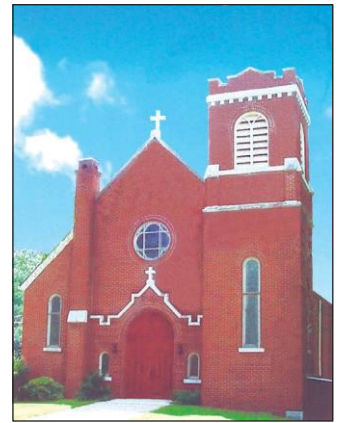


SAINT STEPHEN CHURCH
Oil City, PA

Rev. Matthew Ruyechan, Priest
Tim Wren, Deacon
Mrs. Marge Hajduk, Principal
Mrs. Dianne Phillips, Religious Education Coordinator
Fr. Justin Pino, Confirmation Director



SAINT VENANTIUS CHURCH
Rouseville, PA

PASTORAL PLANNING PRAYER

Loving God, author of creation, Your spirit pervades and enriches our world. Through your Son, who shares our humanity, You have called us to participate in your divine creativity and to build the kingdom of God here on earth. For us, we pray, as one community under the leadership of our bishop to serve all the people of this region in your name.

Inspire us to discover new ways and structures to spread your Gospel. Open our eyes to Christ in others, especially the poor, the sick and the marginalized. Empower us to be the hands and feet of Christ in our parishes and communities. Help us to welcome all into His embrace.

Guide us in our discernment, as we pray with Pope Francis for the vision to see new paths of possibility; for a spirit of mission that invigorates our every effort; and for the strength to be unafraid of what is new. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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
St. Elizabeth Center	311 Emerald St.	677-0203
FAX #		678-8841

PRAYER NETWORK:

Mary Firster (676-1219) or e-mail her at marych@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

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 January 11
 7:00 AM Helen Perrett (Mary Lou Scottino)

TUESDAY January 12
 7:00 AM Dr. Tod Todhunter (Family)

WEDNESDAY January 13
 7:00 AM King Williams (Mary Ann)

THURSDAY January 14
 7:00 AM For Members of Our Parish Community
 (Golden Living) Elsie Powers (Family)

10:30 AM

FRIDAY January 15
 7:00 AM Rennie Schneider (Family)

SATURDAY January 16
 7:00 AM Mary Pilewski (The Altar Rosary Society)
 5:30 PM (Vigil) Marcia Stewart (Pat Karns & Family)

SUNDAY January 17, 2nd Ordinary Sunday
 7:30 AM Anne Cangemi (Jane Moltz Parrett & Family)

9:00 AM Larry Winger (Sue, Sean & Bryan)
 10:00 AM (St. Venantius) Norman Fox (George & Helen Ann Cavanaugh)
 11:30 AM M/M Elvin Weaver (Karen May)

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY January 10
 Eucharistic Ministers for the Homebound
 Should Pick Up New Schedules - Sacristy

MONDAY January 11
 1:30 p.m. Early Dismissal - School

TUESDAY January 12
 7:00 p.m. RCIA – Social Center

THURSDAY January 14
 10:30 a.m. Mass at Golden Living

FRIDAY January 15
 Deadline to Call for Income Tax Statement

SATURDAY January 16
 4:00 p.m. Confession - Church

Points to ponder from Fr. Matt

Baptism isn't a sacrament that we do once in a lifetime, rather it is a gift of grace that called us to Christ in the first place and which remains present within us, challenging us to change and to be transformed by its power.

Thank you all for your many kindnesses and gifts at this Christmas season. I am grateful that you all inspire and challenge me as a person and as a priest. Let us share the blessings of the New Year 2016. Let us together renew our faith in God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 11-17

MON: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
TUES:..... 1 Sm 1::9-20/Mk 1:21-28
WED:..... 1 Sm 3:1-20/Mk 1:29-39
THURS:..... 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
FRI: 1 Sm 8:4-10/Mk 2:1-12
SAT: 1 Sm 9:1-10/Mk 2:13-17
SUN:..... Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: In today's gospel Jesus was publicly AFFIRMED by his Father: "You are my beloved son, with you I am very pleased." As parents we can become so focused on misbehavior's we overlook the good behaviors. Jesus needed AFFIRMATION and so do our children.

