

The Catholic Community of St. Stephen St. Patrick

Rev. Douglas Cunningham, Administrator

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 06, 2019

P.O. Box 711
Whitney Point, New York 13862
Parish Halls: WP(607)692-3357
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(607) 692-3911 Fax: (607) 692-7171

Whitney Point: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-Noon

Email: ststephenstpat@syrdio.org
Website: www.ccssp.com

As announced or by appointment

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

The Three Kings

The story of the Three Kings has been a part of our sacred scriptures since antiquity. Its history offers some insights into our spiritual origins. The gospel according to Matthew implies that the Kings were astrologers, possibly from Babylon, and I wondered; how was the importance of this child recognized by these Kings but not by the Holy Family's own people? Was it only about the Star? Or did they also bring a message about Jesus' future? What was the meaning of these special gifts?

I quickly turned to John McKenzie's, S.J.'s Dictionary of the Bible for insight and read that myrrh was a valuable spice; gold was highly valued throughout the ancient world, and frankincense was the purest and most expensive form of incense. In Jesus' time, the vestments of the temple's high priest were heavy with gold thread, and the altar of incense in the temple was entirely overlaid with gold (Ex28:5, ff., Ex30:1, ff., 1K6:20.) And when the priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement for the people at the "mercy seat" of the gold covered Ark of the Covenant, he entered with fear and trembling. He believed that he was in the actual presence of God. There was a powerful belief that "no one can see God and live," and that the billows of smoke from the incense could "protect him from God's gaze" (ref. McKenzie, p.386.) Gold, spice, and incense - the gifts brought to the infant Jesus...well, we can only guess how the Kings knew who He was.

We face many questions. What do we bring to God? What do we bring as gifts? Do we enter His presence with awe and adoration? Do we recognize Him in weary travelers like Mary and Joseph or homeless and hungry people who are far from home and their loved ones? The list goes on. Let us bring the best we have as we celebrate this Holy Feast.

Dorothy A. Hathway, CSJA

**The star...
came to
rest over
the place
where the
child was.** 

Matthew 2:9, ESV



Weekly Stewardship Report: Last Sunday, December 30, 2018

Regular Collection: Envs: \$3,278. Loose: \$766. **Total Regular Collection: \$4,044.**

Other Income: Flowers-\$40. Christmas-\$315. Solemnity-\$45. SanctuaryCandle-\$60. 50/50-\$75. (CapitalAcct)

Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week: **Stipend: \$150.**

FuelOil: \$1,072. Office: \$1,261. (copier contract& Sam's) **Salaries: \$1,200.** **Total Bills Pd This Wk: \$3,683.**

Thank you for your time, talents and treasure!

Bills To Be Pd Next Week: \$3,155.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The second collection on Sunday, Jan 20th will be for the family of Stephen Zelsnack, Jr., to help them with expenses. This second collection will be taken at both 8:30am & 10:30am Masses.



CCSS-SP's 50/50 For December was won by Loretta Husner, winning \$75.00, congratulations! Thank you to the 30 participants. Proceeds are split between winner and our parish's Capital Account. There are extra envelopes at the entrances of our churches. This is a monthly raffle. Cost is \$5.00 per envelope.

Whitney Pt Ecumenical Food Pantry During the month of **January** we are collecting **canned soup** for the Whitney Pt. Ecumenical Food Pantry. **We are in need of any food donations.** There are marked baskets at the entrances of our churches. Thank you for all your food & monetary donations.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

Rediscover the True Meaning of Christmas Fr. Shannon Collins sheds new light on the biblical narratives of the birth of Jesus Christ, as well as the beautiful traditions of the Church during Christmas. Listen before the Christmas season ends!

God Made Man By Fr. Shannon Collins

The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the month of January in our Whitney Point Church is In Memory Of: **Joseph Fabrocino, Sr.** by Margaret Fabrocino & Joe, Jr. and in our Marathon Church: **John Ryan** by Marie Ryan & Family



Join others from our parish for a weekend event, **Power & Purpose at Stuebenville Franciscan University in OHIO** **June 7 - 9, 2019.** Begins at approximately 5pm Fri., June 7th, and ends by 2pm Sun., June 9th, The theme is "Dive into a life in the Holy Spirit. Draw us into a deeper relationship." If you are interested, contact Don Barry, dkekbarry@aol.com for further information. This event is open to adults 18 and over. **We can do fundraisers to help cover the cost of registration, hotel and meals.**

From the Stuebenville website: "As children of God, we are called to live in the peace, joy, and love of the Holy Trinity. Yet many of us struggle to feel God's presence in our lives. We remain stuck in old patterns of behavior or ways of thinking that leave us feeling lonely, anxious and even hopeless. The good news is that we can be free! The Holy Spirit can lift us out of despair and give us a renewed sense of purpose. **The Power and Purpose Conference** will introduce you to and draw you deeper into relationship with the Holy Spirit and empower you to live in freedom and joy."

