The gospel reading for today leads us up to the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 which is next week’s gospel. You will recall in last Sunday’s gospel that the disciples were sent by Jesus on mission, two by two, in order that they might proclaim to the surrounding towns that their King and Messiah had appeared. Well, now it was time for the disciples to return and report these ministry experiences to Jesus.

As the disciples shared their experiences with the Master, you can imagine their excitement at the retelling of these mission events including the miracles, the people, and the hardships. But, in this process of reporting, Jesus sees their fatigue, and knowing that they needed time away to decompress and to prepare for what would come next, he determines to take them away from the pressing crowds, for they hadn’t even had time to eat.

So, Jesus led them across the lake to a deserted place so that they might rest, but it appears no escape was possible: Maybe they saw the same thing Jesus saw when he looked at the crowd -- "When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things." Jesus saw the brokenness of the human condition first hand; he witnessed the lost-ness within the very heart of humanness. Jesus sees them without leadership, proper, loving leadership.

So, just what does this represent to us for our journey?

To be sure, there is weariness in our role as disciples’ of Christ; often because of our busy lives, we might think to ourselves, “Well, we've done our part; we've served our time, now it's up to others to carry on the work.” But, as our trailblazer, Jesus models the determination to finish well the task before him. He let nothing stand in his way, not even weariness.

Mother Teresa said it best; “What is the Good News? The Good News is that God still loves the world through each one of you. You are God’s Good News; you are God’s love in action. Jesus cannot walk the streets of the world now, so he does it through me, through you…Today, God loves the world so much by sending us.” “Jesus will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in his love than in your weakness.”

So as ministers, lay ministers, parents, grandparents, educators, as disciples of Jesus, let us remember the words of Isaiah 40:31 -  But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Sylvia Bates
Thank you to our generous parishioners who have made a pledge to the Annual HOPE Appeal so far. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge. Each gift brings us closer to our goal! It is our HOPE that you will choose to participate in the Annual Diocesan HOPE Appeal Campaign. With the participation of each and every parish family we should be able to meet our parish goal (assessment) of $18,570.02. Pledges To Date: $ 6,861.59 Balance Remaining: $11,708.43.

Sanctuary Candles: If you’d like to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of a loved one, at our Whitney Pt. or Marathon Church, please call our parish office. Donation is $20.00 for that month and memorial name(s) will be in bulletin.

Kick Off Natural Family Planning Week with a Splash! Join fellow Catholics at a social event for the whole family! We will be kicking off National NFP Week celebrations with casual family gatherings in regional locations. Choose the one closest to you and come on out for some splash pad fun! All events are today, July 22nd, from 2-4 pm. Bring a blanket/lawn chairs and some snacks, and meet us at the locations below for play and talk time. Open to both individuals and families. For more information call (315) 472-6754 or email nfp@syrdio.org.

UTC: Utica/Rome - Eastern Region - hosted by Nina Ranieri, Eastern Region NFP / Fertility Education Coordinator, Donovan Park Splash Park, 9400 Elm Street, Chaddocks, NY 13319

SY: Syracuse - Northern/Western Region - hosted by Morgan Durfee, Syracuse, NFP / Fertility Education Coordinator, Camillus Park/Splash Pad, 1 Pool Road, Camillus, NY 13031

BC: Binghamton/Cortland - Southern Region - hosted by Maria Montreuil, Southern Region NFP / Fertility Education Coordinator, Carousel & Spray Park at CFJ Park in Johnson City, CFJ Park, CFJ Blvd, Johnson City, NY 13790

Natural Family Planning Conference: Good for the Body, Great for the Soul!

When: Saturday, July 28th, from 10am - 2pm  Where: Holy Cross Church, DeWitt  Cost: $10/person, $15/couple

What: A conference to celebrate God’s vision for married love and promote the use of Natural Family Planning - in honor of the 50th anniversary of Humanae Vitae!  Who: Individuals and couples are invited to attend. No previous experience required! Childcare will be provided upon request.

