



Mark 1:40-45

**A Leper Came To Jesus And Kneeling Down Begged Him And Said,
“If You Wish, You Can Make Me Clean.”**

**Moved With Pity, He Stretched Out His Hand,
Touched Him, And Said To Him,
“I Do Will It. Be Made Clean.”**

**The Leprosy Left Him Immediately, And He Was Made Clean.
Then, Warning Him Sternly, He Dismissed Him At Once.**

**He Said To Him, “See That You Tell No One Anything,
But Go, Show Yourself To The Priest
And Offer For Your Cleansing What Moses Prescribed;
That Will Be Proof For Them.”**

**The Man Went Away And Began To Publicize The Whole Matter.
He Spread The Report Abroad
So That It Was Impossible For Jesus To Enter A Town Openly.
He Remained Outside In Deserted Places,
And People Kept Coming To Him From Everywhere.**

**Catholic Community Of St. Stephen - St. Patrick
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11, 2024**

Rev. James Serowik, Pastor

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 11, 2024

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

Before or After Monday's 6:00PM Mass and
Tuesday's 9AM Mass with Fr. Thomas.

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

Pastor's Column

In this weekend's Readings from Sacred Scripture we hear about the dreaded disease of leprosy. Moses instructs the Israelites that if a person is deemed to have a sore that is leprosy, he shall be banned from the Israelite community. This was done to protect the community from this very contagious disease. In the Gospel a leper comes to Jesus seeking to be cured. Jesus cures him and restores his life again. Our Lord invites us to place our hurts and needs for healing before Him so that He can heal us as well.

It is hard to believe that This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent. We will have Mass at 9:00AM at St. Patrick's Church and 6:00PM at St. Stephen's Church. Our Lady of Perpetual Help will have a prayer service at 12:00PM during which ashes will be distributed. Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and abstinence for all Catholics between the ages of 18-60. Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for all Catholics. On Friday we will have Stations of the Cross at St. Patrick's church at 6:00PM. Stations of the cross are an excellent way for us to be able to reflect upon the love that God has for us by thinking about the Lord's passion and death. Following Mass on Tuesday, Fr. Thomas will have a Bible Study for our parish. Make your plans now for a fruitful lent to prepare for the Best Easter of your live! HAVE A GREAT WEEK!!
Fr. Jim



Creation Care Tips:

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."
-1 Corinthians 10:31

It's so easy to forget to slow down, savor, and give thanks for the fruits of the earth which nourish us each day.

As you eat this week, intentionally give glory to God through your gratitude for the sun, the rain, and the laborers who have all made your meal possible.

Give thanks for your food, knowing that many people in this world go hungry.

Are you new to the Parish? Welcome to our church! We are glad you are here!!! Feel free to ask questions, introduce yourself, [pick up a Welcome Bag at the church entrance](#) and read through our Volunteer Ministry Booklet. We have a lot going on for different age groups. We are looking forward to getting to know you better and have you participate in worship and events.



Please Take Note: For our weekday services, if the school is closed for bad weather there will be no morning weekday Mass at Whitney Point. For Sundays or other events, please always check our answering machine and face book page and if you're on our parish's phoenixes, if you are not on our phoenixes and want to be please contact Peg Orzel at porzel10@yahoo.com or 607-372-7036, you'll be contacted for any cancellations or updates.



Weekly Stewardship Report: Last Sunday, February 4, 2023

Regular Collection: Envs: \$1,280. Loose: \$467 Electronic: \$120. Total Regular Collection: **\$1,867.**
Diocesan Collections: ChEastEurope-\$5. HomeMissions-\$25. **Other Income:** CathSun-\$10. Flowers-\$20. Fuel-\$170. Hosp-\$10.
The following bills were paid this week because of your contributions: **RelStip:** \$315. **Office:** \$68. **Ph/Int:** \$90.
ChMaint: \$16. **Salaries:** \$1,500. Total Paid: **\$1,989.**

