



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 28, Holy Innocents
7:00 AM Joey Zuck (Chuck & Karen May)

TUESDAY December 29
7:00 AM Dec'd Sisters of St. Joseph (Sr. Emilie Rose)

WEDNESDAY December 30
7:00 AM William "Bill" English (Tim/Angela Haslett)

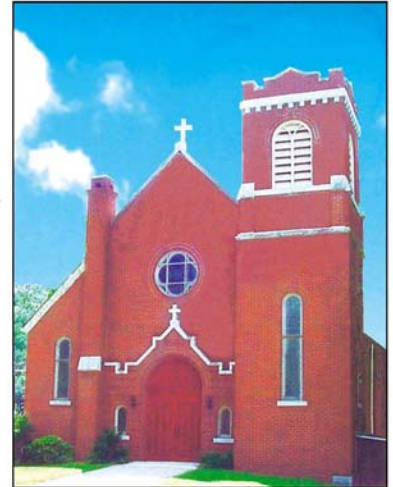
THURSDAY Decmeber 31
7:00 AM Clarence/Eleanor Ginnery (Ted Jasielski)
5:30 PM Bob & Betty Martin (Family)

FRIDAY January 1, Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God
7:30 AM Ben Stiller Jr. (Trudy & Richard)
10:00 AM (St. Venantius) Mary Theresa Stubler (Jack Flannigan)
9:00 AM John T. Wasil (Frank/Sandy Machokas)
11:30 AM Cole McMahon (Jack/Dot Monahan Family)

SATURDAY Jan. 2, St. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
7:00 AM Mary Guth (M/M Ron Emis)
5:30 PM (Vigil) Pat Kase (Debbie Rider/Nancy McFetridge)

SUNDAY January 3, Epiphany of the Lord
7:30 AM For Members of Our Parish Community
9:00 AM William Casper (K of C, Council #385)
10:00 AM (St. Venantius) Tom Radack (Rich Criscione)
11:30 AM Elva Crowley (Helen & Bob Moyer)

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 27
No Religious Education today
No Children's Liturgy

MONDAY December 28
No School Monday-Friday
No Monday Afternoon Club

TUESDAY December 29
NO RCIA

THURSDAY December 31
9-NOON Rectory Office Hours
5:30-Midnight First Night 2010 Oil City BIG RAFFLE DRAWING AFTER 5:30 P.M. MASS

FRIDAY January 1
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SATURDAY January 2
4:00 PM Confessions - Church

Points to ponder from Fr. Matt

On this Feast of the Holy Family we realize that the mystery of Christ and the redemption he brings is something out there, not something out of the natural course of things.

Rejoice with your families these days. Let us celebrate Christmas during these upcoming weeks.

Thanks to all who made these holy days a special opportunity for grace. Thanks to our music ministry, the ushers, greeters, altar servers, money counters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers.

Special thanks to our decorating crews and the atmosphere they create year in and year out.

Thanks to you who attended the services and for your great devotion and support of the parishes of St. Stephen and St. Venantius.

2010 calendars will be available this weekend. Thanks to the Morrison and Reinsel Funeral Homes for sponsoring them.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27-JANUARY 3

MON: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
TUES: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
WED: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
THURS: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
FRI: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
SAT: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
SUN: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-6/Mt 2:1-12

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE ~ Because Jesus did not tell his parents His plans to stay in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph were distraught and probably felt guilty and 'out of touch'. Like the Holy Family, parents today operate with the same deficit when children don't disclose all their plans. Despite the centuries, the problems of parenting remain the same.

BAPTISMAL CLASS: The next class offered in the area will be held February 6 at St. Patrick, Franklin at 10 a.m. Please call 437-5763 for reservations.

SAMUEL DEPALMA is offering his CD'S for \$15 and can be purchased at the rectory during normal business hours.

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.

THE WINNER of the framed photograph of "The Nativity" was won by Mary Shindledecker. We are grateful to our anonymous donor who gave this beautiful piece of artwork in memory of James and Rosalie Petulla.



NEW YEARS EVE: LECTORS: 5:30 Vigil: Deb Lutz 7:30: Fran Dlugos 9:00: Mike Horos 11:30: Mareeta Durney

PLEASE NOTE this bulletin was printed early due to the holiday. IF you signed up to serve, please plan to be at the Mass you volunteered for. Also, if you see that more help is needed at the Mass you are attending, please offer to help.

SERVERS FOR – JANUARY 2-3

5:30 Nicholas/Haley Barletta
7:30 Elliot/Hayley Donze
9:00 Nathan/Max Dudzic Jr.
11:30 Ian Hidingier, Shana Kennedy

LECTORS FOR – JANUARY 2-3

5:30 Geralyn Neely 9:00 Deb Lutz
7:30 Margaret Jetter 11:30 Doug Kennedy

EUCHARIST MINISTERS FOR – JANUARY 2-3

5:30 Jean Allison, Cathy Manion, Marcia/Rick Stewart, Susan Stewart
7:30 Cheryl Donze, Dan Karg
9:00 Bob/Rosalie Bablak, Max Dudzic, Dave/Helen Heinzer
11:30 Mary Kay Gill, Tom Karg, Elaine/Bill Klapac, Tom McNellie

THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:

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.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Mark & Cathy Heim as they celebrate 25 years of marriage Wednesday, December 30th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Edna Foy who will celebrate her birthday January 1st.

