

*Catholic Community
of
St. Stephen - St. Patrick*



August 25, 2019

The Catholic Community of St. Stephen --- --- --- St. Patrick

Rev. Douglas Cunningham, Administrator

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 25, 2019

Marathon Campus
16 Academy St. - Marathon, New York



PARISH OFFICE

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

OFFICE HOURS

Whitney Point: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-Noon

E-MAIL

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

CONFESSIONS

As announced or by appointment

MARRIAGE / BAPTISMS

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

Whitney Point Campus
51 Keibel Rd. - Whitney Point, New York



Today's Gospel reading is a very sobering portion of scripture for me. I think it is one of those readings you can easily read over and let it not affect you, but when I really put myself in the place of the person getting the news from God, it is horrifying. I imagine myself looking into God's eyes and Him telling me "Depart from me, all you evildoers." Now, my prayers are that no one reading this would ever hear those words from God. I am also sure that whoever does hear those words from God, they would be spoken with a tear in God's eye. We know from scripture that God desires everyone to be with him in heaven. But he gave us this thing called free will, so we get to choose whether to be with him for eternity or be separated from him for eternity. To hear "well done, good and faithful servant" or "depart from me, all you evildoers." I know there are some people who feel that everyone is going to heaven regardless of what they do, but this is an extremely dangerous line of thinking as it can give people false hope. I also know there are people on the other end of that spectrum who make the gate so narrow that only Christ himself can get thru it (oops, you swore once, you're going to hell.) I don't believe God expects us to be absolutely perfect in order to get to heaven, but I also don't believe we can do whatever we please and get to heaven either. All we can do is work to live our lives to honor God, to take the road less traveled, regardless of how bumpy that road may be. The 2nd reading gives us hope with these difficulties. When we face problems, they are not because God is mad at us or we are being punished. They are because we live in a fallen world which includes suffering along with joy. I will not disagree with you that some people get way more than their fair share of suffering and others who seemingly do not deserve it get far more than their fair share of joy. But I don't recall reading anywhere in scripture that life is fair. The afterlife? That will be fair, and we will be rewarded for our loyalty to God when we get there. But until that day comes, we must learn to suffer well. Not for the sake of bragging about how tough we are, but because that is what God instructs us to do. Sometimes these sufferings are out of our control – cancer, tragic accidents, economic changes that cause us to lose our job, etc. But it does not mean that God is after us or has doomed us, it just means that we are in the midst of a trial of life, not on trial with God. God is always rooting for us, he desires us to win, to stay strong, to find that narrow gate. Yes, the gate is narrow, but there IS a path to it for EVERY PERSON. The Holy Spirit is leading us down that path, Jesus has cleared the way, and God is waiting at the end with open arms. How do we find it? Read the map (God's word - the Bible,) ask for directions (prayer,) correct your course when you go astray (penance,) and keep gas in your tank (the Eucharist.) If you are willing, God WILL lead you home, all you need to do is allow him to do it. God Bless.

Pax Christi,
John Mihalko



Stewardship Report

Weekly Stewardship Report: Last Sunday, August 18, 2019

Regular Collection: Envs: \$2,871. Loose: \$317. Electronic: \$120.Total Regular Collection: \$3,308.
Other Income: Assumption-\$181. Hospitality-\$10. Donation-\$10. Rental-\$270. (6mos.:AA@MCh) Sanctuary-\$20.
Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week: FuelOil: \$1,044. Office: \$193.
 Utilities: \$322. Picnic: \$191. CathSun: \$124. Salaries: \$1,400. **Total Bills Paid This Week: \$3,274.**
 Bills To Be Pd Next Week: \$3,510.

Your continued generosity is so greatly appreciated!



HOPE APPEAL 2019 - Many thanks to those who have pledged to the 2019 HOPE Appeal. There are many services the diocese provides to our parishes, schools, and to all Catholics that would be difficult for even the most prosperous parishes to undertake on their own. This includes support for educating seminarians, Catholic Charities, campus ministry, parishes and schools, formational ministries, pastoral assistance, evangelization and communications. When the goal of the HOPE Appeal is achieved, we insure that these programs will receive the funding that is needed. All pledges and payments are due Nov. 30th.

