



**Catholic Community Of
St. Stephen - St. Patrick
Twenty Second Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

September 3, 2023

Rev. James Serowik, Administrator

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 03, 2023

P.O. Box 711
Whitney Point, New York 13862
(607) 692-3911 Fax: (607) 692-7171
Parish Halls: WP(607)692-3357
M(607)849-3630

Whitney Point: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-Noon

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

Following Monday's 6:00PM Mass with Fr. Jim.

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

Matthew 16:24, ESV



Pastor's Column

...let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we have to daily pick up our crosses if we want to be His disciples. This is not a very popular message in our world today. We seek to avoid pain and suffering at all cost. We don't like inconveniences in our lives and do not like having to do difficult things. Jesus tells us that discipleship is not an easy thing. It is not easy loving those who hurt and do harm to us. It is not easy to forgive as often as our God forgives us. It is not easy being compassionate in a world that seeks anger and revenge. Jesus invites us to daily follow Him by picking up and carrying our crosses, whatever they may be, for it is only by embracing our crosses that we can gain eternal life.

This Monday we celebrate Labor Day. It is traditionally the end of the summer season since school begins later this week for our young people. We take some time to thank God for the gift of work and realize that by working we are being co-creators with God. As we celebrate this late summer day, let us take some time to offer God a prayer of thanksgiving for all who work and for the gift of work.

Next weekend is our Parish Picnic. We will begin with Mass at 11:00 AM at St. Patrick's Church. This is the **ONLY MASS OF THE WEEKEND**. We will then proceed to Dorchester Park for a fun afternoon. Make your plans now to attend this fun event. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there for this special day.

I would like to thank everyone for their cards and well wishes on my birthday last week. I really appreciate it. It is a privilege and pleasure to be here with all of you here at St. Stephen's-St. Patrick's and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parishes.
HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

Fr. Jim

Creation Care Tips:

“For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?”

—Matthew 16:26

Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato Si'*, “Christian spirituality proposes ... a capacity to be happy with little. It is a return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things, to be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not to succumb to sadness for what we lack.” Name one possession of yours which is “possessing you.” Get rid of it if it is causing you to forfeit your life in any manner.



Weekly Stewardship Report:	<i>Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week:</i>
Stewardship Report	
Last Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023	
Regular Collection: Envs: \$1,825.	RelStip: \$200. Util: \$182. RecExp: \$122.
Loose: \$532. Electronic: \$1,135.	FForm: \$23. DioAssess: \$1,272. Ph/Int: \$163.
Total: \$3,492. Other: Assump: \$10.	Salaries: \$1,000. Total Bills Pd: \$2,962.
FForm: \$5. Diocesan: RetireFundRel \$125.	MChDoor: \$850. (CapitalFund) <i>Thank you!</i>



We have a parish subscription to Formed.org. Enter our parish name and search for the titles.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary | Sacred Art
 By studying Sacred Art, we fuel our prayer and contemplation. In this episode, Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Taylor Kemp to examine the theological nuances contained in Bartolome Murillo's depiction of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Mother Teresa: No Greater Love - Mother Teresa: No Greater Love is a soaring tribute to a spiritual icon, a powerful witness of authentic Christian charity, and a guidepost for all who seek hope in our turbulent times:
Mother Teresa of Calcutta. - This film reveals not just who Mother Teresa was, but how her singular vision to serve Christ in the poor continues to be realized through the Missionaries of Charity today. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary In this episode, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Individuals and families living in Broome County will have the opportunity to sign-up for a Thanksgiving basket.



Baskets will include all the items needed for a wonderful holiday meal. Sign-ups for baskets will take place **September 6th through October 13th, 2023. Sign-ups will be held by calling the United Way 211 phone number (dial 2 1 1) from Monday -Friday 7:30AM to 4:30PM beginning the Wednesday after Labor Day.** Each household will receive a confirmation number from 211. The confirmation number will be needed to pick up the basket. One Thanksgiving basket will be provided per household. Please have information on hand for every person within the household prior to making the 211 call. All families signed-up for a basket will receive a phone call or mailed document 1 to 2 weeks prior to Thanksgiving Day. This will provide information on date, time and location of the basket pick up. Families should expect to pick up their baskets the weekend of November 17th to November 19th, 2023. The Thanksgiving basket coordination program is a joint effort between Catholic Charities, United Way 211, local parishes, iHeart Media and several other local contributing businesses. For additional information please contact Hannah Burge at 607-729-9166.

