

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH

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Telephone 315-346-6958 Fax 315-346-1200

Rev. Donald J. Manfred - Pastor

Call Rectory to Arrange:

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM..... Prep Required - Prepare during Pregnancy

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY..... Prep Required - Arrange 6 months in advance



October 10, 2021

Mass Intentions This Week

Sat.	Oct.	9	5:00 PM	Barbara Widrick by Norma & Tom Monnat
Sun.	Oct.	10	8:30 AM	Aaron Lehman by Mom & Dad
Mon.	Oct.	11	NO MASS	
Tues.	Oct.	12	8:15 AM	Doug Robbins by Carl & Kristen Frunan
Wed.	Oct.	13	8:15 AM	Special Intention
Thur.	Oct.	14	8:15 AM	Ed Boliver by Yvonne Kirschner
Fri.	Oct.	15	8:15 AM	Robert Mattimore by John & Cindy Pate
Sat.	Oct.	16	5:00 PM	Kevin Boliver by Kathy Allan & Deacon Mike
Sun.	Oct.	17	8:30 AM	Troy Chartrand by Mom & Dad

Sanctuary candle lit in memory Calistus & Edna Reape and DiAnn Kloster by Ray & Karen Reape

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION..... Saturday, 4:15- 4:45 PM

Pray for the Sick: Jeanne Merry, William (Bill) Davoy Jr., Bernard Ardison, Elizabeth Tabolt Jasinski, Jeff Bruckman, Nicole Brown, and all ill at home, in the hospital or nursing homes.

(The sick that wish to be remembered in prayer will be included on this list only if they agree to have their names included or family members specifically request this). Please call the rectory to have a name included on this list.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Living as a disciple of Jesus is a challenging task. Jesus explains that keeping the commandments is not enough to inherit eternal life. Disciples must give what they have to the poor to follow Him.

In the book of Hebrews we hear God's word described as a double-edged sword. In the Gospel Jesus word's describe this difficult challenge as we hear Him say "Go, sell what you have and give to the poor and and you will have treasure in heaven".

Today we seek the grace to answer Jesus' word of invitation to allow God to penetrate our hearts and enable us to achieve what we cannot do ourselves.

MASS FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: Communion, Participation and Mission - In 2022, we will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. It will be a time to look back and appreciate all that the Holy Spirit has accomplished in the Church here in the North Country. As we celebrate our history, the Holy Father has also asked us to look to the future. In May, Pope Francis called for a Synod to see what the Holy Spirit is doing in the Church, the body of Christ today, including here in our diocese. As part of our participation in the synod, there will be future opportunities for people to share the fruits of their personal prayer and reflection on how the Holy Spirit is moving in our diocese, in our parishes and in our people.

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO ORGANIZED, SERVED AND CLEANED UP AFTER THE RECEPTION LAST SUNDAY

- I am most grateful for another wonderful display of our parish "family" working together. It was a wonderful and joyful celebration for Peter and his family as we thank God and thank Peter for responding God's call for his continuing service to the parish and church. God bless all.

Gratefully, Father Don

"A BLESSED PAST... A FAITHFUL FUTURE"

PLANS FOR A CAPITAL DEBT REDUCTION APPEAL

Six years ago the parish faced a major repair, renovation and restoration project with St Stephen's Church. I am sure all are aware of the extent and expense of this project. Parishioners responded very generously to the appeal conducted at that time making it possible to make the necessary repairs to the church ceiling, walls, frescoes, paintings, Stations of the Cross, renovation of the sanctuary and installation of new sound and lighting systems.

Fortunately, the Diocese assisted in providing a low interest loan and reduced diocesan assessments. Cash donations and pledge contributions from parishioners and friends of St. Stephen's parish accompanied the loan from the diocese that enabled the work to be completed.

A present debt of \$914,000. 00 remains to be paid. Current pledge gifts should be completed at the end of December this year. After several meetings of the Financial and Pastoral Councils of the parish, the decision was made to begin a Debt Reduction Appeal to continue making quarterly payments to the diocese and further reduce our parish debt. Bishop LaValley gave the parish a generous gift which has enabled us to hire a professional fund raising firm to assist in this endeavor. Within a few weeks this Debt Reduction appeal will begin with homilies, letters, bulletin announcements and appeals to all parishioners.

The Bishop's Fund - 70 families in our parish have made a gift or pledge of \$11,000 to the 2021 Bishop's Fund Appeal. This represents 56% of parishioners. Our parish goal is to \$19,500. Please use the envelope in the church seats to make your contribution unless you have already received a form in the mail from the Bishop's Fund Office. You may place your contribution envelope in the basket during the Offertory collection in church or mail it directly to the Bishop's Fund Office

FALL HIKE AND PICNIC

Join us for a Family hike up Stillwater Mountain

Sunday, October 10th, Leaving from church parking lot at 11:30- Followed by a Picnic at Bob Buholtz's - hamburgs and hot dogs provided. Please bring a dish to pass and table setting. Feel free to join us for the picnic even if you can't go on the hike! - Thank you, Kevin Virkler, for arranging the hike and being our guide and Bob for being our host.

Upcoming Dates

Oct 11th Office Closed - Columbus Day

YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH

Collection 10/3/21 : \$ 5,307.33

Needed to meet Budget: \$ 4,476.00

Restoration : \$ 603.00

Fuel: \$ 1,289.00

**Thank you for faithful support
to St. Stephen's Parish**

**Congratulations to Jean & Elmer Golden
on the celebration of their 67th Wedding
Anniversary on October 9th**

The K of C and Rosary Society invite you to stay after Mass on Sat. Oct.16 or Sun. Oct. 17, for a **15-minute Prayer Service** in the church south side yard, at our Unborn Memorial Monument. Inclement weather will move us into the church. Please join us in prayer.

FAITH FORMATION -

Oct. 10th - NO CLASSES THIS SUNDAY

Last week the children were excited to present Deacon Peter Wooschlager with a tee-shirt as a gift for his ordination. We learned about some of the roles Deacon Wooschlager will have in our church. Our younger children are doing a great job learning to genuflect and make the sign of the cross. We learned that before the gospel is read, we make the sign of the cross on our foreheads to remind us to keep Jesus in our thoughts, we sign our lips to remind us to speak the Good News of God and we sign our heart to keep Jesus in our heart and to remember to act as Jesus would. Lastly, we learned about St. Francis and the manner in which he chose to live in poverty and care for all of God's creation both human and animals.

REMINDER - materials for children are in the back of church. Children can also sign up to take home books from our God In Between library. Please send a note to class with your child or call the office.