

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2020

www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org



THIS WEEK

All Meetings held via "Zoom"

MONDAY 24 AUG / *Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51*

- SIGN UP BEGINS FOR AUGUST 30 8 a.m. Mass
- 6:30 AM - Open Wide Our Hearts Discussion Group
- **MASS** (+Helen Olson) FDL Private Mass
- 7:30 PM - Point Catholic Women's Bible Study

TUESDAY 25 AUG / *2 Thes 2:1-3, 14-17/Ps 96:10-13/Mt 23:23-26*

- SIGN UP FOR AUGUST 30 8 a.m. Mass
- **8:15 AM - MASS** (+William Berrett) Public & Live feed/Video FSB
- 9:30 AM - Parish Staff Meeting
- 12 PM - Open Wide Our Hearts Discussion Group
- 4 PM - Salvation Army Meal Ministry

WEDNESDAY 26 AUG / *2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32*

- SIGN UP FOR AUGUST 30 8 a.m. Mass
- **8:15 AM - MASS** (+Mary Jane Messersmith) Public & Live feed/Video FSB
- 8:30 AM - Phase II Owner/Contractor Meeting
- 1 PM - Arimatheans Team Meeting
- 4:30 PM - Finance Council Meeting
- 6:30 PM - Open Wide Our Hearts Discussion Group

THURSDAY 27 AUG / *1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-7/Mt 24:42-51*

- **8:15 AM - MASS** (+Adolph & Helen Liss family) Public & Live feed/Video FSB
- 1 PM - Open Wide Our Hearts Discussion Group
- 7:30 PM - Point Catholic Men's Bible Study

FRIDAY 28 AUG / *1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13*

- **8:15 AM - MASS** (+Art & Stella Zagrzebski) Public & Live feed/Video FSB
- 7 PM - Point Catholic Campfire, Ministry Ctr. Parking Lot

SATURDAY 29 AUG / *1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-6, 15 and 17/Mk 6:17-29*

- **MASS** (+Roger Patoka) FDP Private Mass
- 9-10 AM - Reconciliation, Ministry Center/Library

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / 29/30 AUG

Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

- **8 AM MASS** (+Francis & Clara Wysocki) FSB
- **11 AM - Live Feed/Video MASS** (+Regina & Leonard Konkol) FSB

FSB: Fr. Steve Brice

FDL: Fr. Dennis Lynch

FDP: Fr. Don Przybylski

Church/Ministry Center Open Daily!

After six months of being closed with staff working from home, Holy Spirit Parish offices have returned to normal operating hours. The new entrance doors under the carport are open and the front office staffed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays. ***In cooperation with the Wisconsin Mask Mandate we expect everyone in the building/church to wear a mask at all times. We also ask that all register at the sign-in station upon entering the building. This will be helpful in the unfortunate event that contact tracing becomes necessary.***

We will also begin offering daily Masses at which people may be present. Daily Mass will be in the Church Tuesday through Friday at 8:15 a.m. We will continue to live-stream these. Registration will not be necessary for daily Mass. We will ask people who attend daily Mass to seat themselves appropriately for social distancing and to wipe down their pew after Mass to sanitize it. The church will also be available again, during office hours, for private prayer. People are asked to enter and exit the church through the new Ministry Center entrance. All other doors will remain locked.

Our last First Communion Celebration will be August 23rd. The weekend of the 30th UWSP students return. That weekend the 8 a.m. Mass will still be the Mass open to parish members to attend. The 11 a.m. Mass will be a Welcome Back Mass for university students. In September we hope to fall into a new normal schedule of the 8 a.m. being the live streamed Mass and the community Mass being at 10 a.m.

We realize it is a significant inconvenience but we do ask people to continue to register for weekend Mass in advance. So far we have had more capacity than needed. But with the return of university students and the start of school that could change. At present we do not see the need to offer either a Saturday evening or a Sunday evening Mass.

Given the constantly changing circumstances in which we now live, all of these plans are subject to further revision. Please let us know if you see ways we can better serve the needs of our parish and community.

Register to Attend Sunday Mass

Monday morning through Thursday noon each week visit the parish website and follow the "Returning to Mass" link. Or, call the parish office at 344-9117.

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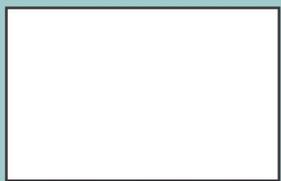
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Dear Holy Spirit Parish:

“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church...”
(Matthew 16:18)

What was it in Peter that made him good material for Jesus to build his Kingdom on? Just a few lines after this one Jesus is scolding Peter for not knowing what he is talking about. Peter objects when Jesus tries to wash his feet. And of course, Peter denies he even knows Jesus and abandons him the night Jesus is crucified.

