

The Catholic Community of St. Stephen St. Patrick

Rev. Douglas Cunningham, Administrator

First Sunday of Advent

December 02, 2018

P.O. Box 711
Whitney Point, New York 13862
Parish Halls: WP(607)692-3357
M(607)849-3630
(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.

As I read the Gospel reading, a feeling of uneasiness came over me. Are we ready? Where are we going? Fear of the unknown is a real feeling, but we CAN know, with confidence, our destination. My whole conversion time period has been focused on this reading of being ready. As the Gospel states today, we cannot become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness. We do not want to live like people of earth, but as people of God. Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega. The beginning and the end. What a perfect time of the year to begin a new season. Let's live as Jesus wants us to. Let us use this time of advent to become more like Jesus and to have a blameless heart and a Holy life. Let our lives reflect the call of Jesus. Do we live the life Jesus expects of us? Do we help people in need? Do we show Love? Jesus is Love. Ask yourself this question, "When I am around people, do they see me or do they see Jesus." The focus needs always to be on Jesus and not us. In this new season of advent, let us begin anew. One way to do this is through confession. For me, confession was one of the biggest obstacles but now I understand and enjoy going as the weight of my sins is lifted. When I go to confession and talk to a priest (In persona Christi,) I feel I own up to my sins. Proverbs 24:16 says, "... a man falls seven times a day." WOW. I encourage you to go to confession so you, too, can feel the weight of sin lifted. Let's live a life of service and love! So no matter when the time is we want Jesus to say to us well done good and faithful servant. You lived your life like me one of service and Love. Let this be the day to give all your worries and problems to Jesus. Let him be the Lord of your life.

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." 1 Peter 3:15

God Bless,
Don Barry

Weekly Stewardship Report: Last Sunday, November 25, 2018

Regular Collection: Envs: \$2,899. Loose: \$319.**Total Regular Collection: \$3,218.**

Diocesan Collections: Seminary-\$5. **Other Income:** ChristmasFlowers-\$50. SanctCandle-\$20.

Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week: **Donation:** \$100. (Sr.Kathleen)

Utilities: \$424. **ChR&M:** \$81. **Office:** \$80. **Phone:** \$268. **Salaries:** \$1,300.**Total Bills Pd This Wk: \$2,253.**

Bills To Be Pd Next Week: \$4,000.

Thank you for your time, talents and treasure!

2018 HOPE Appeal.

Thank you to our generous parishioners who have made a pledge to the Annual HOPE Appeal. There are extra envelopes at the entrances of our churches.

We still need \$3,905.00 to meet our goal. The Diocese of Syracuse has informed us that they will extend the deadline until December 30th with ONLY full payment pledges.

2018 HOPE Appeal Goal: \$18,570.02

Pledges To Date: \$14,665.02

Balance Remaining: \$ 3,905.00

Attention 7th-12th Graders

Come to our

Youth Group Night

at our Whitney Point Church Hall, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, from 5-8pm.

Dinner will be provided. There will be music, dinner, games, and fun.



THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

Prepare the Way of the King an audio presentation by Scott Hahn

Ready Your Heart this Advent Your Advent journey will take on new

meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind—Jesus Christ. *Listen on Formed.org, Parish Code: CFMRY*

Steubenville Power and purpose weekend in OHIO at Franciscan University


June 7-9, 2019. Starts approximately 5 pm Friday, June 7th, and ends by 2 pm Sunday, June 9th.

Theme: *Dive into a life in the Holy Spirit.*

Draw us into a deeper relationship.

Working on fundraisers to cover costs. If you are interested, contact is Don Barry,

dkekbarry@aol.com. Must be over 18 yrs old.



The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the month of December in our Whitney Point Church:
Helmut Melzer and Daina Freimanis
 by Vella Melzer

In Memory of... **in our Marathon Church:**
Bill & Helen Appleby
 by Family

Attention Please: 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.

