

CCSSSP Church Bulletin
February 18, 2024
Fr. Jim Serowik
First Sunday of Lent



Jesus Is Tempted In The Desert By Satan

Mark 1:12-15



Rev. James Serowik, Pastor

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 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



On this First Sunday of Lent we hear how Jesus went into the desert to do battle with Satan. Lent is an opportunity for all of us to face our personal sins and to do battle with Satan in our own lives. One way for us to do this is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession. When was the last time you experienced God's mercy and forgiveness in this wonderful sacrament. If you can't remember the last time you did, it is time for is time for you to experience God's wonderful mercy and forgiveness in this healing sacrament. Take some time to prepare this Lent for this wonderful, healing sacrament. Fr. Thomas will be in the confessional taking part in *The Light is On For You* on Monday, March 25th, at St. Stephen's Church from 4-7PM. Make your plans now! Have a Great Week!!
Fr. Jim



Creation Care Tips:

Catholics traditionally abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays in Lent. This is done as a form of penance (in recognition for all that we have done wrong) and asceticism (giving something up so we can grow in holiness). Beyond these reasons, a plant-based diet drastically reduces our impact on our common home and brings us into closer solidarity with those around the world who do not have the option to eat meat as frequently as we do.

Hospitality Committee



ST. STEPHEN'S/ST. PATRICK'S HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE meets on the third Tuesday of every month in our Whitney Pt Church Hall. Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 20th, at 9:30AM. We invite young and older, male and female and from all three church locations to join us.

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 11, 2023

Regular Collection: Envs: \$1,695. Loose: \$426. Electronic: \$285. Total Regular Collection: \$2,406.

Diocesan Collections: ChEastEurope-\$50. Black&Ind-\$5. **Other Income:** CathSun-\$30. Flowers-\$5. Fuel-\$120. HolyDays-\$60.

The following bills were paid this week because of your contributions: **MoTithing:** \$546. (WPFoodPantry) **Office:** \$182.

Utilities: \$418. **Salaries:** \$1,500. Total Paid: \$2,646.

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
Balance Remaining: \$ 674.00

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. **Black & Indian Missions:-** Today 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 your gift envelopes in the basket with your regular contribution envelope.



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

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

Saint Peter - Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

The Afterlife | Eternal Rest | Episode 2 - What happens after the moment of our death? Once the soul has been separated from the body, then what? What is heaven, hell, and purgatory? This session looks at the truth about what awaits the human person on the other side of death. Week One |

Restore: Lent with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT - In the Week One video for the Restore Lent series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on the theme of the week—the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. Sr. Miriam assures us that we can look to him for comfort, love, and healing.



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 - Second: Positive Criteria For Call To The Ministry Of The Permanent

Diaconate: As a human person, the Permanent Deacon is expected to be emotionally mature, responsible, enjoy sound family relationships, and engage, when necessary, in steady employment. Maturity suggests functioning on multiple vs. singular levels; it entails the ability to detach oneself from himself and his opinion and see the combination from another perspective; it entails the capacity to be really concerned about a person without being patronizing, without needing to know the right answers, without running away. Intellectual maturity welcomes exploration; sees knowledge and faith as having temporal and experiential boundaries which continually change; entertains doubt and wonder as prerequisites to growth; feels some discomfort when discovers self-seeing only one side of an issue; can discriminate multiple dimensions of an issue such as: law, rules, dogma, reason, logic, politics, economics, human, charity and decide which combination should determine his action at this temporal point. He is expected to have sufficient intelligence to comprehend and absorb both his training and his ongoing formation into his life in ministry. He should be a compassionate person; one who is flexible and open enough to be comfortable with change and the complexities of life situations.

As a Christian, the Permanent Deacon should be deeply committed to the service of God's people, the Eucharist, liturgy of morning and evening prayer, personal prayer, and the growth in a genuine and transparent spirituality. He should have a love for the Church, obedience to his Bishop, and be seen as a credible witness of the Church's teaching and mission.