→ Listen to some of the presentations from last years' Conference at <https://stuebenvilleconferences.com/events/ppc/?fbclid=IwAR1eDIZKMgPeMjHVwKXANuIlgTsaXQqPoNh8sraeTPk7LECaBRQAsIPrml>.

They are wonderful messages encouraging us to live our daily life in God's love.

Are you looking to learn more about you Catholic faith? The Office of Formation for Ministry is accepting registrations for spring courses in Syracuse, Utica & Binghamton. Courses include Pastoral Care, Evangelization, Liturgy, Church History, Collaborative Ministry, and Spirituality of Leadership. Courses are open to anyone interested in learning more about **these topics.** For more information please visit formationforministrysy.org or call 315-470-1491.



Safe Environment Re-certification Training: "Entrusted to Protect, Dedicated to Restore"

The diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy requires Safe Environment re-certification training (1 1/2 hour session) every five (5) years for: All clergy, All members of religious orders, All parish and diocesan employees, including those who have no contact with children, All volunteers whose ministry or role continues to place them in regular contact with children, young people, or vulnerable adults In addition to the re-certification session, all participants must pass a new criminal background check in order to complete their Safe Environment re-certification screening. There will be a Re-certification Training on **→ Monday, January 21st, 3:00pm, at our St. Stephen's Church in Marathon.** A facilitator from the Diocese is willing to come here for anyone past due on their re-cert or any that will expire in 2019 can attend this session in Jan. **→ Pre-registration is required.** safeenvironment@syrdio.org or call our office, 692-3911, but if you need to cancel your registration please contact the Safe Environment office at 315-470-1421. or safeenvironment@syrdio.org.



If anyone notices any kind of church maintenance need from needing a bulb or battery for something, if something has fallen or is broken, to any major need, please call our parish office asap, 692-3911, so it can be taken care of asap.

Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military: Major Corrine Miller, A2C Derek Lescord, Devon McGill, Joshua Lilley, PV2 James McGill, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Sgt Heather Fox, Brett Hayes, Captain Caleb Miller, Sgt Megan Ballard, A1C Brendan Schneider, Daniel Morehouse USMC, Sgt Jacob Rau, SSG Steven Gross, USMC SSgt Dan Votra, Sgt Nicholas Stone, Lt Paul McDonald, Major John Thomas, Major Joy Thomas, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, 2nd Lt. Emily Steele USAF, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, SSgt Michael Hetzler, LCDR Maria Lescord, and our pastor, LtCol 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.**



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/your 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.

Our bulletin and OLPH's can be viewed online at www.ccssp.com.  www.facebook.com/ccssp

Parish Council

Chairperson - John Mihalko
Vice-Chairperson - Don Barry
Secretary - Brittney Penrose

PARISH STAFF

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

Maintenance - (Please call parish office w/maintenance concerns)

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

Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday	Jan.06	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for The People Of Our Parish 10:30 AM Marathon...for Marge Carroll...by John Carroll 12:00 PM OLPH...for James Drury...by Jean & Katrina Drury
Tuesday	Jan. 08	No Mass Today
Sunday	Jan. 13	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for The People Of Our Parish 10:30 AM Marathon...for Lois Herold, 1st Anniv. ...by Dawn Odinek 12:00 PM OLPH...for James Drury...by Jean & Katrina Drury



Readings for the Week of January 6 through January 13, 2019:

Today: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a,5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Mk 4:12-17,23-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4; Lk 4:14-22

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5,9-11; Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16,21-22



The readings for today, The Epiphany of the Lord, begin with #898, in our Journeysongs Hymnals.

WP Ecumenical Food Pantry: M-Th & Sat, 10am-Noon & Thurs Eve, 6-8pm. Closed Fridays, Holidays, & when school is closed for inclement weather. **Food Pantry Chairperson:** Roger Calice **Clothing Bank:** M,Tu & Sat, 10am-Noon.

Mobile Food Pantry: 1st Friday of Month at WP Church parking lot. Truck arrives around **10:00am** (unless holiday)



SERVING THIS WEEK



Whitney Point

Greeters: Anne Ballard, Cathy Shoemaker
Next Sunday: Ingrid Jordak, Peggy Kemp
Lector: Dot Hathway **Next Sunday:** Gene Jordan
Altar Servers: Matthew Jordan, Nora Jordan
Next Sunday: Isaac Jordan, Josiah Lynch

Marathon

Dawn Odinek, Kristin Kashuba
Colleen Brown, Don Atwood
Lector: Joyce Van De Weert **Next Sunday:** Linda Caminiti
Breyden Silva, Arianna Silva
Brandon Tyrrell, Gunner Tyrrell

Eucharistic Ministers: Cecelia Carstens, Margaret Fabrocino, Mary Jo Whitehead
Next Sunday: Pat Walter, Dot Hathway, Kathy Bensley

Mike Thayne, Shelley Warnow, Karen Standish
Don & Karen Barry, Eric Barry
Jan Ushers: Richard Barry, Syd McEvoy
Jan Cleaner: Terrie Atwood

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MINISTRY SERVICE TO OUR PARISH!