2023 Hope Appeal-You Strengthen the Fabric of Our Faith! You may also make a secure gift online at www.syrдио.org. Thank you to all those who have already donated! The balance is getting smaller but we still need others to donate and any amount will add up. Please prayerfully consider to make a pledge. **2023 Assessment:** \$ 18,174.00
Pledges To Date: \$ 17,500.00 (69 donors)
Balance Remaining: \$ 674.00

Upcoming Special Collections: Ash Wednesday: Church in Central and Eastern Europe: This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former Communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. This envelope may be placed in next weekend's collection. **Black & Indian Missions:** Next weekend our parish will take up this annual collection that helps build the Church in African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities and missions. Please place this envelope in the basket with your regular contribution envelope.



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

Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent - Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

The Story of Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 1 - Where did death come from? What does death mean for the human person? Is it simply just part of life, or is it something else? In this first session, we discuss the story of death and God's response to it: defeating death by dying and rising from the dead.

The Spirituality of Lent - Looking to take Lent more seriously this year? Join Tim Gray for ideas for a Lenten spirituality.



Banns of Ordination: John Mihalko is a candidate for the Sacrament of Holy Orders for the Permanent Diaconate. Bishop Lucia formally asks the Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick/Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish community to affirm his ordination on Saturday, May 11, 2024, and to accept his ministry. He also asks that if anyone knows any reason why John should not receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders to make such fact know to our pastor Fr. Jim Serowik.

Criteria For Call To Orders - First One: What is a Permanent Deacon?
A permanent Deacon is a Catholic Christian called by God and chosen from among the community and ordained to serve as a leader in the name of the Church for the people of God. His leadership is that of a servant called to be a bridge person between a given community of faithful and the institutional Church; the Deacon - informed by the Word - is to be a visible sign of Christ the servant. Leadership may be exhibited by administration or organizational ability; articulate expression and persuasion, verbal assertiveness; behavioral articulation in an unassuming way. Through his ministry of charity, the Deacon is also called to be a minister of the Word and of the Liturgy.
Next bulletin second criteria for call to orders.

VIRTUS Sessions at our Church:

Initial Safe Environment Training: Saturday, March 16, 2024: 9:30 AM at St. Patrick's, Whitney Point. **Safe Environment Re-certification Training:** Saturday, February 24, 2024: 9:30 AM at St. Patrick's, Whitney Point. Complete training schedule can be found at: www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment. **Pre-registration is required for these sessions. Walk-ins and late arrivals will not be permitted. Registration for training sessions will close one (1) business day prior to the training session.** Please visit the website (www.syracusediocese.org/safe-environment) to register for a training session. Contact the Office of Safe Environment with questions at 315.470.1421 or email safeenvironment@syrдио.org.

➔ This is required for all employees and volunteers that are around any children.

Your Empty Bottles and Cans With Deposit Returns help fund The CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick's Youth Activities. They can be deposited in the bin at our Whitney Point Church parking lot. Thank you for your support.

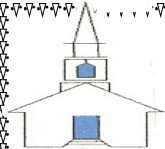


During **February** we are collecting **canned fruit and cereal** for the Whitney Point Ecumenical Food Pantry. Please place your donations in designated baskets at the entrances of our churches. Thank you for your food and monetary donations that help to feed those less fortunate in our community.

Marie Joseph has moved to **628 Sherrill Road, Apt. 1, Sherrill, NY 13461.** She lives very close to her daughter and granddaughter. She is very sad to say that she will no longer be a parishioner of the Catholic Community of St. Stephen's-St. Patrick's (after 57 years....). She will be joining The Spirit of Hope Catholic Community. She is going to miss everyone at St. Stephen's and St. Patrick's. She loved her church community very much.

