



Catholic Community of St. Stephen~St. Patrick
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 08, 2019

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

Rev. Douglas Cunningham, Administrator

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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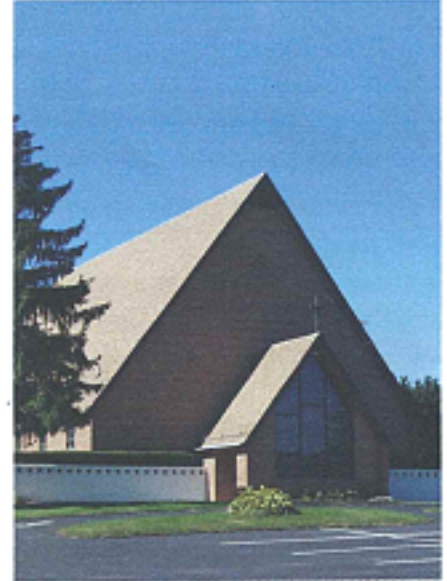
Marathon Campus

16 Academy St. - Marathon, New York



Whitney Point Campus

51 Keibel Rd. - Whitney Point, 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.

Every day we make commitments. Some are new ones, formulated over our morning coffee, and some are existing ones we are trying to honor, even though we may have made them months, years or decades ago. We are challenged each and every day to remain true to our commitments, but they are so easy to break and so tough to keep.

Think about all the times we vowed to exercise more or to eat less. We were resolute in your conviction, but within weeks or maybe only days, we were back to our old habits. Or, was our vow to be more Christ-like, maybe to follow the example of St. Ignatius and do our daily Exam of Conscience, come rain or shine? How many times were we able to remain true to this solemn vow, this desire of ours to do something of great importance?

Maybe that is what Jesus was intimating when he warned the disciples about the challenges they would face if they agreed to pledge their very lives to his Gospel. The road would be steep and difficult, full of twists and turns that would cause many to lose their way. Had the disciples, like the builders, calculated the true cost of their commitment? Or, were the disciples more like the generals, who realized they might face an insurmountable enemy, and therefore, chose to sue for peace instead of war?

Breaking a vow is humiliating. It makes us feel weak and can hurt those who were depending on us to be true to our word. So how do we, in today's world, respond to the challenges of discipleship? Do we measure the builder's costs of being true and faithful to God's message, or do we rush in unaware of how big Satan's army is?

Fortunately for us, we have a forgiving God, one who knows our weaknesses and understands that we will stumble and fall repeatedly. Our God extends his hand, to pull us up when our promise of unvarying discipleship falters, helping us to be true to his commandments and his teaching.

Let us approach this day and every day recommitted to our goals and aspirations to improve our personal lives and communities, to better the lives of those with whom we interact, and most importantly, to deepen our relationship with Christ. Let us commit – with courage and excitement – to live a faith-filled life we can be proud of. For despite our frequent stumbles, God is continually there to inspire us to persevere.

And, if our goal is to be more Christ-like in our personal lives, then maybe we, too, should be more understanding of others for we are not alone in the challenge to remain true to our goals and commitments. When our family, friends or co-workers stumble, we can extend a helping hand and support them in their efforts, just as Christ does for us, each and every day.

by Steve Scholer
Creighton University's University Relations

Weekly Stewardship Report: Last Sunday, September 1, 2019



Stewardship Report

Regular Collection: Envs: \$2,891. Loose: \$709. Electronic: \$690.**Total Regular Collection: \$4,290.**
Other Income: Assumption-\$10. *Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week:*
FuelOil:\$1,044. **Donation:** \$792. ((WPFoodPantry) **Salaries:** \$1,400.**Total Bills Paid This Week: \$3,236.**
Your continued generosity is so greatly appreciated! Bills To Be Pd Next Week: \$1,992.

HOPE APPEAL 2019 - THE SECRET TO ACHIEVING THE GOAL is the participation of ALL households in the parish! Your gift can help us together as a parish to take this opportunity to feed the hungry, counsel the sorrowful, and inform the next generation of God's gracious plan for our salvation. If you have not yet made a gift/pledge we ask that you do so today. You may return the pledge form that you received in the mail or use a pledge form found in the pews. All pledges and payments are due Nov. 30th.

