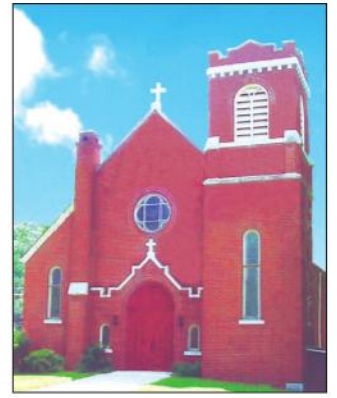


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Oil City, PA

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

No matter your past or present status in the Catholic Church...your current family or marital status...your past or current religious affiliation...your personal history, age, background, ethnicity...you are invited, accepted and most welcome at St. Stephen and St. Venantius Parishes.



SAINT VENANTIUS CHURCH
Rouseville, 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	580 Colbert Ave.	677-3078
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	July 25, St. James
7:00 AM	Ervin, Mary & Willie Guth (Deleen & Joe)
TUESDAY	July 26, Saints Joachim & Anne
7:00 AM	The Bryan Sisters (Peg & Lou Flinchbaugh)
WEDNESDAY	July 27
7:00 AM	Mary Pilewski (Family)
THURSDAY	July 28
7:00 AM	Rita Axelson (Family)
FRIDAY	July 29, St. Martha
7:00 AM	For Members of Our Parish Community
SATURDAY	July 30
7:00 AM	Charles Allio (Tom & Debbie Perrine)
5:30 PM	(Vigil) Och & Eagle Families
SUNDAY	July 31, 18th Ordinary Sunday
7:30 AM	H.S. Axelson (Family)
9:00 AM	Richard Gardner (Pete & Naomi Noel)
10:00 AM	(St. Venantius) M/M Leonard Harper (Jack Flannigan)
11:30 AM	Ethel Hamelly (Ray & Linda Stiglitz)

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	July 24
12:30 p.m.	Tear Down Festival (weather permitting) Church Lot
Noon	VC Summer Picnic - VCHS (Steeler Ticket Drawing at 2 p.m.)
MONDAY	July 25
9:30 a.m.	SCRIP Orders due - School
THURSDAY	July 28
5-6 p.m.	SCRIP Order pick up - School
SATURDAY	July 30
4:00 p.m.	Confession - Church

Points to ponder from Fr. Matt

Abraham bargains with God for the sake of the people of Sodom. In communicating with God we have to be bold, daring, with conviction and dare I say familiarity.

Thanks to all who donated time, talent, treasure for the Festival. We are grateful for Kathy Kulinski & Connie Schwabenbauer who spearhead the Festival, to Dan Beichner and his crew, appreciating the rosary society who sponsors the bake sale, the Food Booth and Kitchen crew, Nancy Stover and the Chinese auction. Very grateful for all who donated the special raffles, Mabel Lander and her exquisite quilt, etc.

You made it a success. Thank you and God bless you.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 31-AUGUST 7

MON:Jer 28:1-17/Mt 14:13-21
TUES:.....Jer 30:1-22/Mt 14:22-36
WED:.....Jer 31:1-7/Mt 15:21-28
THURS:.....Jer 31:31-34/Mt 16:13-23
FRI:Na 2:1-3/3:1-7/Mt 16:24-28
SAT:Dn 7:9-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28-36
SUN:.....Wis 18:6-9/Heb 11:1-19/Lk 12:32-48

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: Today’s gospel guarantees if we “ask” we will “receive,” perhaps not what we wanted but what our Heavenly Father knows is best for us. All the love we have for our children, God has for us and more. As our children trust us, we must trust “Our Father.”

A HUGE THANKS to all who participated in this year’s Catholic Heart Work camp. Maybe you signed up to have your home worked on, assessed homes, organized supply lists, delivered materials to the work site, notarized all the paperwork, helped prepare VC for the campers, provided food for the main team or the host youth group, prayed, donated time, money or products, came to help serve food or supervise teens at VC, and so much more! No matter what part you played, it was important AND appreciated.