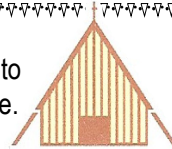


Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military: Pvt Ryan E. Eaton, 2ndLt. Trevor Jones, Sgt Avery Hull, Major Corrine Miller, PV2 Samuel Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Brett Hayes, A2C Derek Lescord, LtCol Major Joy Thomas, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Devon McGill, SSgt Michael Hetzler, Major Caleb Miller, Sgt Heather Fox, LtCol 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 LCpl 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.**



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, Feb. 11	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Daina Freimanis by Vella Melzer	
	10:15 AM Marathon...for Bob Fleming by Gary & Kathleen Hoyt Family for Anne McEvoy by Kathy, Terry & Jim Cusick	
	12:00 PM OLPH...for Joseph Ricca by Pat & Terri Fedele	
Monday, Feb. 12	6:00 PM Whitney Point...for The People Of Our Parish	
Tuesday, Feb. 13	9:00 AM Whitney Point...for The People Of Our Parish	
Wed., Feb. 14	9:00 AM Whitney Point... Ash Wednesday Mass	ALL WITH DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES
	12:00 PM OLPH... Ash Wednesday Prayer Service	
	6:00 PM Marathon... Ash Wednesday Mass	
Sunday, Feb. 18	8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Dennis Duckett by Ron & Jan Orzel	
	10:15 AM Marathon...for Dick Barry by Gary & Kathleen Hoyt Family	
	12:00 PM OLPH...for Becky Custer by Pat & Terri Fedele	

Readings for Feb. 11 through 18, 2024:

Today: Lv 13:1-2,44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45 

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13

Tues: Jas:1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21

Wed: Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6,16-18

Thurs: Dt 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15

Sat: Is 58:9b-14; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

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. Call or stop in the parish office.



Whitney Point

Greeters: Anne Clerkin, Dot Hanzlik
Next Sunday: Earl Markham, Cris Broderick
Lector: John Mihalko
Next Sunday: Marcus Stevens
Eucharistic Ministers: J. Mihalko, Emily Jordan, Kathy Bensley
Next Sunday: John Mihalko, Ingrid Wennerod, Peg Orzel
Tabulators: Dick & Kathy Bensley
Next Sunday: Peg Orzel, Cathy Cummings

Marathon

Don Atwood, Bob Barry
Kathleen Allen, Kim McCrory
Claire Hinman
Bill McGovern
Wayne & Carol Niggli
Tony Zelsnack, Kathy Cusick
Mark Barry, Volunteer
Karen Standish, Wayne Niggli
Feb. Ushers: John & Kim McCrory

Please call the parish office if you would like to be added to our next ministry schedule beginning May 2024.

Consider coming to **Coffee Hour** after mass in Marathon to visit/meet fellow parishioners and visitors. Coffee, milk, juice, and baked goodies are there for your enjoyment. Free will offering.

WP Ecumenical Food Pantry: M-Th & Sat, 10AM-Noon, Closed Fridays, Holidays, & when school is closed for inclement weather.
FoodPantry Chairperson: John Mihalko
January's Pantry Need: Canned Soup & 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 Bank of the Southern Tier - NY (foodbankst.org) 607.796.6061

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



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.

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/>

For those homebound, you can access our 8:30AM Sunday Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CatholicCommunityofStStephenStPatrick>

This Week In Our Parish (Masses in "Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions")

- Today, Feb. 11th 9:20-11:00AM - Family Lent Day Classes - Whitney Point Church Hall
- Monday, Feb. 12th 9:30AM - Women's Faith Group Mtg. - Whitney Point Church Hall
- Tuesday, Feb. 13th 10:00AM - Lenten Bible Study - Whitney Point Church
- Thursday, Feb. 15th 6:00PM - WP Food Pantry Meeting - WP Food Pantry
- Friday, Feb. 16th 3:00PM - Stations of the Cross - OLPH Church, Cincinnati
6:00PM - Stations of the Cross - Whitney Point Church (1st 3 Fridays)

Whole Community Catechesis
Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46
 The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

Reading 2 - 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
 Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

Gospel - Mark 1:40-45
 Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.