Many have noted that Peter was like Judas in everyway but one. Whereas Judas believed he was so bad no one could save him, Peter came to believe that though he was weak and broken, Jesus had forgiven him and loved him. Humility is not putting oneself down, it is being in touch with “humus” with the earth, with reality. And what is real is that we are weak and frail creatures, yet we are loved by God. This is the solid ground upon which Christ builds his Church.

Isn't this the heart of the message we hope to convey to our children through the Eucharist? That they need Jesus! A happy healthy life does come from self reliance but from God reliance. This weekend we celebrate seven more of our 22 First Communions. Our last family will celebrate theirs Sept. 13th. Well done parents! And, congratulations to you children. You are building your families and lives on rock.

This is the heart of our Small Faith Sharing Group ministry as well. Just ordinary people, all with plenty of imperfections, get together to share from the heart, and the Spirit of God always comes and brings healing. Even though only a tenth of our people have been involved in a small group so far, it is already strengthening the foundation of our whole Parish.

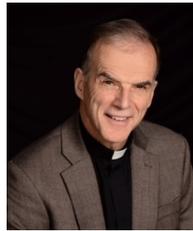
It is not too late to join the current round of Small Faith Sharing Groups. I am so thankful for this opportunity to gather and talk about the issue of racism in our country from a perspective of faith. It is not healthy to sit alone with worry and stress. The Bishops offer most helpful guidance on how people of faith should conduct themselves in these times. Head to the parish website to sign up for these online meetings.

And I am hoping everyone in the parish has Tuesday evenings blocked out beginning September 29th. The twelve of us parish members who experienced the Alpha Program this summer received many blessings from it including putting our faith in Christ on solid ground and strengthening relationships with one another. It will be offered in three formats.

First of all, we will have groups for those who wish to gather in person on Tuesday evenings. (Social distancing and masks will be used.) There will be a meal provided at these gatherings. Second, people may join in the Tuesday evening session online. And third, groups will meet on different days and times of the week online. All will get to experience the excellent teaching and heart changing testimonies. All will have the chance to build real community on humility. Just a month away now, it is none too soon to put it in your calendar!!

Of all the important information in this newsletter I draw your attention to information about Fr. Bruno's work in Uganda. Each year we host a missionary for a weekend to learn how the spread of the Gospel is fairing and to find out how we can support them. Because of Covid 19, Fr. Bruno was not able to travel to the United States. His full letter appears on our parish website, under the Social Justice tab. A contribution envelope is also included in this mailing.

It will be so good to see the University students back next weekend! We are ready to help them build their lives on the rock.



Fr. Steven J. Brice

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

*Disciples called to worship,
sent to serve.*

www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org

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mary@holyspiritstevenspoint.org

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Keep in touch

We will continue to use email and Flocknote to be in touch with you. Facebook provides not only a way to be in touch but also to take part in daily and Sunday Mass through a Live Video Feed. Log into the parish Facebook page, **Holy Spirit Parish**, at 8:15 a.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. on Sunday to watch the Mass live. You can always watch these videos at any time, again, through our Facebook page.

For those who are able, know that your financial support is greatly needed and appreciated. You can mail your envelopes to the parish or call Becky at 344-9117 and she will set up your automatic giving with your bank. The Diocese has set up an option that directs debit and credit card giving to each parish. The link for this program can be found on the parish website.

#KeepTheFaith

Julie Meadows

How to keep and pass the faith during pandemic? Perhaps, this is a question some of you have been struggling with or wondering about. Certainly, it's a question that your new Director of Faith Formation and our Faith Formation Committee have been struggling with over the summer, as we've spoken with the broader Holy Spirit and Early Childhood Center staff, staff from other parishes and staff at the Diocese! And, of course, we've spoken with a number of you, asking for your input as well. Given the complexities and constraints, we're happy with the decisions we've made for Fall Faith Formation programming. We hope you'll be happy with them, too! Here's the scoop:

The Tim Capps Early Childhood Center is NOT available for Wednesday evening Grade 1 – 6 religious education classes for the foreseeable future. It is not possible to properly clean and sanitize such shared space with the quick turnover between daily aftercare students and the influx of Faith Formation students. Nor is it possible to clean the ECC thoroughly after evening REP classes and before the next day's use. So, we had to rethink where and how formation might occur!

Many parents have shared that they plan to limit their children's activity outside the home to primary and secondary school attendance. So, we had to rethink where and how formation might occur!

There will continue to be constant flux in regional rates of viral contagion and in our State and Diocesan responses via regulations and guidelines. We're wanting to provide clarity and stability in an ever-changing set of circumstances. So, we had to rethink where and how formation might occur!