Our parish goal this year is \$18,984.05
 Pledges to date: \$12,235.00
Balance remaining: \$ 6,749.05



The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the month of August in our Whitney Pt Church is In Memory Of:

Sam Suma
by Rita Suma

In Memory of... in our **Marathon Church:**
Marie Ross
by Garret & Joyce Van De Weert



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

What's so Great about Being Catholic? Jason Evert

Do you ever doubt your faith? Listen to this one hour presentation to help

you understand our faith better. There's ultimately only one reason to be Catholic: because it's true. In this outstanding presentation, Jason Evert shows us the beauty and the treasures of the Faith, as revealed through the Saints and Sacraments. Jason has spoken about the Catholic Faith to more than one million people around the world and is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Saint John Paul the Great, Pure Faith and If You Really Loved Me*. Listen on Formed.org **Parish Code: CFMRYY**

THRIVE - Music, Inspiration & Fellowship

Worship is for everyone who longs for God - seekers and believers.

Are you searching for something? Is life wearing you down?

Do you feel like you're just going through the motions? Don't just survive - thrive!



Join us for Thrive, a night of powerful worship, prayer, Scripture, and inspiration on Friday, September 13th at 7:00pm at our Whitney Point Church with Jeremy Bobak & Band. And of course, there's great food afterward. Plan to come and bring a friend, ALL are welcome!

Whitney Pt Ecumenical Food Pantry-Thank you for your spaghetti sauce donations this month for the Whitney Point Ecumenical Food Pantry. During the month **Sept.** we are collecting **Jiffy cornbread mix.** **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.



A Family Perspective-The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you come from," is often used by parents about children and children about parents.

Change is so rapid, one generation has little in common with another. We depend on love, trust, and mutual respect to bridge this gap.



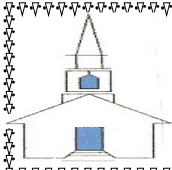
Vocation View: Jesus warned that his followers must seek the narrow gate. The way of the world is a wide path, but it leads to destruction. If you feel a restlessness for more and an exhaustion with the empty promises of this world, seek the narrow way. Ask the Lord to guide you to a life with meaning and purpose. Visit: www.vocations-syracuse.org.

Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military: PVT2 *Averi Hull, Major Corrine Miller, Devon McGill, Sgt Megan Ballard, Joshua Lilley, PV2 James McGill, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Sgt Heather Fox, Captain Caleb Miller, A2C Derek Lescord, Sgt Jacob Rau, A1C Brendan Schneider, Daniel Morehouse USMC, SSG Steven Gross, USMC SSgt Dan Votra, Sgt Nicholas Stone, LCDR Paul McDonald, Major John Thomas, Major Joy Thomas, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, 2ndLt. Emily Steele USAF, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, SSgt Michael Hetzler, LCDR Maria Lescord, Brett Hayes, and our pastor, LtCol Douglas Cunningham.*



Remember Our Veterans

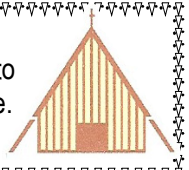
If you have a friend or family member serving our country and would like their name mentioned weekly in our bulletin, to be kept in our prayers, please contact our parish office.



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 ill, hospitalized or homebound, please let the Parish Office know so our Hospitality Groups can provide contact with them through visits and cards, or any spiritual needs such as communion, and perhaps they would like to receive a copy of our bulletin.



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 & OLPH's can be viewed online at www.ccssp.com  Our face book page: 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	Aug. 25	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for James Green ...by Family for Elsie Zelsnack ...by Elsie Poyer	
		10:30 AM Marathon...for Norris & Ruth Smith, Wedding Anniv. ...by <i>The Family</i>	
		12:00 PM OLPH...for Nora & Theodore Hain ...by Jean & Katrina Drury for Jennie Ricca ...by Pat & Terri Fedele	
Tuesday	Aug. 27	8:30 AM OLPH...for Joanne Cunningham ...by Bill, Mary & Tyler Wied	
Sunday	Sept. 01	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Deborah Young ...by CCSS-SP's Hospitality for Ken Bliss ...by Pat Tredo	
		10:30 AM Marathon...for Marge Carroll ...by <i>John Carroll</i>	
		12:00 PM OLPH...for Bernadette Spratt Buttigieg ...by Josephine Kellogg	

Readings for the Week of August 25 through September 1, 2019:

Today: Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7,11-13; Lk 13:22-30	Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Mk 6:17-29	
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5,8b-10; Mt 23:13-22	Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Mt 25:1-13	
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Mt 23:23-26	Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Mt 25:14-30	
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Mt 23:27-32	Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29; Heb 12:18-19,22-24a; Lk 14:1,7-14	

The readings for today, Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, begin with #1010, 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)



Whitney Point

Greeters: Anne Clerkin, Colleen Mihalko
Next Sunday:
Lector: Jason Somers **Next Sunday:** New Schedule
Altar Servers: Nora Jordan, Lucca Lynch
Next Sunday:

New Schedules Coming
New Schedules Coming

Marathon

McEvoy Family
Lector: Linda Caminiti **Next Sunday:** New Schedule
Brandon Tyrrell, Gunner Tyrrell