Adults: Would you have the courage to tell others to do as you do in order to be Christian?

Children: What can you do this week to be an example to others?



A Family Perspective

Family life is about decisions. The leper in today's gospel knew this when he said to Jesus. "If you will, you can make me clean." Jesus knew this when He said, "I do will it." Love is not an emotion. It is a decision to be with and for another person in "good times and bad," even when we don't feel like it.

ASH Wednesday is February 14th

Ash Wednesday Schedule:

- 9:00AM Mass at Whitney Point
 - 12:00PM Prayer Service at Cincinnati
 - 6:00PM Mass at Marathon
- All with distribution of ashes.
- There are ministry signup sheets at our WP and Marathon Churches for the Masses, at the entrances of our churches if you can please minister if coming. Thank you..

Lent Prayer Services: *Standing by the Cross of Jesus Reflections by Women Religious and Lay Leaders St. Anthony's & St. Mary's Parishes, Cortland.* Join us each Wednesday evening during Lent for a time of Eucharistic Adoration, Evening Prayer, and reflection! The evening will begin with Exposition and then move into "Evening Prayer" from Liturgy of the Hours, with reflection on the theme of the series: "Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala" (John 19:25) Following the communal prayer, there will be time for Adoration and Confession, concluding with Benediction. **First Wednesday, February 21st - 7 PM at St Mary's**

Reflection by Sr. Laura Bufano, CSJ, Vicar for Pastoral Leadership

Vocation View: "Do everything for the glory of God." Give Him the glory through your marriage. Your vocation is your sanctification in this life to lead you to sainthood in the next. Pray for your spouse each day and lead each other to Heaven. Reach out to the Vocation Office email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram @vocations Syracuse or call Fr. Jason Hage at (315)470-1468.

All are invited to our EUCHARISTIC MEAL (MASS) at 9:00 AM, followed by **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** with Rev. Thomas Macauley, O.P. starts Tuesday, February 13th, 10:00 to 11:00 AM at the Whitney Point Church Hall. *The Epistle of St. James* Please bring your Bibles and writing materials.

Reflections and Rice Bowls Please help yourself to one of the booklets of Lenten Daily Reflections and a Rice Bowl. **LENT IS COMING!** Join our faith community in a transformative Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl to meet people in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia who are working hard to overcome the challenges of hunger and the impact of climate change. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from both St. Patrick's & St. Stephen's Parishes. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on our connectedness as one family in Christ and work together to ensure our sisters and brothers worldwide can thrive. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

2024 LeMoyne College CYO Scholarship - For many years LeMoyne College and the Catholic Youth Organization have worked together to offer eight \$4000 scholarships (\$1000 per year). These scholarships will be awarded to prospective LeMoyne students who have demonstrated leadership abilities and have performed outstanding services to their school, community and parish. Completed application packets are due no later than February 15th. Packets are available at our parish office. Questions, please call 315-445-4300

The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the Month of February in our Whitney Point Church is *In Memory Of:*
Helmut Melzer & Daina Freimanis by Vella Melzer

Whitney Point Food Pantry Council meetings will be the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00PM at the Food Pantry and anyone is welcome to come. Next meeting is this Thursday, February 15th.

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGE: This Sunday's Gospel is about the leper who touches Jesus' heart. While leprosy isn't rampant in our communities today, many people suffer from the poverty of relationships which lepers suffered in Jesus' time. There are people in our own communities who have no one who loves them except God. And they may not experience God's love because they have no human love to help them recognize God's love. They are the lonely, the alienated; some are scared, or angry or wounded. Your challenge this week is to take the compassion in your heart beyond your immediate circle of loved ones and extend that compassion to someone who is alone. What can you do as a family or household to bring love into this person's life? And can you commit to making it more than a one-time act of kindness and care? How can you continue to let this person know that he or she is not alone in this world, that God loves them, and that you do, too?

On Sunday, February 4th, We Welcomed **Mason Paul Pixley** 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.*