What does this mean in concrete terms?

Beginning with the youngest among us, *Children's Liturgy of the Word* will resume when we see a significant number of families returning to Mass. For now, we will not offer Children's Liturgy of the Word.

For families with students in grades 1-6, we will offer a family-centered, home-based catechetical program created by the Sophia Institute called *A Family of Faith*. In the 1st week of each month, parents will enjoy a 30 – 45 minute in person and/or ZOOM exchange with Julie, Renee or one of our other catechists in preparation for the 2nd and 3rd weeks of the month. In weeks 2 and 3 families will be asked to gather in a comfortable spot at home, share in a teaching and engage in specific, age appropriate activities meant to help bring the lesson home in mind and heart. In the 4th week of the month, families will be asked to share some aspect of what has been enjoyed in this special time together. Workbooks will be provided to parent(s) and each child in the family.

Grades 7/8 will continue with Lifeteen's *EDGE* curriculum meeting both virtually through ZOOM and, on occasion, gathering physically – but safely – in the ministry center.

Students in Confirmation Years 1 & 2, our 9th and 10th graders, will engage in Teen Alpha and Lifeteen's *Purpose* curriculum.

These students will meet virtually through ZOOM and, on a regular basis, gather physically for socially distanced Youth Ministry activities.

Students in Confirmation Year 3, our 11th graders, will work with their Sponsors, this Fall, to more fully express what it is they believe prior to the November 8 Rite of Confirmation at Holy Spirit Parish.

All High School students are welcome, and encouraged, to join in *bi-monthly Youth Ministry* activities with Lizzy Novak and friends beginning in late September!

REGISTRATION PACKETS FOR REP AND CONFIRMATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER!!!!

AND, JUST IN CASE YOU'RE THINKING FAITH FORMATION IS ONLY FOR THE YOUNG . . .

#FaithFormationIsForever!

Look to other pages of this newsletter for teasers about adult and all-parish formation



Anticipating College Students

GATHERING ITEMS FOR GIFT BAGS: Gift Bags of treats and information are being given to all new college students who attend the opening weekend Mass. Items needed include: fun-size candy bars, small bags of peanuts, lunch

size cheese/crackers, granola bars, gum, small boxed raisins, as well as cash donations. Items can be dropped at the Ministry Center entranceway before Aug. 25th.

MASKS NEEDED: As the university prepares to open this month with a mandatory mask requirement, they are in need of masks to distribute to students and faculty. If you are willing and able to make more masks, we would welcome any donation in the marked tote outside the church under the carport! Thank you so much for your support of university professors, staff and students!

Mission Co-op 2020 Appeal

This year's Missionary Co-op presenter was to be Fr. Bruno of St. Luke Kashorero Parish located in Uganda, Africa. Fr. Bruno is unable to come this year because of the covid-19 epidemic. We will be reading a letter from Fr. Bruno stating the great needs of his parish at Masses next weekend. Fr. Bruno's parishes suffer with two great needs at this time. He writes:



Receiving some food items and a goat from my Parishioners

1. Lack of enough food. Some of the local food I eat is donated by my Christians from their small gardens and the rest is bought by friends that give me money for food.

Unfortunately, there are some of my Christians who don't have any food to eat and at some point they come to the parish to ask me for some food. When I have it, I share with them what I have received from friends of good will.

2. Lack of clean water. We have no water piped into my parish. We collect water from shallow swampy wells and rains (gutters are used to bring water from the roof into the tank for drinking water - great thanks to Wisconsin Rapids Rosary group friends for funding one of the water tanks). However, this remains a great challenge across my parish. I was "shocked" while I visited Wisconsin Rapids (US) in December 2017 – January, 2018! To my surprise, when I asked for drinking water, I was served with the water fetched straight from the tap. To my thinking, this water was unclean and not safe for drinking because it was not boiled (in my place, we have to boil water to make it safe for drinking). However, my host family took time to explain to me how the water was very safe for drinking. Since then, I comfortably enjoyed the safe water of America. In my parish, the water sources are unpleasant and "scary" to my American friends (the shallow dirty wells).

You will find a Mission Co-op Appeal envelope included in this mailing. Please, if you are able, be generous in responding to Fr. Bruno's needs. Checks can be made payable to Holy Spirit Parish with Mission Co-op Appeal in the memo line.

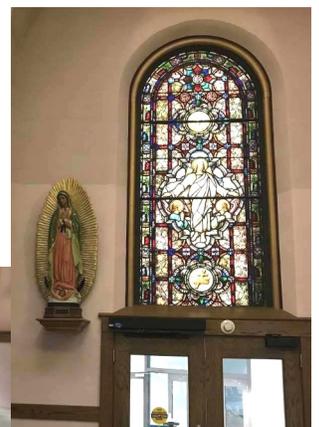
Calling all Rice Bowls

The COVID-19 pandemic halted collection of Lenten Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services. If you still have a Lenten Rice Bowl or would like to make a donation, please drop it off at the Ministry Center or bring it to Mass and place it by the offertory basket. Please be sure to record your name on the Rice Bowl so we can post it to your parish giving account.