To Register: https://nfpconference.eventbrite.com  Sponsored by the Office of Family/Respect Life, a HOPE Appeal Ministry

Project Rachel Ministry - God has a unique and beautiful plan of healing for all who have suffered from abortion. Please reach out to Project Rachel Ministry. We will offer you compassionate accompaniment on your journey to healing. All calls and emails are confidential. Contact us at (855)364-0076 or hopeandhealing@syrdio.org.

San Gennaro Festival-One Day Trip to New York City on Friday, September 14th! Enjoy the feast, shopping and the sight seeing!

For more information please call Lorraine at 753-7959

Mom’s House is accepting fall registration: Mom’s House offers FREE NYS licensed childcare and other support services while parents attend school, thus addressing the number one barrier single parents face when trying to accomplish their academic goals. For more information call 607-644-9972 or visit the website at: momshouseny.org.

Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military: Major Corrine Miller, A2C Derek Lescord, Devon McGill, Joshua Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Lt. Cpl John Larkin,Jr., USMC, Sgt. Heather Fox, Brett Hayes, Captain Caleb Miller, Sgt. Megan Ballard, A1C Brendan Schneider, Kris Carstens, LC USMC Daniel Morehouse, SSG Steven Gross, USMC Staff Sgt. Dan Votra, Sgt. Nicholas Stone, Lt. Paul McDonald, Major John Thomas, Major Joy Thomas, Lt. Commander Marvin Joel Scott III, AF2nd Lt. Emily Steele, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt. Jacob Rau, Sgt. Zachary Reardon USMC, Staff Sgt. Justin Blaisdell, Staff Sergeant Michael Hetzler, Lt. LCDR Maria Lescord, and our pastor, Lt. Colonel Douglas Cunningham. If you have a friend or family member serving our country and would like their name mentioned weekly in our bulletin, to be kept in our prayers, please contact our parish office.
The Mission Statement for The Catholic Community of St. Stephen - St. Patrick

We are a Roman Catholic Community of faith, welcoming the strength found in diversity. We are committed to using our time, talent, and treasure in proclaiming the Kingdom of God through prayer, fellowship, and service.

We experience our unity at the Eucharistic Table of the Lord, and our direction from the Word of God.

If you know of parishioners that have not been able to come to Mass because they are homebound, please let the Parish Office know so our Hospitality Groups can provide contact with them through visits and cards, and perhaps they would like to receive a copy of our bulletin.

Hospitalized or ill: Please notify rectory or email lcrowley@zfastest.net so we can provide for their spiritual needs.

If you know someone that is ill, facing surgery, or some other kind of difficulty, and needs our prayers, please call Dottie Angel at 656-9230 or Pat Canfield at 849-6978. They will lead the Prayer Chain we have at The CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick Church. Supporting each other with the Power of Prayer is the best medicine. If you are not on our Prayer Chain and would like to be, please call our Parish Office, 692-3911.

Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday July 22
8:30 AM Whitney Point…for Joseph Sculley, Anniv. & Bday…by Mary Sculley
10:30 AM Marathon…for Rosemarie Braman…by Mike & Marie Joseph
12:00 PM OLPH…for The Healing of Fr. Doug…by your parish

Tuesday July 24
8:30 AM Marathon…for Betty Lou Henry…by Paul O’Donnell

Next Sunday July 29
8:30 AM Whitney Point…for Elsie Zelnack…Elsie Poyer for Thomas J. Decker, Jr., 1st Anniv. …by The Family
10:30 AM Marathon…for Rosemarie Braman…by Jerry Griep
12:00 PM OLPH…for Ann Vitovsky…by Bernie & Sharon Massar

Readings for the Week of July 22 through July 29, 2018:

Today: Jer 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34
Monday: Mi 6:1-4,6-8; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3,7,8,12-13; Mt 13:10-17
Friday: Jer 3:14-17; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: Jer 7:1-11; Mt 13:24-30
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

The readings for today, Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, begin with #994, in our Journeysongs Hymnals.