WEDDING BANNES II: Marc Lander & Natalie Lux

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: Our bulletin sponsor of the week is **DRAYER ELECTRICAL SERVICE L.L.C.** 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 *Anna Mae Guth* by John D. Stack.



SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:

Our *Mary's Mantle Group* is seeking donations of **white yarn** for members to make blankets for our newly baptized babies. Monetary donations also accepted to purchase the yarn and can be sent to the rectory. The yarn can be dropped off at the rectory or put in the back baptistery labeled for *Mary's Mantle*.



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).

OUR FLOWER DONATIONS FLYER will be available this weekend. The Memorials reflect the names of those honored or remembered by gifts from donors. These gifts contribute to the beauty of our Church and Chapel during the Christmas Season. Please remember to keep our benefactors in your prayers.

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH



FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 (New Year's Day), the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is a holy day of obligation. We will follow our normal weekend schedule with a Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 31 and 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on Friday, New Year's Day. St. Venantius will have a Mass at 10 a.m. New Year's Day.

THE RECTORY OFFICE will be closed Thursday, December 31 at noon and be closed all day January 1st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1: Just a reminder that we will not be visiting the home bound this week since our Priests and a Eucharistic Minister took Communion before Christmas.

THE FOOD COLLECTION next weekend will be given to Community Services (January 2-3). Thank you for your donations to those less fortunate in our area.

JESEE TREE ~ Thanks to all who participated by purchasing a gift for the Jesse Tree as well as those who helped deliver last weekend! We especially thank Sharon Russell and Nicole Russell for coordinating another successful year!



FIRST NIGHT! Buy your buttons now and plan to be a part of one of Oil City's best experiences. Cost for a button, which is necessary for admittance to each event, is \$10 (children 5 years and under are free). Spend New Years Eve downtown.

Begin your evening with Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by the **BIG RAFFLE DRAWING** immediately after.

ATTENTION Eucharistic Ministers who visit and take Communion to the homebound on weekends: We will have your new schedule in the Server's Sacristy this weekend (December 26-27) for you to pick up. PLEASE NOTE the schedules will be labeled with your name and in alphabetical order and we ask you please cross off your name so we know that you received.

RELIGIOUS ED. NEWS: There will be NO CLASSES this weekend. Classes will resume January 3rd.



THE BIG RAFFLE DRAWING is December 31st, New Years Eve, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Take a chance to win several prizes including first prize which is a choice of a hunting trip, a family vacation or a cash prize (each valued at \$5,000). The 2nd prize will receive a big screen TV and the 3rd prize is a recliner from Parker Furniture. Several other mystery prizes combine to make this a very attractive package. The cost of the tickets is \$10 each or 3/\$25.

Please remember to turn in your tickets to the rectory Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. (school is closed) by noon December 31st OR turn in at the Mass prior to the drawing.

NO RCIA this week. Class resumes January 5, 2010.

THE BULLETINS for this weekend and for January 2-3 had to be sent to our publishers early due to the holidays.

PRE-CANA for couples preparing for marriage will be held at St. Thomas More Center February 20-21. Please call St. Patrick Church at 437-5763 with your reservations.

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

Students will continue their holiday vacation this week returning to school Monday, January 4th.

The Reverse Raffle and Casino Night will be held Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the K of C from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. Tickets cost \$25 and include a chance in the raffle, food and limited beverage. Please call the school after the holidays for tickets and information in January. Mark your calendars!

VCHS NEWS

Students are on holiday break this week and return to class Monday, January 4th.

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.



ST. ELIZABETH CENTER appreciates your donations especially during the holidays when many find it hard to make ends meet. We collect for them on the 3rd weekend each month. They especially appreciate perishable items such as pasta, peanut butter, cereal etc. They also have a food pantry, clothes closet, household thrift shop and a bridal and prom shop. The center is located at 311 Emerald Street. If you have any questions or need more information, please call them at 677-0203. Please note that their address/phone is now posted on the front of our bulletin each week for your convenience.

DID YOU KNOW that you can access a website for the church and school? Thanks to Bob Rupert you can find all kinds of information including current ministry schedules (in case you misplaced yours), weekly bulletins (past and current), information on Cursillo, The Rosary, Faith Magazine and more! Go to www.saint-stephens.org.

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.



MANY THANKS to those who labor for our benefit here at St. Stephen's especially during the business of the holidays!

We appreciate all who help make this season a rewarding and spiritual experience with your presence at the Masses. We thank those who generously give of their time and talent to provide an inspiring liturgical environment through the beautiful decorations in Church and at the Chapel, the wonderful music and the faithful services of the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Counters and Altar Servers.

We are grateful to Dan Karg and the Boy Scouts for their help in setting up the crib scene outside and to those who help maintain our grounds and sound system with such detail making it easier for us all to enjoy.

Special thanks to so many of you who sent Christmas greetings, cards, goodies and prayers for the priests and staff!