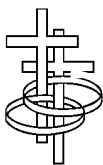
Whitney Point Ecumenical Food Pantry

Thank you to those who donated canned vegetables last month for the Whitney Pt. Ecumenical Food Pantry. During the month of **December** we are collecting **peanut butter & jelly.**

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.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

If you would like to donate toward our Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one, a Christmas Flower envelope is included in your envelope packet, or you may use a blank envelope at the entrances of our churches and mark "Memorial Flowers" and who in memory of and place in collection basket.



World Marriage Day On Sunday, February 10, 2019

at 2:30pm, The Most Reverend Robert J. Cunningham will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and invite all couples in attendance to renew their commitment to Holy Matrimony. **He will specially honor couples who will celebrate their 25th, 50th, and beyond 50th anniversary in 2019.**

Couples celebrating 25, 50, or 50+ years, please contact our parish office, 692-3911, to register for the event.

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.



Remember Our Veterans

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.ccsssp.com.



Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick

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	Dec. 02	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Jack Lantry ...by Jim & Lora Hammill for Ruth Foster ...by Mary Sculley	
		10:30 AM <i>Marathon</i> ...for Marge Carroll ...by John Carroll	
		12:00 PM OLPH...for Celebration Mass for Anne Dyjak's 80th Birthday	
Tuesday	Dec. 04	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Einer & Grace Erickson by Ron & Jackie Burroughs for Theresa & Everett Burroughs by Ron & Jackie Burroughs	
Next Sunday	Dec. 09	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Dick Armstrong ...by Anne O'Donnell	
		10:30 AM <i>Marathon</i> ...for The People Of Our Parish	
		12:00 PM OLPH...for The People Of Our Parish	

Readings for the Week of December 2 through 9, 2018:

Today: Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thes 3:12--4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37



Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21,24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Gn 3:9-15,20; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6

The readings for today, First Sunday of Advent, begin with #880, 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 **9:30am** (unless holiday)



SERVING THIS WEEK



Whitney Point

Greeters: Anne Ballard, Cathy Shoemaker
Next Sunday: Ingrid Jordak, Colleen Mihalko
Lector: Gene Jordan **Next Sunday:** Jason Somers
Altar Servers: Ian McMullen, Grace Russell
Next Sunday: Noah Somers, Hannah Somers

Marathon

Kathleen Allen, Don Barry
Bob Barry, Colleen Brown
Lector: Linda Caminiti **Next Sunday:** Kathy Cusick
Breyden Silva, Arianna Silva
Alex Votra, Angela Barry

Eucharistic Ministers: Ann Calice, Cecelia Carstens, Mary Jo Whitehead
Next Sunday: Margaret Fabrocino, Dot Hathway, Emily Jordan

Dawn Odinek, Chris Brandstadt, Mike Thayne
Geoff Tyrrell, Shelley Waronw, Cindy Barry
Nov Ushers: Mike Reilly, Don Atwood
Dec Cleaner: Carol Niggi

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MINISTRY SERVICE TO OUR PARISH!

There are copies of new ministry schedule if you need one in the sacristies and signup sheets for Christmas Eve on bulletin boards at the entrances of our Whitney Pt. & Marathon

This Week In Our Parish



Today, Dec. 2nd

Kaylum Ashley Baptism - After the 8:30am Mass at Whitney Point Church

Monday, Dec. 3rd

6:00pm - Annual Christmas Caroling in Marathon - Beginning at St. Stephen's Ch

Tuesday, Dec. 4th

7:00pm - Deacon Ken Money Parish Mission Presentation - Marathon Church

Thursday, Dec. 6th

7:00pm - Deacon Ken Money Parish Mission Presentation - Marathon Church

Sunday, Dec. 9th

7:00pm - Adoration - Whitney Point Church

9:20-11:00am - Faith Formation Classes - Whitney Point Church Hall

12:00-2:00pm - Confirmation Class - Whitney Point Church Hall

Whole Community Catechesis

Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

Reading 2 - 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

Gospel - Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

Adults: What have been the strengths of your prayer life? What habit of prayer could you strengthen during this Advent season?