As a Church person, the Permanent Deacon should have a relative detachment from the Office in the Church that he holds, seeing it as a call to serve rather than a self-elevation. He should be able to relate and work with Church authority and committed to ministry on a team basis. He must agree to a recognizable ministry to a particular community and enjoy ministerial competence in that area. *Next week final criteria for call to orders.*

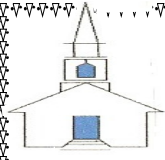
Congratulations to Elsie Brockway for her Diocesan Safe Environment coloring page that was the winning submission from all 1st graders across the Diocese of Syracuse. It will be showcased on the diocesan Facebook page and website (www.syrдио.org) during April 2024 as the Diocese promotes the many ways it is committed to protecting God's children. It will also be in the Catholic Sun's April 25th edition.



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

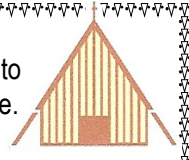
If you have a friend or family member serving our country and would like their name mentioned weekly in our bulletin, to be kept in our prayers, OR for any changes, please contact our parish office.



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

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)
Parish Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday, Noon - Phone, Mail or Email, ststephenstpat@syrdio.org

Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions

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
Monday, Feb. 19 **6:00 PM** Whitney Point...for **The People Of Our Parish**
Tuesday, Feb. 20 **9:00 AM** Whitney Point...for **The People Of Our Parish**
Sunday, Feb. 25 **8:30 AM** Whitney Point...for **Bill Cummings** by Pat & Terri Fedele
 10:15 AM Marathon...for **Dick Barry** by Bob & Sharon Barry
 12:00 PM OLPH...for **Darlene Schmick** by Ellie Auberger



Readings for Feb. 18 through 25, 2024:
Today: Gn 9:8-15; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15
Monday: Lv 19:1-2,11-18; Mt 25:31-46
Tues: Is:55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15
Wed: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
Thurs: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
Sat: Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 22:1-2,9a,10-13,15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



Whitney Point

Greeters: Earl Markham, Cris Broderick
Next Sunday: Anne Ballard, Cathy Shoemaker
Lector: Marcus Stevens
Next Sunday: Gene Jordan

Marathon

Kathleen Allen, Kim McCrory
Claire Hinman, Don Atwood
Bill McGovern
Rose Ann Holland
Tony Zelsnack, Kathy Cusick
Carol Niggli, Karen Standish
Karen Standish, Wayne Niggli
Karen Standish, Wayne Niggli

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Mihalko, Ingrid Wennerod, Peg Orzel
Next Sunday: John Mihalko, Cathy Shoemaker, Emily Jordan
Tabulators: Peg Orzel, Cathy Cummings
Next Sunday: Ron & Jan Orzel

Feb. Ushers: John & Kim McCrory

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.

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

WP Ecumenical Food Pantry: M-Th & Sat, 10AM-Noon, Closed Fridays, Holidays, & when school is closed for inclement weather.
FoodPantry Chairperson: John Mihalko
February's Pantry Need: Canned fruit & 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

➔ 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, so it can be taken care of asap.

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

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.



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")

Tuesday, Feb. 20th 9:30AM - CCSS-SP's Hospitality Committee Mtg. - WP Hall Classroom
10:00AM - Lenten Bible Study - Whitney Point Church
Friday, Feb. 23rd 3:00PM - Stations of the Cross - OLPH Church, Cincinnati
6:00PM - Stations of the Cross - Whitney Point Church (1st 3 Fridays)
Saturday, Feb. 24th 9:30-11:00AM - Virtus Recertification Training - WP Church Hall
Sunday, Feb. 25th 9:20-11:00AM - Faith Formation Classes - Whitney Point Church Hall

Whole Community Catechesis

Readings and Questions for Discussion

Reading 1 - Genesis 9:8-15

God establishes a covenant with Noah, giving a rainbow as its sign.

Reading 2 - 1 Peter 3:18-22

In our baptism, we are saved through Christ's death and Resurrection.