Join us on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Friday, September 15, 10 AM to 3 PM. as we explore the Pilgrim Experience of Medjugorje. Facilitated by Regina Harty, volunteer of the CNY Marian Center. We will discuss how Our Lady leads us to her Son, Jesus, and what we have learned from Medjugorje that will aid us on our own personal journey. Offering: \$35 includes lunch. Registration is required by going to our website at www.ckretreat.com or calling 315-446-2680.



THE EUCHARIST

Great Things Are Happening! Eucharistic Revival Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Get involved and be a part of the Eucharistic Revival. For more information, visit: eucharisticrevival.org and nyseucharisticcongress.org. *As part of the National Eucharistic Revival, the bishops of the State of New York are hosting a state-wide Eucharistic Congress October 20th-22nd at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Martyrs in Auriesville, NY.*

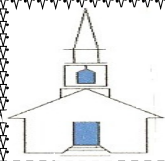


Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military: Pvt Ryan E. Eaton, 2ndLt. Trevor Jones, Sgt Avery Hull, Major Corrine Miller, PV2 Samuel Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Brett Hayes, A2C Derek Lescord, Major Joy Thomas, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Devon McGill, SSgt Michael Hetzler, Major Caleb Miller, Sgt Heather Fox, Major John Thomas, Daniel Morehouse USMC, LCDR Paul McDonald, 2ndLt. Emily Steele USAF, LCDR Maria Lescord, SSgt Dan Votra USMC, SSG Steven Gross, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, A1C Brendan Schneider, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC and PFC Isaac James Silvanic USMC **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, OR for any changes, please contact our parish office.**

Next weekend is HOPE Appeal Weekend in the Diocese of Syracuse. It is a time when we join with members of our Catholic family to strengthen our Church and serve others in our community. You will receive a letter from Bishop Lucia asking for your support of the 2023 HOPE Appeal. Please review the information and prayerfully consider making a gift that is meaningful to you. You may bring your completed pledge card to Mass, drop it by the parish office, or use the return envelope with your letter. You can also make a gift online at www.syrdio.org.

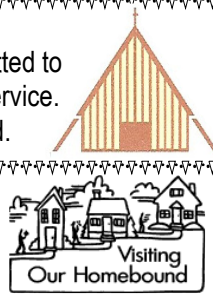
The Catholic University of America Collection: Sept. 10th
 The Catholic University of America is a national research university with 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs on a residential campus in the heart of Washington, D.C. Founded by a papal charter in 1887, Catholic is the national university of the Catholic Church in our country and strives to educate future generations of leaders through an excellent education grounded in the Catholic intellectual tradition. The collection is a critical pillar of support for students and the entire University community. Please place your gift envelope in with the regular collection.

St. Francis of Assisi parish will celebrate in a special way **St. Phoebe of Cenchreae** (Sen-Cree-Ay), diakonos and benefactor to many, who traveled over 746 miles to bring St. Paul's letter from Corinth to the new Christian community in Rome. September 3rd is the day our church commemorates St. Phoebe. St. Francis parish will also host a Prayer Service and video discussion on the role of women in the church exemplified by St. Phoebe and recognize the many gifts and talents women have consistently provided to the church. This **prayer service** will be held in **St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 1049 Chenango St., Binghamton on Wednesday, September 6th at 7PM.**



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 pattycafe@yahoo.com. 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 - Shelley Warnow, dongirl1956@aol.com
ViceChair - Dan Burke, dburke1114@gmail.com
Secretary - Sue Stevens
Trustees - Kathy Cusick, Ron Orzel
Parish Business/Office Manager - Mary Wied **Bulletin Deadline:** Tuesday, Noon - Phone, Mail or Email, ststephenstpat@syrdio.org

