



# St. Stephen's Parish

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Trustees: Susan Gydesen & Lindsay Nortz  
Finance Council Chairperson: Robert Buholtz

**October 2, 2022**

## Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

Courage, a gift of the Holy Spirit, lies at the heart of the Scripture readings this Sunday. Courage to be faithful to Christ and the Gospel in all things and in all places, is the challenge Jesus offers us.

Sometimes, we feel our faith is weak and unable to overcome all our doubts and sometimes our faith gives us the confidence to face our trials. Jesus' closest friends, his apostles, may have felt the same way as today we hear them ask him to increase their faith.

Let us accept the challenge to recognize our faith, however uncertain, and thank God for the courage to trust in him.



*The Sanctuary Candle is lit in memory of Matthew Kalamas by Tom, Jane, Rebecca, and Alexander*

**Saturday, October 1 (5:00 pm)**

Ronald Bush 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary by Jim and Arline Bush

**Sunday, October 2 (8:30 am)**

Aaron Lehman by Mom and Dad

**Monday, October 3 (8:15 am)**

Matthew Kalamas, 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Mom, Dad, Rebecca, and Alexander

**Tuesday, October 4 (8:15 am)**

Living & Deceased Members of St. Stephen's Secular Franciscans by The Franciscan Order

**Wednesday, October 5 (8:15 am)**

Frank Buell by Jeff and Mary Ellen Wooschlager

**Thursday, October 6 (8:15 am)**

Ann Lee by Ethel Hoch

**Friday, October 7 (8:15 am)**

Living & Deceased Members of St. Stephen's Rosary Society

**Saturday, October 8 (5:00 pm)**

Stanley Monnat by Norma Monnat

**Sunday, October 9 (8:30 am)**

Kathleen Noftsier by Julie Reape

### Pray for the Sick

Alice Moore, Anna Hirschey, Tina Lavery, John Lashbrooks, and all ill at home, in the hospital, or nursing homes.

### Your Support for The Parish

Adult Envelopes: \$5,334.22  
Plate: \$ 631.00

### FALL HIKE

Join us Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> for a fall hike at Camp Oswegatchie. The trail around Long Pond is 3 1/2 miles. We will leave from St. Stephen's Parking Lot at 11 am. Please bring a lunch. Contact Kevin Virkler for more information.

### NO DRIVE THRU

The driveway and parking area for the church, Rectory, and K of C Hall has recently been repaired. This is not a public driveway. Please observe the new signs.

### CHAPLET OF THE SORROWS OF MARY

Holy cards for those who wish to observe this Devotion to Mary are found on the tables at the front of the church

K of C Meeting-Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm.



### PRAYER OF FAITH

Loving God,  
 Increase my faith in you.  
 When confronted with the magnitude of the world's sufferings, give me the grace to trust in the long haul.  
 When besieged by doubt or despair, remind me to look for the small signs of your presence, embedded in the daily details of my life.  
 When tempted toward cynicism and negativity, grace me with a mellow heart, so I can continue to find hope in beauty, love, and laughter.  
 With deep faith in you, I pray.  
 Amen.

### SILENT AUCTION

The Rosary Society will have a Silent Auction set up in the Church Hall from October 16-28. Everyone is welcome to stop down and check it out after the weekend Masses and during the Harvest Dinner. All chances are \$1.00. If anyone would like to donate an item or basket, please drop off at the Church by October 13. If you have questions, please contact Yvonne at 315-346-6636 or Marcie at 415-586-2180. Thank you.

### Rosary Society Fall Banquet



The Rosary Society will be having a fall banquet on Thursday, October 20 at 5 pm at the Brick Oven Inn in Beaver Falls. The cost is \$20 per person. There will be chicken alfredo, lasagna, salad, and French bread. Please RSVP by October 9<sup>th</sup> to Marcie Buell (586-2180) or Yvonne Albertson (346-6636).

### SINCERE THANKS

Sincere thanks to various individuals and groups or parishioners for many fund-raising events to assist in the debt reduction.

These total: **\$9,360**; Fried Dough \$3,947; Quilt Raffles \$1,760; Baskets and Center pieces \$1,859; and Youth Bowl-a-Thon \$1,795.

Great Adventure Bible Study Wednesday at 6:30.

### CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS MICHELLE WATKINS

Michelle Watkins was honored by the Diocese of Ogdensburg for many years of volunteer ministry for the Youth of our Diocese as Director of Camp Guggenheim, presenter of Youth retreats and involvement in Christian Formation Programs.

In addition to Diocesan recognition, Bishop LaValley requested a Papal Blessing for Michelle which had not arrived when she was honored by the Diocesan gathering in August. This Papal Blessing will be presented at the 5pm Mass this Saturday with a fuller explanation of its meaning.

Our parish of St. Stephen's is very grateful to Michelle for her ministry to our parish, our youth, and years of ministerial service as we ask God's continued blessing upon her.

### THANK YOU...

Many thanks to Bob Buholtz and members of the Finance Council for preparing the annual Financial Report of St. Stephen's Parish. Thanks to Sue Gydesen (Trustee) and Bob Buholtz (Chair of Finance Committee) for the reports given at Mass last weekend. Copies of this report are found on tables near the front entryway to the church.

This report gives a very positive picture of the financial condition of the parish. Our annual ordinary income is more than sufficient to meet our ordinary annual expenses and leaves the parish with a positive balance at the end of the fiscal year. Parishioners are to be congratulated on your generous support of the parish.

The campaign last year to reduce parish debt was most successful and will provide funds to meet quarterly loan and interest payments to the diocese for the next five years. Increased contributions will allow the parish to further reduce the principal on the debt. Additional information will be given in the near future. Again, sincere thanks and congratulations to all who made contributions and pledge gifts to the debt reduction appeal last year.

### HARVEST DINNER

St. Stephen's Hospitality will be sponsoring a Harvest Dinner on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Monies raised will be used toward renovations in the Church Hall kitchen. Donations of potatoes, carrots, onions, squash, or cabbage would be greatly appreciated to help with expenses. We are also looking for donations of fruit or pumpkin pies as dessert.