TRANSITIONS: A 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. Call 814-824-1265 or email: familylife@erieRCD.org for more information. The next meeting is Sunday, July 31, from 2 – 4 pm. This month’s topic is: “Anger.” Visit our website at: www.eriegcd.org/transitions.htm

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: Couples celebrating 25th, 50th or 60th or more wedding anniversaries are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies on Sunday, July 31, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Harborcreek, or Sunday, August 7, at Queen of the World, St. Mary’s. To register for either event or to receive a scroll by mail, please go online to <http://www.eriegcd.org/anniv.htm> or contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at (800) 374-3723 ext. 250.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

SERVERS FOR – July 30-31

5:30 Matthew/Faith Ames
7:30 Hunter Lancaster/Parker Slagle
9:00 Ashley/Scott/Alex Finch
11:30 Sadie/Ryan Kalamajka

LECTORS FOR – July 30-31

5:30 Marcia Schumacher
7:30 Jodie Zacherl
9:00 Dan Wheeler
11:30 Bridget Kennedy

EUCARIST MINISTERS FOR – July 30-31

5:30 Elizabeth Ames, Ellen Flickner, Janet Mercer, Richard Stewart, Rosemary Straub-Fulmer
7:30 Dan Karg/Kathy Stephens
9:00 Daisy Hawke, Joseph/Donna Jones, Bob/Jan McCall
11:30 Mary Kay Berlin, Donna Goodman, Sandra Kerchner, Rosalie Bablak, Kate Ostroske

THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH:

SINCERE SYMPATHY is offered to the family and friends of *Sister Rita Groner*. May she 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.

WEDDING BANNS I: *Michael Beichner and Cassie Gove* ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO *Denny & Cheryl Butler* as they celebrate 40 years of marriage today, Sunday, July 24th and to *Gary & Joan Hartle* who will be married 40 years next Saturday, July 30th.

CONGRATULATIONS *Brian and Lauren (Koyack) Platt* who were married July 16th.

BIRTHDAY WISHES to *Marge Hajduk*, principal at St. Stephen School, as she celebrates her special day Friday (29th).

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES, 225 Singh Dr. and QUALITY INN, 1411 Liberty St., Franklin**, for sponsoring an ad weekly in our bulletin.

SERVANTS OF ST. STEPHEN:



Do you know someone in the parish who recently had a new baby? Our *Welcome Home* group will help provide meals after mom and baby come home from the hospital making it easier for families to adjust to the “new addition”. To arrange meals, please call Regina McGrail, Coordinator at 678-8616.

UPDATED INFORMATION: In making calls to parishioners recently for the Festival, our volunteers found many who had phone numbers that were no longer in service or they were wrong numbers. We realize many have dropped their landlines and use only their cell phone but would appreciate if you could PLEASE take a moment to update your information at the Rectory by calling Connie at 677-3020. The same is asked for any other changes to your family information or status (moved, divorced, etc.). We don’t know if you don’t tell us!

SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY SUNDAY

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR FESTIVAL WORKERS, SPONSORS & VISITORS



MANY THANKS to our committee chairman, coordinators and all volunteers who worked or supported the various aspects of our festival. We are most grateful to our sponsors and those who generously donated items for booths, raffles, baked goods, bought or sold raffle tickets, made phone calls or worked in any capacity to help with this huge project. So much goes on behind the scenes for months ahead of time in preparation and all the hard work does not go unnoticed! We appreciate all who helped in any way to make the festival so successful.

We encourage any volunteers today (Sunday) after the 11:30 a.m. Mass (weather permitting) to help with TEAR DOWN. The more help we have, the quicker we can get done!

Watch upcoming bulletins for a complete list of winners.

PLEASE WELCOME our out of town guests joining us for the Festival and Oil Heritage days! We hope you enjoyed your stay and have a safe return home. Hope to see you again next year!



VCBS PICNIC/STEELER TICKETS ~ Celebrate VC Summer picnic today, Sunday, July 24th beginning at noon at the school. Win 4 2016 Season tickets. Cost is \$10/ticket or 3/\$20. The winner will be drawn at VCBS TODAY (24th) at 2 p.m. Proceeds benefit our local Catholic Schools.

OUR RELIGIOUS ED. program is in need of teachers for the coming year. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Dianne Phillips at 677-3078.