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Bensley, Mary Jo Whitehead, Emily Jordan
Next Sunday: Cindy Barry, Dawn Odinek, Don Barry
New Schedules Coming

August Ushers: Wayne Niggli, Mike Thayne/**Sept:** Don Barry Family

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MINISTRY TO OUR PARISH! **Sept Cleaner:** Agnes & Joyce Zelsnack

This Week In Our Parish

Today, Aug. 25th

Cassian Dean Baptism - Whitney Point Church

Tuesday, Aug. 27th

8:30am Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church - Cincinnati

Thursday, Aug. 29th

7:00pm - Adoration - Whitney Point Church

Whole Community Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Isaiah 66:18-21

Nations of every language shall come
to see my glory.

Reading 2 - Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Whom the Lord loves, he disciplines.

Gospel - Luke 13:22-30

People will come from north and south,
east and west, and take their place
in the Kingdom of God.

Adults: *Who do I need to look at
differently in the light of today's Gospel?
How will I strengthen myself so that
I can open the narrow gate?*

Children: *What good habits are you
practicing in order to be a good Christian?*

FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

Faith Formation classes will be starting up again in just three weeks. Everyone should have received their packet in the mail. If you need one, please see Cecelia Carstens or call the office. We would appreciate it if you could complete the forms and return as soon as possible so that we can ensure we have the necessary materials for the start of the year.



Join Our Class!

Home Visitors/Eucharistic Ministers and those who might be interested:

You are invited to a retreat day, **Tuesday, September 17th**,
at Holy Family Church in Endwell.

Individuals from throughout the area will gather for prayer, conversation and lunch. The theme will be "Pastoral Care: The Cup of Compassion" and the day will be led by Sr. Alma Jones, CSJ. Please contact Mary at the office if you are interested in attending. Perhaps we can carpool.

Introducing:

Our new Parish Unbound sponsored child, Mihary Nirina, a 9 year old girl from Madagascar. The Unbound organization writes, "Mihary is a wise and friendly young girl. Her jobs at home are getting water and sweeping the room. She enjoys playing house and cooking with mates. Her health is good. Mihary attends primary school approximately 30 minutes from home. She gets there on foot. She likes to study writing. She is wise and excited to learn every day."

Our Human Development Ministry donates money each year towards, the sponsored child's education, health and food expenses. The child writes to our parish periodically and someone in Hospitality writes to her.

Our last child, Dayana, completed her education and has started working so she is no longer eligible for the Unbound Program. She thanks us for making a lasting difference in her life. Please keep both girls, and their families, in your prayers.



Calling All Seniors!

Parish Senior Luncheon - All Seniors, 65 years and older, from The Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Churches are invited for a hot/cold buffet on Tuesday, September 24th, 12:00pm, at the

Three Bear Inn in Marathon. Signup sheets are at each church locations or RSVP to Anne Clerkin, 760-0473, by September 15th, so we know how many to reserve for. This is of no cost to you. We can help with transportation if needed. We hope you can join us for fun, food and door prizes. *Sponsored by our Parish Senior Ministry.*

Thank you to all who helped make last Sunday's Parish Picnic a wonderful time! From all who helped set up, the liturgical ministers for their participation, all the delicious dishes and as always a great big thank you to the Tyrrells of Fat Jack's BBQ, 234 Tompkins St. for the meat and cooking it, the wonderful talent we got to enjoy this year, and to cleaning up.

A very special thank you to Brittney Penrose for shopping for supplies and organizing the whole event!



In Loving
Memory

The flowers
on either
side of the tabernacle
at our Marathon Church
are given in memory of
Norris and Ruth Smith
by their family.

TRUST IN GOD

"God's purpose for today's events may not be seen until tomorrow."

Author unknown

Today, August 25th,
we welcome

Cassian Dean

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.

Ministries:

Would you like to join a parish ministry?

We will soon be creating new schedules for lectors, servers, greeters and Eucharistic ministers.

- If you would like to be added to the ministry schedule please contact Justin VanTassel (jvantassel@gmail) or call the office with your name, email address and which church location you usually attend.
- If you would like to join a different ministry: bulletin reflection writer, hospitality, human development, nursing home/home visitor, helping a shut in (Neighbor to Neighbor ministry,) cleaner, Children's Night Out, etc., please contact Peg Orzel, porzel10@yahoo.com or 607 372-7036.
- If you would like to join the bereavement (help the family plan a funeral)ministry, cemetery or Food Pantry please call the office and someone will contact you with details and provide 'training' for that ministry.

We hope to have you join us!

We are all called to serve in some way within the parish setting and/or outside!
Don't be afraid to respond to God's call.