PARISH STAFF

Director of Faith Formation - Sherry Dee, 759-1876
Ministry Coordinator - Peg Orzel, porzel10@yahoo.com
Church Organist/Music Director - Jennifer Austin
Maintenance - (Please call parish office w/maintenance concerns)

Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, Sept. 3 **8:30 AM** Whitney Point...for **Morris' Aunt Linda Giltz**
by Morris & Jane Nohle
10:15 AM Marathon...for **Marge Carroll** by John Carroll
12:00 PM OLPH...for **Mary Cook** by Theresa & Doug Murray
Monday, Sept. 4 **NO MASS THIS EVENING**
Thursday, Sept. 7 **9:00 AM** Whitney Point...**Communion Service**
Sunday, Sept. 10 **11:00 AM** Whitney Point for **Matty Ricca** by Pat & Terri Fedele



This is our only Mass today for all 3 churches, followed by our Parish Picnic at Dorchester Park.

Readings for Sept. 3 through 10, 2023:

Today: Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6,9-11; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Mi 5:1-4a; Mt 1:1-16,18-23
Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20



Mass Intention Offerings The offering for all Mass intentions (both living and deceased) is \$15 per Mass. If paying by check, please make payable to: CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick Church.

New Ministry Schedules will begin in October. If you would like to be added as a minister please call the parish office.

➔ **Please make sure lights are shut off and doors are closed shut and locked when you leave one the churches. Thank you.**



Whitney Point

Greeters: Earl Markham, Cris Broderick
Next Sunday: Anne Ballard, Cathy Shoemaker
Lector: John Mihalko
Next Sunday: Ron Orzel

Marathon

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
No Mass
Kathy Cusick
No Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Bensley, Peg Orzel, Cathy Shoemaker
Next Sunday: Emily Jordan, Ingrid Wennerod, John Mihalko
Tabulators: Dick & Kathy Bensley
Next Sunday: Ron & Jan Orzel

Eric Barry, Shelley Warnow
No Mass
Karen Standish, Wayne Niggli
No Mass


Sept. Ushers: Syd McEvoy, Bob Barry

WP Ecumenical Food Pantry: M-Th & Sat, 10AM-Noon, Closed Fridays, Holidays, & when school is closed for inclement weather.
FoodPantry Chairperson: John Mihalko
Sept's Pantry Need: JiffyCornbrdMix & cereal
WPClothing Bank: M,T & Sat, 10AM-Noon
The Mobile Food Truck is at Fairgrounds the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Registration is required (begins the day before the truck) and is on-line or by calling the Southern Tier Mobile Food Truck Food Bank of the Southern Tier - NY (foodbankst.org) 607.796.6061



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.

➔ 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, 692-3911, so it can be taken care of asap.

 **RetireGuide** A guide was created to Meals on Wheels for seniors, covering what the program is, how to sign up, and what types of meals are offered. Please feel free to take a look: <https://www.retireguide.com/retirement-life-leisure/senior-housing/aging-in-place/meals-on-wheels/>

Please notice additional announcements on our church bulletin boards.

This Week In Our Parish

Monday, Sept. 4th Labor Day! Parish Office, WP Food Pantry & Clothing Bank Closed
Tuesday, Sept. 5th 9:30AM - Women In Faith Group -Whitney Point Church Hall
Thursday, Sept. 7th 9:00AM - Communion Service - Whitney Point Church
Sunday, Sept. 10th 11:00AM Mass at Whitney Point Church - **ONLY MASS TODAY**
followed by our Annual Parish Picnic at Dorchester Park.

Our Parish Communion Service is at 9:00AM on Thursday mornings, at our Whitney Pt Church. Everyone is welcome to join us to share in prayer, reflection & receiving Communion.

Whole Community Catechesis Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Jeremiah 20:7-9
Jeremiah laments but cannot fail to speak in God's name.

Reading 2 - Romans 12:1-2
Paul encourages the Romans to stay faithful to God.

Gospel - Matthew 16:21-27
Jesus speaks of his Passion and rebukes Peter for his objection.

