

# THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. William F. Glosser, V.F., M.A., M.Div.

250 E. Hancock St.  
Saint Clair, PA 17970

Office Phone ..... 570-429-0370

Rectory Phone ..... 570-429-0701

Office Fax ..... 570-429-0630

Email: scassisi@ptd.net Website: stclareassisi.weebly.com

Assumption BVM School ..... 570-622-0106

Nativity BVM High School ..... 570-622-8110

Immaculate Conception Hall ..... 570-429-0302

Saint Joseph Center for Special Learning <https://stjosephctr.com>



First Sunday of Lent  
February 18, 2024

## MASS TIMES

(Please check bulletin for changes)

Saturdays: 4:00 PM @ St. Clare  
5:30 PM @ Holy Cross

Sundays: 8:30 AM @ St. Clare  
10:45 AM @ Holy Cross

Tuesdays: 6:00 PM @ Holy Cross

Wednesdays: 8:30AM @ Holy Cross

Thursdays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare

Fridays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Prospective parents are expected to attend an instruction session. Please call the parish office to make arrangements and schedule an appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Preparations should be made one year in advance to schedule and plan your wedding.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

PREP/CCD classes are offered for our public grade school children. Classes are held Wednesday evenings 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** Parish registration is recommended for all individual persons and families who worship regularly and who intend to participate actively in the life of our parish by sharing their time, talents and treasure. Registration is necessary for celebrating Marriage and Baptism, as well as for the issuing of Sponsor Certificates.

**Director of Religious Education** ..... Dorothy Frie

**Parish Religious Education Website** ..... [stcstsprep.weebly.com](http://stcstsprep.weebly.com)

## Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Mrs. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, MCC, LPC Direct: 1-800-791-9209

**Secretary for Youth Protection** ..... Pamela Russo, MSW, MS  
1-610-871-5200 Ext 2204 [prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

**Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service:** If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 1-800-276-1562

+++++

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

## HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

## First Sunday of Lent ~ February 18, 2024

**“This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and of every living creature with you. I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth... Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God. ‘This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.’”**

We heard the same words when the blessed ashes were signed in the form of a cross on our foreheads this past Wednesday. We begin this season of repentance and renewal, because we are the ones in need. The covenant of God, made with Abraham and Moses, was renewed through the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

At the last supper Jesus told us that the content of the chalice was His blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant poured out for us for the forgiveness of sins. We embark on this period of prayer grateful for the opportunity to amend our lives, as this Lent is to be different than any other.

As we observe our wayward world, we see the need for renewal, a renewal in our spiritual life, which begins with me. I will allow the kingdom of God to be truly present for me. By my prayer, sacrifice and good works that kingdom becomes real.

## **Our Parish as a School of Prayer**

**Monday, February 19, 2024**

NO MASS

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

*HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 8:30 AM*

Frank & Anna Sublousky

**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

**St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

*HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 8:30 AM*

Dawn Williams

**Thursday, February 22, 2024**

**The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle**

*ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:00 AM*

Stephen A. Rennick

**Friday, February 23, 2024**

**St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr**

*ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:00 AM*

Thomas Brennan

**Saturday, February 24, 2024**

**Vigil for the Second Sunday in Lent**

*ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 4:00 PM*

John McCoach

*HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 5:30 PM*

Mary McCoy

**Sunday, February 25, 2024**

**Second Sunday in Lent**

*ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:30 AM*

Joseph Mashock Sr.

*HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 10:45 AM*

Thomas & Anna McElvaney & Son John

## **Eucharistic Devotion**



**Second Monday** in March at St. Clare from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM (**March 11<sup>th</sup>**)

**Tuesdays** - Holy Cross following 6:00 PM Mass to 7 PM.

**Fridays** - St. Clare following 8:00 AM Mass until 10:30 AM

## **From the Pastor's Desk**

Ashes and rainbows make a strange combination. Ashes are dirty, messy and ugly. Rainbows, on the other hand, are beautiful and inspiring. But we encounter them both at the beginning of Lent this year. On Wednesday, ashes were smudged on our foreheads as a sign of our mortality and sinfulness. Today we hear that God set a rainbow in the sky as a sign of the covenant with us. As we begin this season of Lent, let us recognize both truths: we are always in need of repentance, but God stands ever waiting to forgive us. As ashes remind us to repent of our sins, may rainbows remind us of God's eternal forgiveness.

As our number of priests continue to diminish and those that we have are asked to take on extra responsibilities, a Parish needs to be able to support their Pastor by alleviating many of the minor details and tasks we have always expected the Priest to do.

With the twinning of Parishes now becoming the norm, as opposed to just an occasion, our Pastors still need someone to assist with Liturgical and Sacramental duties. A lay person can do many of these tasks but the role of a Permanent Deacon can do more.