TRANSITIONS: A Monthly Peer Support Group: Are you Widowed, Separated or divorced? Consider attending Transitions, a peer support group offered monthly at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. The next gathering is scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2016 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. This month's topic is: "Technology- Oh the places you will go", with Guest Presenter, Kathy Brugger. Call 814-824-1265 or email: familylife@erieRCD.org for more information. Visit us at: www.erieRCD.org/transitions.asp.

TAKING UP THE GIFTS: If you are having a weekend Mass offered for a particular intention or anyone wishing to volunteer, can offer to bring up the gifts of bread and wine. Please notify an Usher before Mass begins.

ROSARY SOCIETY MEMBERS are reminded that we do not meet in January. The next scheduled meeting will be February 11th.

Reminder to members the newest Living Faith books are available in the server's sacristy.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS: I'm very neat. My wife is messy. I cured myself from my annoyance with her by imagining that she had died and then asking myself, "If you could bring her back to life but she'd still be messy, would you still want her back?" "Yes, for sure!" It cured me. Whenever I get annoyed with her mess, I rerun the script. (Sam Bradley) This could work with many annoyances.

SERVERS FOR – JANUARY 16-17

5:30 Matthew/Ryan/Faith Ames
7:30 Chandler Chase/Parker Slagle
9:00 Ashley/Haley Barletta/Mathew Rudolph
11:30 Jenna Kirkwood/MacKenzie Metz

LECTORS FOR – JANUARY 16-17

5:30 Frank Shepard
7:30 Mary Ellen McNellie
9:00 Tracy Lander
11:30 Bridget Kennedy

EUCARIST MINISTERS FOR – JANUARY 16-17

5:30 Elizabeth Ames, Ellen Flickner, Kay Hopwood, Maggie McMahon, Barb Plummer
7:30 Tom McNellie/Kathy Stephens
9:00 Michael Deibert, Max Dudzic, Deb Mitchell, Dawn Salata, Sue Williams
11:30 Mary Chapman, Donna Goodman, Sandra Kerchner, Felicia Nelson, Kate Ostroske

THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:

SINCERE SYMPATHY is offered to the family and friends of *Kathleen McQuaide and Arthur E. "Gene" Hale*. May they and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, 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.

LOST/FOUND: A gold cross was found in Church during the Christmas season. Please call the rectory (677-3020) to identify.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **RYAN CYPHERT CONTRACTING LLC** for sponsoring an ad weekly in our bulletin.

A DONATION TO THE 2ND CENTURY FUND was made for *Mary Eva Kleszcz*, by Eric and Mary Grace Kleszcz Baker.



SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:

Do you know someone in the parish who was recently hospitalized and may need some assistance with meals when they get home? St. Stephen's Welcome Home Committee can help. Please contact Regina McGrail, Coordinator at 678-8616. Meals are also offered to families after the birth of your child.

THE 2nd COLLECTION next weekend is "*Help Spread the Faith Communications Collection*" supporting Faith Magazine and Catholic Communications. The CCC supports projects as diverse as television, radio, social media, podcasts, and print media to more effectively use technology and media in spreading the gospel message. Through grants funded by the CCC, more people are hearing about and joining together in *faith, worship, and witness*.

Thank you in advance for your generosity as we work to keep people in the Erie Diocese inspired and informed. There is a gold envelope in your monthly packet for this collection.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



RELIGIOUS ED. NEWS: Parents who have children preparing for First Penance must attend one of the meetings listed below. This requirement is made mandatory by the Erie Diocese. At least one parent from each family must come to either Our Lady Help of Christians Social Hall on Saturday, January 23 beginning at 11 am or St. Stephen Social Hall (Church basement) on Wednesday, January 27 beginning at 7 pm.

Our Retreat for Grades 4 and 5 will be held on Sunday, January 24 beginning with the 11:30 am Mass at St. Stephen Church. More details will be sent home at the next Rel. Ed. class.

RCIA meets Tuesday, January 12th at 7 p.m. in the Social Center.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS who visit the homebound on Sunday are asked to pick up their new schedule in the Server's Sacristy this weekend as the new schedules are for January, February & March.



THE 22nd ANNUAL REVERSE RAFFLE and Casino Night will be held Saturday, January 30 at the K of C. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each and must be purchased in advance. Ticket price includes dinner buffet, limited beverages and a chance to win the \$1,500 grand prize. Any party purchasing 8 or more tickets at a time can reserve a table. DJ Posey will have music and karaoke following the raffle. For tickets or more information call the school office at 677-035 or Marj Kalamajka at 677-7172. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend.