Parish Council
Chairperson - Don Alexy & Don Barry
Vice-Chairperson - John Mihalko
Secretary - Britney Penrose

Parish STAFF
Director of Faith Formation - Cecelia Carstens, 323-5114
Ministry Coordinator - Peg Orzel, porzel10@yahoo.com
Church Organist/Music Director - Jennifer Cafferty

Parish Business/Office Manager - Mary Wied
Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday, Noon - Phone, Mail or Email, ststephenstpat@syrdio.org

Our bulletin and OLPH’s can be viewed online at www.ccsssp.com.

Weekly Ministry Updates

Whitney Point
Greeters: Cathy Cummings, Anne Clerkin
Next Sunday: Earl Markham, Chris Broderick
Lector: Gene Jordan Next Sunday: Jean McDonald
Altar Servers: Nora Jordan, Lana Jordan
Next Sunday: Kelsey Barrows, Isaac Jordan

Marathon
Eucharistic Ministers: Jerry Rothenberg, Margaret Fabrocino, Pat Walter
Next Sunday: Cathy Shomaker, Emily Jordan, Mary Jo Whitehead

Thank you for your Ministry Service to our Parish!
Prayer for the Family

O God, who was pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life.

Transform our doubt to faith;
Strengthen our hope;
Transform our love to charity.

Help us to live in charity.

Until we are all one in your kingdom, through Jesus Christ, your Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

Help us to live in charity.

Have You Heard About... “New Ministries”

Located at OLPH Seton Hall Hospitality Center & Exercise Program - 2708 Lower Cincinnatus Rd, Cincinnatus, NY 13040
Email: Newministries12@gmail.com
Phone 607-486-4086
Social Gatherings: 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 PM. Join us!
Bingo: Every Wednesday 1-3 PM.
Refreshments & Blood Pressure Checks Assistance through Office of Aging & NY Connects. Have a question? Call Sr Kathleen Heffron, CSJ

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School will be on Monday, August 13th through Friday, August 17th, from 6:00PM to 8:30PM. Light snacks will be provided along with lots of fun!

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, August 5th for The Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick’s Annual Parish Picnic

There will be one Mass at 10:30am at our Whitney Pt Church, outside, weather permitting. The Tyrrells (Fat Jack's Barbecue) will be doing the grill again this year. It was a great time 2 years ago of drawing closer together with one another and lingering a little longer around great food and fellowship. We are hoping for even a fuller participation this year with wonderful dishes to pass again. There are sign up sheets at each church, please sign up as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly.

We Need Your HELP

We are in need of several Parish Council Members from both locations who would start a 3 year term in September. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested please verify it with them first) contact the parish office, 692-3911 or ststephenstpat@syrdio.org with the information.

A Family Perspective - In today’s gospel, “The apostles gathered around and told Jesus all they had done.” Listening allows the other person to express, understand and appreciate their experiences. Whether it is the excited chatter of a young child or the repetitious stories of an aging grandparent, listening is important. It is not just time well spent, it is sacred time.

Vocation View: In today’s second reading, St Paul speaks about Christ’s work of reconciling divided humanity with each other and with the Father through His Blood. Is it possible that the Lord could be calling you to be an instrument of that reconciliation as a priest or religious? If you want to explore this question further, feel free to go to www.vocations-syracuse.org.

Come and Visit with Jesus

The Ecumenical Peace Garden

The second order for peace bricks has been sent to the engraver. We are also adding extra music to the Peace Garden. Applications are available in the vestibule. If you have any questions you are welcome to call Ken or Sylvia Bates at 743-0170 or 743-6317.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass said in memory of a loved one, please call our parish office. Donations by check should be made payable to CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick Church.