ST. VENANTIUS annual picnic will be held Sunday, August 7th. Mass will be at 11 a.m. at Oil Creek State Park (Egbert #8). There will NOT be a Mass at the church that day. Those attending are asked to bring a well-filled tureen and your own table service.

THE 120TH Annual Frenchtown ham or chicken dinner will be held Sunday, July 31 at St. Hippolyte Church (located on Rt. 27, just 7 miles east of Meadville). Dinner is served from Noon until 6 p.m. (or until sold out). The menu includes ½ a barbecued chicken OR a generous portion of ham as well as mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls and butter, beverage and pie for dessert. Cost is \$9/adults; \$8/senior citizens and \$6/children. An outdoor eating area and take-out meals are also available. There are games from noon until 7 p.m., bingo, gift auction, quilt/afghan raffle, 50/50, Country Store and the Grand prize is \$2,000.



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS: The next class offered in the area will be held Saturday, August 6th at St. Patrick's at 10 a.m. in the staff room of Dion Auditorium. All first time parents must attend as well as anyone who hasn't attended a class in the last 3 years as a refresher. You don't have to wait until your child is born to attend. Registration is required. Please contact the parish office at 437-5763.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES Counseling and Adoption Services provides help with diapers and baby supplies to pregnant women. Call 676-8263 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

SAINT STEPHEN SCHOOL NEWS

SCRIP orders are due at school by 9:30 a.m. Monday (25th). Pick up will be between 5-6 p.m. Thursday (28th) at the school.

Part-time Learning Support Teaching position available for the 2016-2017 school year. Interested qualified applicants should send resume, teaching certificate, all clearances including Act 34, Child Abuse, and Federal Criminal History, and references to Venango Catholic High School, 1505 West First St.

St. Stephen School has a part-time IT manager position available. Please send resume and all clearances to 214 Reed St., Oil City, PA 16301. Contact the school office at 814-677-3035 for further information.

St. Stephen School is in need of substitute teachers for the 2016-2017 academic year. Please contact the school office at 814-677-3035 for information. Please leave your contact information and we will get in touch with you during regular hours.

Sponsor a Child's Catholic Education

St. Stephen School has several deserving students whose families struggle with tuition payments. Could you consider sponsoring a child by donating to the SSS Scholarship Fund? These donations could help a child continue to receive a Catholic education. Donations in any amount to full tuition will help the school fulfill its mission of providing quality Catholic education to all who seek it. Contributions can be sent to the school Scholarship Fund at 214 Reed St., Oil City, PA. Anyone interested in sponsoring a child's full tuition may contact Marge Hajduk at 677-3035 for details. Your consideration is appreciated and your contribution will make a difference in the life of a child.

The K of C is conducting its Casey 300 Club ticket sale. The tickets are good for one year with the 1st drawing on September 14th and every second Wed. of the month. The monthly prizes total \$425.00, final drawing in August of \$1,000, 3-\$250, & 10-\$50. If interested in helping the Knights out by purchasing a ticket, call 677-0349 or 677-2081, the price is \$55.00 paid in full and \$60 by installments.



ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, Oil City, will host its Annual Summer Festival on the grounds (corner of Washington and Seeley Avenues) on August 5th and 6th, from 6 pm to 10 pm each evening.

Food, games and prizes. The Refreshment Booth will serve chili dogs, hamburgers, hot sausage and meatball sandwiches. Also featured will be old fashion carnival food ~ corn dogs, popcorn and cotton candy, Chinese auction, and baked goods booth. There will be plenty of games and prizes. Raffles include, Two (2) grand prize raffles, Rosary Quilt, Vizio 50" Smart HDTV, One Year Golf Membership to Cross Creek Resort, Sunday Brunch to Cross Creek Resort, and our famous Canadian Bacon/Roast Beef raffle. Plan to attend each evening and bring the family.

PIRATE GAME: The Oil City Knights of Columbus #385 is sponsoring a charter bus to the Pirate's game on August 21st against the Miami Marlins. A few still remain. The cost is \$65 per person and includes a ticket to the game, food and beverages on the bus, and transportation down and back. The bus leaves the K of C parking lot at 9 a.m. for the 1:35 p.m. game. Payment is required in advance. Call 814-671-0891 for more information or to reserve your seat.

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