Our parish goal this year is \$18,984.05
Pledges to date: \$12,485.00
Balance remaining: \$ 6,499.05

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

most basic elements of a life of faith, but sometimes it feels like a one-way "conversation." Dr. Gray shows how the solution to this problem can be found in the Scriptures. Watch on Formed.org **Parish Code: CFMRYY**



BOOK GROUP -The Sophia Spiritual Center is sponsoring a new book group. Sister Lois Barton, CSJ and Cheryl Lyon, CPC will lead a discussion using the book, The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind – a New Perspective on Christ and His Message by Cynthia Bourgeault. The group will meet Sept. 25, Oct. 9&23, Nov. 6 and 20 at the First Congregational Church on Front Street Binghamton. The book can be ordered on Amazon.com and BN.com. It is suggested if possible to read chapters 1,2 and 12 before the first meeting. The suggested donation is \$50 for the series (or what you can afford). Register by Sept 17th by calling or texting Cheryl Lyon at 607 316-8382 or emailing Cheryl@wingedlifecoaching.com

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.

On Sunday, September 29th at 4pm at Church of the Holy Trinity (346 Prospect St., Binghamton) **Josh Carey will present an organ recital in memory of Fr. Al Bebel**, emeritus pastor of St. Ann's Church (now Church of the Holy Trinity). Works by Novák, Thalben-Ball, Pachelbel, Rheinberger, Fauré and several others will be performed, including choral selections by the Holy Trinity Choir. A free will offering will be taken for the restoration of Holy Trinity's stained glass windows.



A Family Perspective-Today's gospel is clear: commitment to another involves sacrifice.

Before we accept a commitment such as marriage or parenting, we must plan carefully like the king in today's gospel. These are serious commitments which demand complete self-giving and are not for the faint hearted or selfish.

Mark Your Calendar! Seventh Annual Catholic Women's Conference Join hundreds of women for a day out at the Annual Catholic Women's Conference on **Saturday, October 26th** at the Oncenter Convention Center in Syracuse. For more information or to register online visit syracusewc.com.

Today, September 8th, is the diocesan collection for **The Catholic University of America**, the national university of the Catholic Church in the U.S., located in Washington, D.C.

CUA provides an academically rigorous education guided by Catholic intellectual tradition to nearly 7,000 students every year. More than 4,000 students directly receive scholarship aid from this collection, including many from our diocese. Please place your donation envelope in with the regular collection.

Lectio: Prayer Prayer as a Conversation Prayer is one of the



THANKSGIVING BASKET SIGNUPS

This year the Thanksgiving Baskets signups for Whitney Point residents will be at Mother Teresa's Cupboard located at St. Ambrose Church, 202 Garfield Ave. in Endicott. You may sign up from Sept. 9th through Oct. 18th, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 2:30pm.

Please bring ID for everyone in the household and proof of address dated within 60 days for anyone over 18.



Interested?

Are you, or someone you know, interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? If so, contact our parish office, 692-3911, for Kathy Cusick.

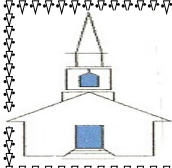
→**Please save your extra 2020 calendars** for me to bring to the homebound I visit with my mom. They can be left on the tables at the entrances of our churches. Thank you. *Sweet Pea*

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*, 2nd Lt. *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	Sept. 08	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Lyle Tredo, Birthday... by Pat Tredo for Deborah Young... by Ray & Gladly Nolan for Bob Scott... by Karen Scott
		10:30 AM <i>Marathon...</i> for Joanne Cunningham... by Jerry Griep
		12:00 PM OLPH...for Richard Dyjak... by Pam Maroney
Tuesday	Sept. 10	8:30 AM <i>Marathon...</i> for Josephine McConnell
Sunday	Sept. 15	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Joanne Cunningham... by Mary Sculley for Jean & Carl Mras... by Bobbi Mras
		10:30 AM <i>Marathon...</i> for Jerry Griep... by CCSS-SP's Hospitality Committee
		12:00 PM OLPH...for Matthew Ricca... by Pat & Terri Fedele for Francis & Margaret Pratt... by Sharon Massar for Bernie Massar... by Sharon Massar