A few weeks ago, we buried Deacon Jack Quirk from St. Pat's but on numerous occasions every Parish in Schuylkill County needed him to help. Deacon Jack's passing creates a void in the Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry.

As your Pastor I am asking men of the Parish to prayerfully discern a calling from the Lord to serve as a Permanent Deacon in our Parishes of St. Clare of Assisi and Holy Cross.



### **Sanctuary Candle**

In Memory of Christopher Walters

By: Family



### **Rest in Peace**

William T. Kennedy

Gloria A. Berdanier

### **Second Collection**

This week's second collection will be for the Heat & Energy and Catholic Home Missions. Next week's second collection will be for Heat and Energy.



### Lenten Offerings

During the season of Lent we participate in Operation Rice Bowl.

Asking individuals or families to eat one less meal a week and the monetary savings from that meal to be placed in an Operation Rice Bowl envelope. As in the past, Rice Bowl envelopes may be placed in the collection at anytime during Lent.

Mass Attendance	Week of 2/11/2024
4:00 PM at SCA	202
5:30 PM at HC	105
8:30 AM at SCA	145
10:45 AM at HC	114

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	Week of 2/11/2024
Contributions - Sunday Envelope	\$ 4,780
Contributions - Other Sunday Giving	\$ 329
Total Plate	\$ 5,109
Needed to meet Church Budget	\$ 5,673
Total Contributions	\$ 173,423
YTD Budget to now	\$ 187,209
Total Over (Under) Budget	\$ (13,786)
OTHER COLLECTIONS	
Building Fund	\$ 175
Candles	\$ 36
Heat & Energy	\$ 1,029
Cemetery	\$ -0-



**St. Maximilian Kolbe** is the Patron Saint for those suffering with drug and alcohol addiction as well as a shining example of loving our neighbor more than ourselves. Father Max bravely challenged the Nazi officer to exchange his life for the life of another prisoner. Father Max informed the Nazi officer that he was a Catholic Priest. So, in addition to being the Patron Saint of Addiction

he also represents the need for our Priests to have courage in protecting their sheep. Father Max was also a Franciscan Priest and so he rightfully belongs in our church in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare.

If any individual, families, or a group of people would like to memorialize this statue, please contact the Rectory.



### PIEROGI SCHOOL CONTINUES THIS WEEK!

Peelers – Monday @ 5:30 PM  
Pinchers – Wednesday @ 9:00 AM

**St. Clare of Assisi Pierogi Sales for 2024 will begin on**

Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

All **cooked** sales are **preorder** only.

Prices are: Frozen uncooked \$9.00

Cooked (butter only or butter & onions) \$10.00

**Please call one of the following numbers to order your pierogies.**

**570-429-0863    570-429-0071    570-429-0343**

Pick up time is between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM

We will also have homemade Rice Pudding each week—  
1<sup>st</sup> come basis (no pre-orders) \$3.50/ lb.

### PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE

Order by 7:00 PM on	Pick up on between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM
Wednesday, February 21 <sup>st</sup>	Friday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Wednesday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, March 1 <sup>st</sup>
Wednesday, March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>
Wednesday, March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, March 15 <sup>th</sup>
Wednesday, March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Monday, March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Holy Week, March 27 <sup>th</sup>

**AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE**

**WHEN FASTING AND ABSTINENCE**

- ASH WEDNESDAY
- GOOD FRIDAY
- FRIDAYS IN LENT

**WHO**

- CATHOLICS 14+** ARE OBLIGED TO PRACTICE ABSTINENCE
- CATHOLICS 18-59** ARE OBLIGED TO FAST

**THOSE OUTSIDE THE AGE LIMITS** and those whose state in life (e.g. pregnant women, manual laborers, those who are ill) may be excused from the requirements of fasting and abstinence, but are encouraged to take up some other form of penitence or acts of charity or piety.

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR  
ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH  
HOLY CROSS PARISH**

- March 2** HC Meatloaf Dinner 4pm-7pm  
Pre orders only
- March 3** Breakfast at ICC Hall 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- March 11 – 13** Parish Mission
- March 16** 1<sup>st</sup> Penance SCA & HC @ St. Clare of Assisi @ 10:00 AM
- March 16-17** HC Candy Pick up
- March 22** HC Bleenie Sale
- March 25** Lenten Penance Service @ St. Clare of Assisi @ 7:00pm
- April 4** HC Kitchen
- April 20** HC Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner
- April 25** Confirmation @ 4:30 St. Pat's
- April 27** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Retreat @ HC
- April 28** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at SCA 10:45 AM
- May 5** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at HC 10:45 AM
- June 10 – 13** 1<sup>st</sup> week of Boot Camp
- June 24-27** 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Boot Camp

**St. Ambrose Parish  
Rest in God Alone - Taize Ecumenical Service**

Wednesday, Feb 28 6:30 PM

During the Taize prayer experience, we gather with each other and in the presence of Jesus Christ to express our faith in work and song. We'll sing hymns of simple thoughts and few words, allowing us to rest in the mystery of God.