Power-ful work in the Church!

Ellis Construction, along with many other contractors, has been hard at work, with a lot of electricity, in and around the church. The new "Picnic Panel" has been installed to provide electricity for outside events. There's a new ceiling with energy efficient lighting in Kostka Hall. New lamps in the chandeliers brighten the church while new fixtures illuminate the Sanctuary. The formerly dark stained-glass windows on the north-west wall are now beautifully backlit. There are new wires, switches and dimmers to improve lighting controls. HVAC work continues - new pipes, new venting, new boilers and air handlers - a lot of work we don't see but will appreciate as we return to an energy efficient, comfortably temperature controlled church.



And, the Baptistery! Krupka Construction has been hard at work, along with plumbers and electricians, to complete this wonderful addition to the church. Work on the platform and ramp is complete. The baptistery itself awaits only it's marble top trim. Soon we can fill it, bless the water and enjoy welcoming new Christians to our community ... "Come to the water...!"

SAVE the DATES SPIRIT NIGHTS 2020 JESSE MANIBUSAN

September 21, 22, 23

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singer/songwriter, storyteller,
humorist, catechist,
evangelizer and encourager.



Jesse has that knack to
connect to his audience, and
create life-giving memories
that help deepen faith and
cultivate the joy that inspires
service, sacrifice and the
celebration of life.

Welcome to Holy Spirit!

These are the families that have joined our parish this year! We're glad to recognize them here and hope to be able to see them in person soon!

Scott and Mary Cherney

Jeanette Friess

Tony and Sara Groshek

Justin and Kendra Janis

Jett

Adam and Vicki Lauer

Noah, Abigail

Dennis and Carol Lauer

Mary Moroder

Ray and Mary Nass

Sandy Setterlund

Josh and Beth Wachowiak

Andrew and Kristin Widmar

Can You Hear Me Now?

Yes, it's an old cell phone joke, but also a good question for today. We're communicating in new and different ways...emails, attachments, live streams, "Zoom" meetings, e-surveys...lots of technology involved...so the question is:

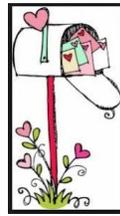
Can you "hear" us? If not, we'd like to help!



Are you having problems connecting to Mass online, receiving emails and Pastoral Ponderings, getting to important links on the parish website, needing help navigating a "Zoom" gathering?

Let us know - our Technology Committee would love to help. Call Lee, at the office, 344-9117 for more information.

Sisters of St Joseph - Card Shower



In gratitude for the many years of service the Sisters of St Joseph, TOSF, have given to the Catholic Community in Stevens Point and the surrounding areas we are hosting a card shower for them.

If you know any of them personally or just want to send a general note of thanks, please take a moment to do this.

The cards can be dropped off at the parish offices or mailed to Holy Spirit Parish, 2151 Stanley Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481. The Family Life Committee will be mailing these out periodically to let the Sisters know we are continuing to think of them during this transition to their new home.

An Easier Way to Give

Each month, Holy Spirit Parish initiates 350 giving transactions via ACH (Automated Clearing House). ACH is a secure transaction between your bank and HSP's bank. Your bank data is safely housed on HSP's bank's server. HSP's bank requires multiple layer authentication in order for us to enter or access your data. Your bank records ACH transactions just as it would a check you write and it appears on your bank statement as such.

ACH transactions are automated and happen largely behind the scenes. They save HSP time in updating your annual giving statement and with less chance for error. As an extra benefit our bank does not charge us service charges (generally 3%) for ACH transactions. Nor do they charge you for the transaction. And, because they happen electronically, there are no material resources used. No checks, no envelopes, stamps, or gasoline involved!

It's easy to set-up ACH giving transactions for your Offertory or Building Fund giving. Once you authorize an ACH, you're done! Interested in learning more or want to sign up for ACH giving, please contact Becky Jirous at 344-9117.

This Fall ... This Church ... Are You Ready? ALPHA IS COMING!

BEGINNING TUESDAY, 9*28*2020

Engage, Explore, Question,
Encourage, Connect, Care

Wondering if there's more to life?

Hope...purpose...
meaning...love?

Wanting to re-examine or
re-ignite your faith?

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ask tough questions and share honestly what
you believe?

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THIS IS THE COMMUNITY
ARE YOU READY? ALPHA IS COMING!