Children: What prayers will you say each day and each week during Advent?



ADVENT READING MATERIAL - A variety of booklets are available on the church tables for your use during Advent. Please select one that appeals to you, take it home and read it during the Season. May we all have a wonderful Advent!!

Annual Community Christmas Caroling in Marathon this evening, **Dec. 2nd**, Everyone please join us with your voices for Christmas caroling at the Marathon Churches. We will begin at our **Marathon Church at 6pm** and our final stop will be at the Marathon Presbyterian Church. We welcome carolers to bring some snacks for when we are finished.

JOIN US THIS MONDAY AND TUESDAY-Deacon Ken Money will present a parish mission titled, "Getting ready to experience the L.O.V.E. of Jesus" at our Marathon Church this Monday, Dec. 3rd, and Tuesday, Dec.4th, from 7PM to 8PM. Deacon Ken has been ordained for 23 years and has given missions, Days of Renewal and Workshops in both NY and Florida. He has been married for 46 years and has two children and five grandchildren. His energetic style and personal stories are both engaging and refreshing, challenging you to deepen your relationship with Jesus. He is currently assigned to Sacred Heart Church, Cicero where he is also the Business Manage. Light refreshments will be served. Come one or both nights!!

Today, December 2nd, we welcome

Kaylum Ashley

to the Waters of Baptism at our Whitney Point Church. May he be blessed and guided by the Holy Spirit all the days of his life.



CCSS-SP's Advent Penance Service

will be on Wednesday, December 12th, 7pm, at our Whitney Point Church. Prepare the way this Advent with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr. Doug and other priests will be available to hear confessions.



Advent Pageant & Dinner

For Who: Everyone!

What: Christmas Pageant & Carols

Where: St. Patrick's Church, Whitney Pt

When: Sunday, December 16th, at 3pm (youth by 2:30pm, downstairs)

Dish to pass dinner in church hall following program. Please see signup sheets at each church. (If you're already attending with your child that's in pageant, you don't need to sign up)

Our Parish Focus this Liturgical Year: Trust In God and all else will follow This past fall our parish chose the focus: Trust In God and all else will follow. During the coming year we will reflect on the meaning of this saying and how it can impact our daily life. To start our year off we will have a series titled "7 Daily Steps to Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart"

Perhaps you've been told that as a Christian you must learn to "trust in the Lord with all your heart." But this famous passage from Proverbs 3 contains more than just a general statement about living. Instead, you'll find the steps you need each day to truly walk with God. Follow these 7 daily steps to make sure you're leaning on the Lord:

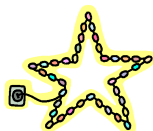
1. Don't Depend on You -We live in a world where trust must be earned and seems to be in short supply. But Solomon, the famous king who wrote Proverbs, knew that trust is exactly where we must start: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5)

Most of us have faced disappointments, which have taught us that we can only depend upon ourselves. But living the life God has called us to means unlearning that lesson. Instead, we're meant to rest in God's understanding.

We may know in our minds that He possesses all wisdom: "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!" Romans 11:33

But sometimes trusting Him completely like that can be tough. So, each day we must consciously lay aside our own plans and expectations—and surrender to His plans. What if we don't feel like we can trust Him like that? That's where step 2 comes in...

(to be continued next week)



CHRISTMAS GIFT PROGRAM-Christmas Stars are available at the church entrances. If you are able to purchase a gift please, take a star, wrap that ONE item and place the star on the outside. All gifts should be returned by Sunday, Dec. 16th, after Mass. There are also local programs in Marathon and Whitney Point reaching out to other families. If you are able to help them, please contact the local libraries. Your generosity is much appreciated.

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 and church Facebook Page if things look 'iffy.