Adults: What has it meant to you to take up your cross and follow Jesus?

Children: When has it been hard to be a follower of Jesus?



A Family Perspective

Relationships live in a careful balance. If a person changes, the balance is altered requiring a shift in the relationship. In today's gospel Jesus announced a change and Peter resisted. Sometimes, those we count on for support may actually get in the way. Jesus told Peter: "You are an obstacle to me."



Vocation View: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Following Jesus can be difficult, but as He says immediately after, "whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Are you willing to find your life in Christ as a religious, a deacon, or a priest? Call Fr. Jason Hage (315)470-1468, or write:

vocations@syrдио.org



During **September** we are collecting **Jiffy Cornbread Mix & cereal** for the Whitney Pt Ecumenical Food Pantry. Please place your donations in designated baskets at the entrances of our churches. Thank you for your food and monetary donations that help to feed those less fortunate in our community.

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGE: The Gospel for Sunday reminds us that discipleship isn't easy. It will often require us to share in the Cross of Jesus. We are called to deny ourselves, to lose our lives for the sake of the Gospel. Your challenge this week is to take up your cross and walk in solidarity with someone who suffers on a daily basis. Can you journey with someone who is poor or homeless, someone who is a victim of prejudice or discrimination, an undocumented immigrant, or someone in prison? Reflect on someone who is in deep physical or emotional or spiritual pain, and offer up your own suffering this week for that person.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

The first class will be held on **Sunday, September 17th, from 9:20 AM-11:00 AM,** at St. Patrick's Church Hall in Whitney Point. Parents may pre-register their children OR may bring forms to first class. All children must be registered to attend. Information and registrations were mailed August 22nd.

**Also at this time, in order to continue providing Faith Formation for your children, we are in need of the following volunteers:

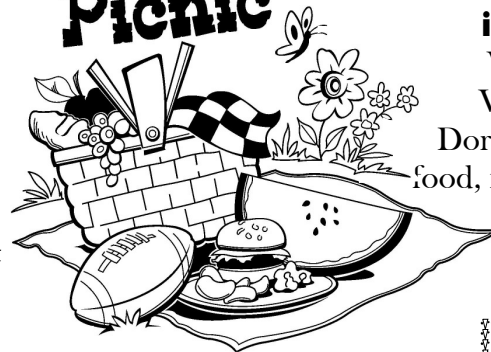
****Immediate need - due to vacancy for catechist (teacher) for grades 6th, 7th and 8th.**

****Substitute teachers for all grade levels and leaders for Children's Liturgy of the Word.**

→ Please see or contact Sherry Dee at 607-759-1876 or call the parish office..



Church Picnic



Our Parish Picnic for all three church locations

is next Sunday, September 10th

We will have Mass at 11:00 AM at our Whitney Point Church and then go to Dorchester Park for a wonderful day of good food, fun and fellowship with our church family. Our Hospitality Committee will provide the meat, drinks and place settings.

Please bring a dish to pass.

The Southern Tier Men's Fellowship breakfast begins the fall program on Saturday, September 16th. Men young and old are welcome! Join us for Mass at 9 AM followed by a delicious hot breakfast with fellowship, teaching and prayer. There is no cost to attend. See flyer on our church bulletin boards at the entrances of our churches for more details.

Sanctuary Candles - Please call the parish office if interested in having the sanctuary candle in memory of a loved one. Cost is \$20.00 for the month. Months available in 2023 are, in Marathon: Oct & Dec.



In Memory of...

The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the Month of September

in our Whitney Pt Church is *In Memory Of:*

Lucie & Larry Frechette

by Jim & Pat Dean

in our Marathon Church is *In Memory Of:*

Michael Joseph by Marie Joseph

INTERCESSIONS FOR LIFE- Sept. 3rd

May the life of every human person, from conception to natural death, be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts;
We pray to the Lord:



The Ecumenical Peace Garden

Applications are available on the table in the vestibule or by contacting Mary Wied at the parish office, 692-3911.

If you have any questions, please contact either Ken or Sylvia Bates at 607-237-9762 or 607- 743-6317.