Readings for the Week of September 8 through 15, 2019:

Today: Wis 9:13-18b; Phlm 9-10,12-17; Lk 14:25-33
Monday: Col 1:24-2:3; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26



Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2,12-14; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: Nm 21:4b-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Next Sunday: Ex 32:7-11,13-14; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32

The readings for today, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, begin with #1016, 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: Peggy Kemp, Cathy Cummings
Next Sunday: Anne Clerkin, Colleen Mihalko
Lector: Roger Calice **Next Sunday:** Ingrid Jordak
Altar Servers: Josiah Lynch, Aidan Lynch
Next Sunday: Lucca Lynch, Ian McMullen

Marathon

McEvoy Family
Kathleen Allen, Don Atwood
Lector: Kathy Cusick **Next Sunday:** Mike Thayne
Arianna Silva, Brandon Tyrrell

Eucharistic Ministers: Joe McDonald, Ann Calice, Peg Orzel
Next Sunday: Cecelia Carstens, Margaret Fabrocino, Mary Jo Whitehead

Mike Thayne, Eric Barry, Geoff Tyrrell
Karen Barry, Linda Caminiti, Chris Brandstadt

➔➔➔NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES ARE IN CHURCH SACRISTIES

September Ushers: Don Barry Family

This Week In Our Parish

- Tuesday, Sept. 10th 7:00pm - Parish Council Meeting - Marathon Church Hall
- Thursday, Sept. 12th 7:00pm - Adoration - Whitney Point Church
- Friday, Sept. 13th 7:00pm - THRIVE with Jeremy Bobak & Band - Whitney Point Church
- Saturday, Sept. 14th 8:00am - Christian Men Of Faith Meeting - Whitney Point Church Hall
- Sunday, Sept. 15th 9:20-11:00am - Faith Formation Classes - Whitney Point Church Hall



**Whole Community Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Discussion**

Reading 1 - Wisdom 9:13-18b
Knowledge alone has limits. We also need wisdom to understand the ways of God.

Reading 2 - Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Paul encourages one of his converts to consider his former slave a brother in Christ Jesus.

Gospel - Luke 14:25-33
Jesus teaches about the demands of discipleship.

Adults: How do you try to discover what God is asking of you?

Children: When is it hard for you to know the right thing to do? Who helps you know?

FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

Faith Formation classes will begin next Sunday, September 15th.

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.

Plan to come and bring a friend.

ALL are welcome!

Refreshments following.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Darrah Wright (ukulele) and **Noah Somers** (tuba) thank you so much for sharing your musical talent at our Parish Picnic and **Linda Crowley** thank you for sharing your writing! The three of you added a special touch to our celebration.



Women's Faith Group

All women are invited to participate in the Women's Faith Group. This year we will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:45am in our Whitney Point Church Hall. Our first gathering will be October 8th. We hope you can join us for prayer and conversation as we continue to grow in our faith.

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, 692-3911, if you are interested in attending. Perhaps we can carpool.



THE ST. STEPHEN'S/ST. PATRICK'S HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

meets on the third Tuesday of every month in our Whitney Point Church Hall. The next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 9:30am.

We invite young and older, male and female and from all three church locations to join us. All are welcome to attend!



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

Lyle Tredo

by Pat Tredo

in our Marathon Church:

Jerry & Dorothy Griep

by Helen Mathews



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 of our churches or RSVP to Anne Clerkin, 760-0473, by Sept. 15th.



In addition to last Sunday's mentioning

of the newly paved Whitney Point lot being done because of the generous donation from Josephine McConnell's trust, \$4,000.00 was also donated towards the project by Mike & Kathy Stolarcyk.

If you've noticed at our Marathon Church's entrance, there is a new floor installed that is now safer and really brightens it up.

TRUST IN GOD

"Trust in him at all times, ... pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge."

Psalm 62:8

Sanctuary Candles - If you'd like to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of a loved one, at our Whitney Point or Marathon Church, please call our parish office. Donation is \$20.00 for that month, if available, and memorial name(s) will be printed in bulletin. October is open at both churches.