

Catholic Community of St. Stephen – St. Patrick August 9, 2020



St. Peter Invited to Walk on the Water, 1766 by Francois Boucher (1703-70)

Rev. Douglas Cunningham, Administrator

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

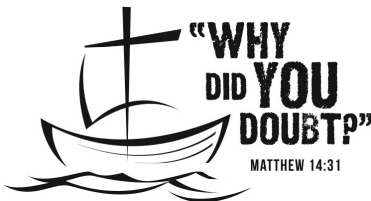
August 09, 2020

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.

"We're all in the same boat" I've heard people say when talking about the Corona virus. But one person had a much more accurate comment. "We are all in different boats, but we are in the same storm." Each of us faces our own fears and worries. Some of us are in more fragile boats because of our backgrounds or circumstances. My boat is sturdy in that my husband and I are used to living more like hermits, we have no kids at home, and are living off our retirement income. But my son and his wife have a much more fragile boat. They are both essential workers, are much more frantic over possible Covid-19 exposure. Friends who might be expected to provide some support, are avoiding them as if they already had the plague. To make matters worse, they are struggling to find acceptable daycare for their 7-year-old son.

Economic and other circumstances may be out of our control. But there is another boat I cling to that is self-contrived. It's where I put my faith. All my growing up years I was taught that science was God, and what I should believe in before anything else. Learning to believe in our Lord was not easy. Even now I look to science for answers before I reach out to God in prayer.

I need to look through the storm and see that Christ is there, calling for me to have faith – to trust and take his hand. I need to believe that I am capable of stepping out of my self-contrived boat, of connecting with Christ; too often I fear my faith is even less than Peter's. It's important for me to activate my prayer life, and to continue following the Christian Way. In the absence of frequent Mass attendance, this isn't easy. Perhaps adding more spiritual reading or TV shows, or maybe a virtual class on my computer would help. Instead of cringing in the presence of others, I should be reaching out and offering to help people in whatever ways I can.

This doesn't mean I should abandon safety procedures, throw out my mask, and go hug strangers. Rather it's a change in attitude that I need. As a Christian, I am not called to live my life in fear, hiding away, even though an anti-Catholic storm may break across the bow of my boat. I must engage my faith and step forward, walking through the stormy waters, helping others as I can. And if my faith should waiver and I feel myself sinking, know that Christ is ever beside me; all I have to do is take His hand. We may each be in our own boat, but together, we can survive this storm.

Linda Crowley



Weekly Stewardship Report: Sunday, August 2, 2020

Regular Collection: Envs: \$3,041. Loose: \$726. Electronic: \$940.Total Regular Collection: \$4,707.

Diocesan Collections: Peter's Pence-\$5. **Other Income:** Hospitality-\$5. Assumption-\$5.

Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week: Altar: \$446.

Fuel Oil: \$869. (2020-21 budg. pymt.) **Salaries:** \$1,300.**Total Bills Paid This Week:** \$2,615.

Thank you for your TIME, TALENT & TREASURE! Bills to pay next week: \$3,244.

Electronic Tithing-Did you know that you can contribute to your parish electronically? You can!

Your donations will be debited from your savings, checking or credit card account monthly (1st or 15th of month.) Please call our Parish Office for more information and a form.

Mass Attendance Update: As of now our Masses can be at 33% capacity, which means Masses at Whitney Point can have 125 persons and at Marathon 62 persons, we do not need to register, but we still need to follow the protocol of distancing, masks and sanitizer. We are still waiting for the possibility that the county will open to 50% capacity so please check our parish's FB, website and answering machine for any changes.



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Life for Life, Fr. Maximillian Kolbe

Auschwitz, 1941. One of the prisoners, Jan, escapes from the German concentration camp while working at a gravel pit. Thanks to the help of kind-hearted people, he finds shelter. There Jan hears tragic news about ten random inmates sentenced by the Nazis to death by starvation as a punishment for his escape. One among the convicts is Fr. Maximillian Kolbe, a Franciscan priest who volunteered to die in place of one of the inmates. SIGN UP FREE AT FORMED.ORG

Reflection on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - August 15, 2020 (not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

The Solemnity of the Assumption celebrates the Blessed Mother's entrance into heavenly glory. The Catechism explains that Mary "was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body" (CCC, 974).

Mary's Assumption into heaven reminds us that life on earth is a pilgrimage to our ultimate destination. We prepare in hope for our own passage into eternal life by the choices we make today. When we choose to love and follow God in our daily lives, we strengthen our relationship with Him, and this relationship is the true meaning of heaven: "To live in heaven is 'to be with Christ'" (CCC, 1025 citing St. Ambrose, In Luc., 10, 121: PL 15 1834A.).

We can see how, throughout her life, the Blessed Mother continually chose to go deeper into her relationship with God. She modeled how to value and respect His precious gift of human life, from the moment of conception to its natural end. In the Annunciation, through her "yes," Mary witnessed to the undeniable humanity of unborn children as she conceived and carried the Christ child in her womb. After the Annunciation, having learned that her cousin Elizabeth was with child, she went in haste to her aid.

Our Blessed Mother shows us how the way we live today can prepare us, in hope, to also enter into heavenly glory at the end of our lives. Are we open to God's precious gift of new life? How do we support expectant mothers and parents of young children? Do we prioritize showing our love and care for loved ones who are ill or aging?