Gospel - Mark 1:12-15

Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.

Adults: What daily activities can I do without so that I can use that time to renew myself in Jesus, the Messiah?

Children: What good habit can I work on in order to grow closer to Jesus?



A Family Perspective

Jesus went into the desert to put his life in perspective. This lent, take a fresh look at a difficult relationship in your life. Concentrate on the positive things that person does, not just the negatives. Try to understand why their behaviors "bug" you. Can you honestly share your feelings with them without attacking them? Make Lent a time to MEND and FORGIVE!



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

All are invited to our

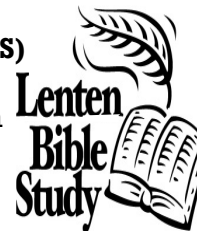
EUCCHARISTIC MEAL (MASS)

at 9:00 AM, followed by **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** with

Rev. Thomas Macauley, O.P.

Tuesday, February 20th, 10:00 to 11:00 AM at the Whitney Point Church Hall.

The Epistle of St. James - Please bring your Bibles and writing materials.



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 First Wednesday, February 21st – 7 PM at St Mary's Reflection by Sr. Laura Bufano, CSJ, Vicar for Pastoral Leadership

Our Lenten Sacrifice:

Days of Abstinence - All Fridays in Lent, & Good Friday for all who have reached their 14th birthday, no meat can be taken. **Days of Fast** - Good Friday for all who have reached their 18th birthday and have not as yet reached their 60th birthday, a limit of one full meatless meal.

Weekdays of Lent - No obligation to fast; however, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Easter Duty Obligation - Must be made from the first Sunday in Lent through Trinity Sunday.

Self Denial - is encouraged on a voluntary basis. Acts may include daily Mass, spiritual study, Lenten Devotions, the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, and deeds of mercy and kindness.

Reflections and Rice Bowls

Please help yourself to one of the booklets of Lenten Daily Reflections and a Rice Bowl.

A SEASON FOR REFLECTION

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors.

Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world.

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

Vocation View: "I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, sister, or brother, then reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram @vocationsnyracuse. 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.

February 22 -Feast of The Chair of St. Peter commemorates Christ's choosing Peter to sit in his place as the servant authority of the whole Church.

On the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, try this rockfish recipe. It seems so appropriate today since the name Peter means "rock."

Catholiccuisine.blogspot.com -

Baked Rockfish

Digital Format can found at: syracusediocese.org/partnering-with-families

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGE: This week we enter into the first full week of our Lenten journey—a journey to the Cross and then to Resurrection. We know we can't go straight to Resurrection. As with Jesus, the sacrifice of the Cross is a necessary part of our journey. Your challenge this week, but really for all of Lent, is to think of someone in the world who is experiencing their own cross. It might be the cross of hunger, of human trafficking, of living in a war-torn village or city, or of being denied freedom of expression. Even though you don't know this person's name, imagine how this person looks, how old they might be, and even where they live. Then choose something to give up this Lent, something which may cause a bit of suffering and sacrifice on your part, to stand in solidarity with the brother or sister whose pain is—and should be—our pain. Offer up your sacrifice on their behalf. Every day, as members of our one human family, say a prayer for this person. Use the time or the money you would have spent on whatever you give up to support an organization in your parish or in our universal Catholic Church which works to end injustice for those who suffer. Some possible choices include your local St. Vincent de Paul chapter, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Charities, or Catholic Relief Services.

Through the UNBOUND Program our parish Human Development Ministry supports Mihary who lives in Madagascar. Our annual donation provides the funds for her education and some basic needs of clothing and food. She occasionally writes to our parish to share her progress and gratefulness for our help. Her latest letter that arrived recently was written in October and is posted on the Whitney Point Bulletin board in the front foyer. We always write a return letter letting her know about our parish and community. If you would like to write her a letter (either paper or on line please let Peg know porzell10@yahoo.com Please keep her and her family in prayer.