CANCELLATIONS: If events at the Church need to be cancelled the event sponsor will contact the office and the phone message will indicate the cancellation. Please check the phone message on 692-3911 and church Facebook Page if things look 'iffy'.

This Week In Our Parish



Today, Jan. 6th Fr. Bob Vujs Presiding and Speaking of Behalf of Food For The Poor at all 3 Masses
1:00pm - Dish To Pass Epiphany Dinner - OLPH Church Hall, following the 12pm Mass

Tuesday, Jan. 8th
No Mass Today
7:00pm - CCSS-SP's Parish Council Meeting - Marathon Church Hall

Thursday, Jan. 10th
7:00pm - Adoration - Marathon Church

Sunday, Jan. 13th
First Eucharist Rite of Enrollment - Whitney Point Church
9:20-11:00am - Faith Formation Classes - Whitney Point Church Hall
12:00-2:00pm - Confirmation Class - Whitney Point Church Hall
2:00pm - Parish Vision Meeting - Marathon Church

Whole Community Catechesis Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Reading 2 - Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Gentiles are coheirs
in the promise of Christ.

Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus
and do him homage.

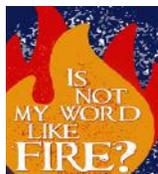
Adults: When have you been jealous or fearful of another person? When are such feelings harmful?

Children: When have you been jealous because something good happened to another person instead of you? What is the problem with feeling that way?

Come and Visit with Jesus

Did you know that every Thursday evening, for one hour, you can come and spend some time with Jesus?

Eucharistic Adoration is just that; a chance to be within His presence and talk to him one on one. Come for a short amount of time or stay for all of it. This Thursday, January 10th, is at our Marathon Church, 7pm.



IGNITE 2019-There will be a Diocese Southern District kickoff event for the 11TH

IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference, sponsored by the Diocese of Syracuse, will be held **March 30, 2019**. We are looking for MEN to help promote this event in the Parish. WE CAN USE YOUR HELP IN PROMOTING THIS EVENT FOR CATHOLIC MEN!!

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019

Where: St. Anthony of Padua,
300 Odell Ave., Endicott

Mass: 6:30pm with Fr. Joe O'Connor

Meeting Time: 7pm following the Mass

If you have any questions, please call Rick Sanguinito at 607-222-3509.

Food For The Poor-Please join us today, January 6, to hear **Rev. Robert W. Vujs** speak at all the Masses about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Fr. Vujs will share personal witness about FFTP's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love on another. Fr. Vujs was ordained on June 10, 1961 for the Maryknolls. Before joining Food For the Poor, Fr. Bob served over 40 years in Africa. Please join us in welcoming Fr. Vujs.



OLPH's Annual Epiphany Dinner is TODAY, January 6th, after the 12pm Mass. Bring a dish to pass and let's celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord together in Seton Hall. All are welcome; please come!



EPIPHANY

Parish Focus: TRUST This year our parish has selected trust in God as our theme. Today we continue our study of how we can learn to trust more. **Each day we should Listen to the Holy Spirit**

When Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to the church, He told His disciples that this Counselor would be their spiritual compass or GPS:

"But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26)

As we go through our day, this same Holy Spirit guides us, too. That means we don't have to go it alone or hope we're getting it right. No, the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth and protects us:

"Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us." (2 Timothy 1:14)

After all, the gift of the Holy Spirit to us believers reminds us that we can truly Rest in God's Love. (to be continued next week)



Parish Vision Meeting - Join us on Sunday January 13th, at 2PM at our Marathon Church to discuss how we as a parish can continue to be open to God's call. Being a Catholic involves coming together on Sunday to worship... and also to reach out to others in service. What are we being called to do?



Book Discussion - The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity.

"We all want to be happy and live life to the fullest, but the answer isn't found in the world's definition of happiness. Modern culture is constantly feeding us lies, and these lies affect you more than you know. The lies that affect you the most, however, are the ones you tell yourself. These lies steal your joy, sap your energy, and cause you to lose hope. They prevent you from discovering the kind of vibrant faith the first Christians experienced. But as Matthew Kelly shows, we've arrived at a crucial moment in history. People are disillusioned with what the world offers. The world is in desperate need of change, and no one is in a better position to effect that change than Christians. We have an incredible opportunity to dispel the lies and cut through the confusion and false promises around us. This book provides the practical tools necessary to help you regain your fervor and leave your mark on the world—and experience more happiness than you thought possible. We will begin discussing the first four chapters on Tuesday, January 15th, at 9:30. Please plan on joining us as we support and encourage each other on our life journey