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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CCSS-SP's Parish Council

We have four positions open on Parish Council. The Council meets once a month, alternating between Whitney Point and Marathon, and discusses topics and issues concerning our parish as well as visioning how we can best live out our mission. If you are interested and willing to serve in this position, or if you know someone who you think would be good serving in this way, please contact Mary at the office, 692-3911. Please give this thought and prayer and be willing to step up to voice your ideas.

Cemetery Headstone Cleaning Available - Call Tom at (607) 244-8116 for more information.

"PRACTICING FORGIVENESS IN MARRIAGE:

The Way We Start Over."

Come learn how. Sponsored by THE THIRD OPTION, an ongoing program to build better marriages. Zoom meeting schedule:

August 9th -Practicing Forgiveness:

The Way We Start Over

September 13th -Rebuilding Trust:

It Can Be Done

September 27th -Two Great Secrets of Happily Married Couples

October 11th -Ending the Blame Game: It Feels Good

All Zoom meetings begin at 8:00pm. For more information or to participate contact Stephanie at stewart@syrdio.org or 315.472.6728.

A Family/Respect Life, Hope Appeal program.

Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family

in the Military: 2nd Lt. Trevor Jones, PVT2 Averi Hull, Major Corrine Miller, Sgt Megan Ballard, Joshua Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Sgt Heather Fox, Brett Hayes, A1C Brendan Schneider, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, A2C Derek Lescord, SSG Jacob Rau, Devon McGill, SSgt Michael Hetzler, Major Caleb Miller, Daniel Morehouse USMC, Sgt Nicholas Stone, LCDR Paul McDonald, Major Joy Thomas, Major John Thomas, USMC SSgt Dan Votra, SSG Steven Gross, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, LCDR Maria Lescord, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, 2nd Lt. Emily Steele USAF, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC, & 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.



Copies of NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES are in the sacristies of our churches. If you would like to be on the ministry schedule and have received training or would like to receive training, please contact Justin VanTassel at jvantassel@gmail.com or 607-343-9577.

This Week In Our Parish



Today, Aug. 9th

8:30am Mass at Whitney Point Church
10:30am Mass at Marathon Church
12:00pm - Communion Service - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Tuesday, Aug. 11th

8:30am Mass at Whitney Point Church

Wednesday, Aug. 12th

7:00pm - Praying The Rosary - Outside of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Thursday, Aug. 13th

7:00pm - Adoration - Whitney Point Church

Sunday, Aug. 16th

8:30am Mass at Whitney Point Church
10:30am Mass at Marathon Church

→Check website, face book & answering machine for any changes

Whole Community Catechesis Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
 The Lord appears to Elijah in a whisper.

Reading 2 - Romans 9:1-5

Paul speaks of the blessings that have come to the Israelites.

Gospel - Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

Adults: *When have you doubted God's loving care for you?*

Children: *What helps you keep trying even when you are afraid?*



Praying The Rosary - We are gathering outside Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm to pray the rosary together. Depending on the weather and how many come, we'll either sit in or stand by our cars at a good distance or go under the pavilion and sit at required distances and please bring your masks.



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. Every Thursday, unless indicated, at 7pm, in our Whitney Pt Church.



A Family Perspective - The demands of family can be so overwhelming we feel walking on water would be easier. When Jesus was pressured, He dismissed everyone, so he could be "by himself and pray." When overwhelmed and stressed, to go a quiet place and surrender your pressured feelings to the Lord using Peter's prayer in today's gospel: "Lord, save me."

For The Assumption - "Blessed is the fruit of your womb" can be said to all mothers, because every child is "blessed" and a child of God upon whom God "looks with favor." This is our deepest identity and destiny.

We do not earn this blessing. God's love is a free gift to each of us.

Intercessions for Life

For those grieving after a miscarriage:
 May they be comforted by Christ's everlasting love
 and His presence amidst their sorrow;
We pray to the Lord:

CCSS-SP's 50/50 - There were 14 participants in July's 50/50 and the winner was Dorothy Hanzlik, winning \$35.00. Congratulations! Thank you to all who participate, proceeds are split between winner and our parish's Capital account. There are extra envelopes at the entrances of our churches.
 Donation is \$5.00 per envelope.



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

Michael Thayne
 by Ann Thayne

in our Marathon Church:
Margie Carroll
 by John Carroll

In Memory of...



Vocation View: "Get hold of yourselves!
 It is I. Do not be afraid!"

If the Lord truly calls you, what you need is trust. Are you called to lead the Lord's people as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life?
 Call Fr. Jason Hage at 315-470-1468 or write
 vocations@syracuse.org.

DID YOU KNOW? The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected- -the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

If you wish to read the scripture passages that this is based on see the following:

- * Deuteronomy 14:28-29
 The Lord blesses our work so that we may share its fruits with others.
- * Deuteronomy 24:14-15
 Do not withhold wages from your workers, for their livelihood depends on them.
- * Sirach 34:26-27
 To deprive an employee of wages is to commit murder.
- * Isaiah 58:3-7
 To observe religious practices, but oppress your workers is false worship.
- * Jeremiah 22:13
 Woe to him who treats his workers unjustly.
- * Matthew 20:1-16
 All workers should be paid a just and living wage.
- * Mark 2:27
 The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath.