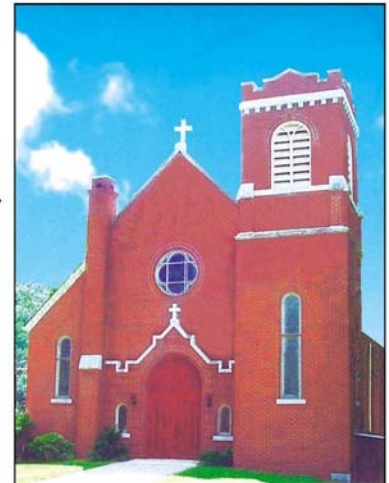
FRIDAY December 25, Nativity of Christmas

MIDNIGHT Bobbie Skiba (Jay & Emily Flensted)
7:30 AM Mary Lee Schossler (Joe & Sue)
9:00 AM Robert Keil (Mary Shindledecker)
11:30 AM Cole McMahon (Mogie, Ben & Michael Karnish)

SATURDAY December 26, St. Stephen
7:00 AM Anna Mae Guth (Ralph, Helen & Family)
5:30 PM (Vigil) Lawrence Grieff (Tillie Hudick)

SUNDAY December 27, Holy Family
7:30 AM For Members of Our Parish Community
9:00 AM Jack Williams (Sue, Sean & Bryan)
10:00 AM (St. Venantius) Cole McMahon (George & Helen Ann Cavanaugh)
11:30 AM Elizabeth Jeanne Hynes (Dad/Mom Hynes)

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 December 20
Food Collection for St. Elizabeth Center
9-11 AM Religious Ed. – School
Jesse Tree Gifts Delivered after 11:30 a.m. Mass
4:00 PM Advent Penance Service – St. Patrick Church
6:00 PM Confirmation – Social Center

MONDAY December 21
1:00 PM Monday Afternoon Club - School

WEDNESDAY December 23
12:30 PM Early Dismissal – VCHS

THURSDAY December 24
Rectory Office Closed

FRIDAY December 25
HAVE A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

SATURDAY December 26
4:00 PM Confessions - Church

Points to ponder from Fr. Matt

The Messiah comes not from mighty Jerusalem but from seemingly insignificant Bethlehem. This especially applies to us who come from small towns of western Pennsylvania like Oil City. Think of all the contributions people from our area are making here and throughout the country and the world for that matter.

God has a plan for all of us. We are to make real the presence of Jesus the Messiah to those around us. As you celebrate the birthday of the Savior with family and friends remember that even the most tiny, insignificant thoughts, words, and actions make a difference.

We are keeping our Christmas and New Year Mass schedule simple, just like Sunday with the exception of Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. Please bring your family, friends, and visitors to our celebrations.

On behalf of Msgr. Karg, Deacon Terry Schmader, and myself we wish you all God's special blessing.

We are happy to have Fr. Chris Singer to be with us. He will preside at several Christmas and New Year's Masses

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21-27

MON: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45
TUES:..... 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
WED:..... Mal 3:1-24/Lk 1:57-66
THURS:..... Various Selections
FRI: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
SAT: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
SUN:..... Sir 3:3,2-14/Col 3:12-21/1 Jn 3:1-24/Lk 2:41-52

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE Mary was excited with her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly, some consider children as a liability, a "mouth to feed" or an obstacle to a career. Remember, your children will learn to value life by the way they observe your treatment of others. While some think that Christmas is only "for children" it is also for adults to appreciate the gift that children are to us.

THE RECTORY OFFICE will be closed Thursday and Friday for the Christmas Holiday.

ASSUMPTION Polish Cookbooks are on sale at the Pierogi Palace, 17 Spruce St. Double Bloom, 233 Seneca St. and St. Joseph Rectory for \$12 each. For large orders call Anna Marie Larkin at 677-3784.

BULLETIN NOTICES for the weekend of January 2-3 should be submitted by tomorrow, MONDAY (21st) due to early deadlines for Diocesan Publications to print during the holidays.

PLEASE NOTE: All names for *SERVERS and EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS* who signed up for Christmas were not available at time of print. PLEASE be on time for the Mass you plan to attend and serve.

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY

The following **Lectors** have been scheduled: **12/24:** 5:30 – Sue Williams Midnight: David Heinzer. **12/25:** 7:30 Joyce McFadden 9:00 Mike Horos 11:30 Richard McIntire

SERVERS FOR – December 26-27

5:30 Anna Campbell-Sowden, Andrea Marshall
7:30 Robert Felmlee, Benjamin Koyack
9:00 Chance Chase, Michaela Wagner
11:30 Page Loll, Noah Puleo

LECTORS FOR – December 26-27

5:30 Fran Dlugos
7:30 Joyce McFadden
9:00 Kathleen Plyler
11:30 Bridget Kennedy

EUCHARIST MINISTERS FOR – December 26-27

5:30 Nancy Dengel, Ellen Flickner, Richard McIntire, Maggie McMahan, Mary Ann Oliver
7:30 Karen Koyack, Loretta Warcholik
9:00 Dan/Jackie Moltz, Joan Pfindler, Sandra Schmader, Mary Vinopal
11:30 Mary Chapman, Bonnie Dart, Deb/Bob Schumacher, Sue Williams

THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:

OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TO FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF Edna L. Hubauer, mother of Marion English and *Georgia Dawson*, mother of Linda Schell who died recently.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those who are sick, in nursing homes or hospitalized, as well as the men and women who serve us in the military both at home and abroad.