THE NEXT BAPTISMAL CLASS in our area will be held at St. Patrick's Staff Room of Dion Auditorium at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 6 for parents planning Baptism in the next few month. We ask all first time parents to attend as well as those who have not attended in the last 3 years (as a refresher). No need to wait until your child is born. Godparents are welcome but not required to attend. As you know, these classes are only held four times a year and we urge parents to plan ahead. Please call St. Patrick's to pre-register at 437-5763.

A MASS AT Golden Living will be said Thursday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

THE FOOD COLLECTION next weekend will be given to the St. Elizabeth Center. They can always use canned goods, peanut butter, crackers, pasta, spaghetti sauce, noodles, boxed meals or any other non-perishable items. Your items can be left in the blue bins provided at the entrances. Monetary donations are always appreciated and can be mailed to the center at 311 Emerald St.



PA FOR HUMAN LIFE is taking reservations for a bus to attend the 43rd anniversary of the March for Life in Washington, D.C., Friday, January 22. The bus will leave the Oil City K of C at 11:45 p.m. Thurs. (21st) then pick up at the K of C in Franklin and also one at Kings in Barkeyville if needed. The bus will depart D.C. at 4:30 p.m. and make a stop in Frederick, MD, for dinner. The bus will return to Oil city about 12:30 a.m. Saturday, January 23. Reservations are due by January 14. Cost for the bus is \$50. To reserve your seat, call Judy Anderton at 676-6288.

ST. STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

Students will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m. Monday, January 11th.

Congratulations to our BIG RAFFLE winners: 1st place: \$5,000 – Joseph Winters; 2nd place: \$1,000 – Fr. Matt and 3rd place: \$500 – Jeanne Persing. Thanks to all who were involved (buyers and sellers) in making this fundraiser a success.

Support our students by signing up for the Giant Eagle Apples for Students program. Enroll your Giant Eagle Advantage Card, even if you enrolled in the past. By using your card they earn points for educational awards. Call 1-800-474-4777 or visit www.gianteagle.com/about/apples-for-students. The ID number is #1173.

VENANGO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL is accepting applications for a part-time STUDENT TRANSPORTATION DRIVER. Responsibilities include driving students to and from sites in Venango and Clarion counties before and after school, as well as providing student transportation for extra-curricular activities after school. Candidates must have a valid Pennsylvania driver's license, a clean driving record, and all applicable clearances. A school bus endorsement is preferred. Candidates are invited to forward resumes and supporting materials to Father Shane Mathew at smathew@venangocatholic.org or (814) 677-3098. We are also accepting applications for a part-time HEALTH AND ANATOMY/PHYSIOLOGY TEACHER beginning Friday, January 15 for the remainder of the school year. Candidates must have a valid PA Instructional Certificate in Health Education or equivalent professional experience, all applicable clearances, and be willing to present and defend Catholic moral teaching on health care and medical ethics. Candidates are invited to forward resumes and supporting materials to Father Shane Mathew at (814) 677-3098 or smathew@venangocatholic.org.



ST. CECILA SING! St. Cecilia is honored as the patron saint of musicians. Our Oil City Area Combined Choir will join St. Patrick's Adult Choir on Sunday January 31 at 4 PM for a Choir Fest to be held at St. Stephen Church. Refreshments will follow. A good-will offering will be taken up for St. Elizabeth Center. This event is being held as part of a national festival of sacred song sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM). Please come join us!

Planning Your Wedding? An Engagement Encounter weekend is scheduled for January 22nd through 24th at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. EE satisfies diocesan requirements for marriage in the Church. Catholic and interfaith couples are encouraged to attend. Partial scholarships are available to those who qualify. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261, or by email at familylife@erieRCD.org or visit our Web site at <http://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice.asp> for more information. Remember, "A wedding is one day, marriage is for a lifetime".

A SQUARE DANCE will be held at St. Joseph's Hall in Lucinda on Saturday, January 16. Lessons are from 7:30-8 p.m. and dance from 8-11 p.m. BYOB, snacks provided. Music by The Square Root Band. Square dance, line dance and county music evening.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES Counseling and Adoption Services offers a variety of adoption programs. If you are interested in adding to your family, call 676-8263 for more information.