WEDDING BANNES: Marc Lander & Natalie Lux

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: Our bulletin sponsor of the week is **DR. LEON KULINSKI, D.M.D., located at 207 Center Street.** Please patronize our sponsors and let them know you appreciate their support. It helps defray the cost of our bulletins each week.


A DONATION TO the 2nd Century Fund was made for *John T Wasil* by Friends from Port Vue.

A DONATION TO the School was made for *Anna Mae Guth* by Pat Bickel.

SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:
ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
VOLUNTEERS are needed to take Communion to TCU/REHAB on the 1st or 4th Wednesday of the month. If you can help once/month, please call Jan at 676-1242.



2009 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be tabulated and processed in the first weeks of the New Year. If you received a statement last year, you will automatically receive one this year. **ALSO**, if you received one last year and don't want/need one this year, please call the rectory by January 15 (677-3020).



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve

5:15 p.m. Vigil at St. Venantius, Rouseville

5:30 p.m. Vigil at St. Stephen

Friday, December 25: Christmas

Midnight Mass (Come early to enjoy the choir)

7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at St. Stephen

CONFESSIONS: The final opportunity for Confessions is TODAY, Sunday, December 21 at St. Patrick Church in Franklin. The Penance Service will begin at 4 p.m.



SIGN UP SHEETS for Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers will be in the server's sacristy. Please sign up for Masses you plan to attend for the upcoming holidays. Ushers will find a list in the front of church. If you are at a Mass during the holidays and there aren't enough

volunteers, please offer to help.

COMMUNION CALLS: Both Priests and a Eucharistic Minister will be visiting this week for Christmas. This will replace the visit for First Friday January 1st.



JESSE TREE ~ Gifts will be distributed after the 11:30 a.m. Mass TODAY. Please make sure your gift is there with the angel on the outside of the box no later than 12:30 p.m. **We welcome any volunteer**

(families, confirmation students, etc.) to help take the gifts downstairs after Mass and/or to help deliver gifts.

RELIGIOUS ED: Our annual **Child Protection In-service** for students in grades **P/K** through **Gr. 8** will take place at class this weekend (**Today, December 20th**). Once again, we will be using age-appropriate videos from the Erie Diocese. Students who will not be participating in this mandated in-service will be working on an Advent project.

RCIA will not meet this week as we break to appreciate these holy days with family.



WELCOME: Our Seminarians may be visiting St. Stephen's and St. Venantius for the holidays. Please keep them and all those studying at Seminary in your prayers.

Special thanks to Father Chris Singer who will be assisting us this week while home for the holidays. We've been blessed to have him help us when he is home.

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

TRAVEL WITH MSGR. KARG on a 12 day visit to cities in the heart of Europe and see the famous "Passion Play" in Oberammergau. Tour leaves New York September 14, 2010. Cost is \$3,799 (from NY). Please contact Msgr. for more details.

THE FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN, our **patron saint**, is Saturday, December 26. Join us for Mass at 7 a.m. in the Reed St. Chapel. **Stephen, first deacon, first martyr, and our patron saint, Pray for us.**

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

The VCHS bell choir will perform Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 11:15 a.m. at the school. There will be an Advent/Christmas Prayer Service at 2 p.m.

Students will enjoy their Christmas break beginning Wednesday, December 23 returning to school January 4th.

BIG RAFFLE tickets and money can be sent to the school (by Tuesday this week, returned in the collection or brought to the rectory during normal business hours (closed Thurs/Fri. this week and open until noon December 31st. Don't miss out by not having your tickets in on time!

VCHS NEWS

Students will be dismissed for the holiday Tuesday at 12:30 pm.

The Booster Club is sponsoring a **raffle** for 4 tickets to the Penguin game 1/31/10 (3 p.m.) vs. Detroit Red Wings. A parking pass, \$100 Visa gift card (to cover gas/food) and a Penguins gift basket is included. Tickets are \$3 each or 4/\$10. The drawing will be December 21. Get tickets at VCHS, or Oil City or Franklin Chamber.



A VOLUNTEER is needed to take Communion to the homebound on the 4th Sunday. If you are not currently a Eucharistic Minister, someone will train you to take Communion and visit parishioners unable to get to church. If you can help or have any questions, please call Tina at 676-0443.

PA FOR HUMAN LIFE is again sponsoring a bus to the 37th annual March for Life, Friday, January 22. Paid reservations must be made by January 1. Cost is \$40 per seat. For reservations or questions, please call Judy Anderton at 676-6288.

BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS is in need of volunteers mentors in our area. If you have just a few hours each month to spend enhancing the life of a child, please contact Family Service & Children's Aid Society at 676-9940. They also have calendars for \$20/each and helps support the local program. What a great Christmas gift! Call or stop by Family Services to purchase yours.



GIFT IDEAS: The Rosary Society has some items that would make wonderful Christmas presents. There are bells for \$9 each, plates for \$15 and hanging ornaments for \$8 each with our church on the front. Stop by the rectory during normal hours to purchase.

ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

INCOME & EXPENSES FOR OCTOBER 2009

INCOME:	Offertory	\$36,306
	Bequests/Gifts	-0-
	Miscellaneous	1,446
EXPENSES:	Administration	
	Clergy-Benefits & Salaries	3,027
	Employees-Benefits & Salaries	6,861
	Diocesan Assessment	-0-
	Plant & Maintenance Supplies	293
	Insurance & Taxes	-0-
	Elementary School Support	14,250
	Second School Support	3,167
	Religious Education	1,937
	Repairs	-0-
	Miscellaneous	180
	Major Construction	-0-