**Holy Hour**

Wednesday, March 13

John Paul Kasperowicz, founder of The Ministry of the Single-hearted retreat and music ministry as well as Big Heart Harvest farming ministry, will lead us in prayer and reflection before our Eucharistic Lord.

**PREP EVENTS**

- January 31 – March 6<sup>h</sup>** 1<sup>st</sup> Penance students begin class at SCA (both parishes) from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM.
- March 10** 1<sup>st</sup> Penance Retreat @ SCA 2:00 PM Both Parishes
- March 11 -13** Parish Mission
- March 20 – April 24** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion students begin class from 6:00 – 7:30 each at their own parish.
- March 20 & April 3** Confirmation students begin class from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at SCA for both parishes.
- April 10 & April 17** Confirmation students will have class from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at HC for both parishes.
- April 21** SCA 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Retreat
- April 25** Confirmation at St. Pat's at 4:30 PM
- April 27** HC 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Retreat
- April 28** SCA 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at 10:45 AM
- May 5** HC 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at 10:45 AM
- June 10-13 & June 24-27** Boot Camp



Our Pastor Father Bill is being honored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown for the work that he has done with the marginalized in Schuylkill County. He will be honored at a banquet at DeSales University April 14, 2024 at 2:00 PM.

Would you consider showing your appreciation to your Pastor as well as promoting the good works of Catholic Charities in Schuylkill County by attending this banquet? There is a special parish rate of \$75.00 per person, please call the rectory for more information.





## **2024 Lenten Schedule**

### **Ash Wednesday-**

**SCA** – 6:30 PM Mass  
w/Distribution of Ashes.

**HC** – 8:30 AM Mass w/  
Distribution of Ashes.

**Daily Mass Schedule** – SCA Thursday & Friday  
8:00 AM.

**HC** – Tuesday 8:30 AM, Wednesday 8:30 AM  
(Special Mass Schedule March 13)

**Stations of the Cross** – 6:00 PM Tuesdays both  
churches.

<b>Date</b>	<b>SCA</b>	<b>HC</b>
2/20	Fr. Bill	Knights of Columbus
2/27	John Matulevich	Fr. Bill
3/5	Fr. Bill	TBD
3/19	TBD	Fr. Bill

Stations of the Cross for this year will alternate between Father Bill and John Matulevich in each of the Parishes. However, due to a few Tuesdays, where John will be in Deacon classes we are in need of individuals or a group or an organization to lead Stations in that particular Church that Tuesday. Contact the rectory if you are interested.

**Confession Schedule** following Stations of the Cross

**Tuesdays** SCA – 2/20; 3/5 HC – 2/27, 3/19  
**Saturdays** SCA 3:15 PM HC after 5:30 PM  
Mass

### **Communal Penance Services**

3/21 6:00 PM St. Joseph the Worker, Frackville  
(3-4 Priests)  
3/25 7:00 PM St. Clare of Assisi (5-6 Priests)  
3/27 6:00 PM St. Mary’s Byzantine, Mahanoy  
City Pre-Sanctified Liturgy  
7:00 PM Confession (Fr. Jim & Fr. Bill)

### **Communal Anointing of the Sick**

SCA 7:00 PM Parish Mission Wednesday,  
March 13  
HC 6:00 PM Mass with Anointing of the Sick,  
Tuesday, March 26

### **Parishes’ Lenten Mission**

“*Jesus Christ King*” presented by the Rev. Brian M.  
Miller, M.Div., M.A.  
Fr. Miller was ordained in 2010 and currently is the  
Pastor of St. Catharine of Siena & St. Mary’s Parishes in  
Reading. Fr. Miller served as a Parochial Vicar to St.

Patrick’s Pottsville, Pastor of St. Joseph & St. Mary’s,  
Shepton/Ringtown, Spiritual Director Marian Catholic  
High School and Pastor St. Joseph the Worker Parish,  
Frackville.

### **Mission schedule each Evening**

6:15 PM Confessions each evening

7:00 PM Monday 3/11 Stations of the Cross &  
Benediction

“*Davidic King*”

7:00 PM Tuesday 3/12 Evening Prayer &  
Anointing of the Sick

“*So, you are a King...*” Pontius Pilate

7:00 PM Wednesday 3/13 Mass

“*Jesus Christ – King of the Jews*”

## **Holy Week Liturgies & Devotions**

**3/24 Palm Sunday** SCA **3:30 PM** Mass  
HC 5:30 Mass

Children & Families of the Parishes are invited to  
walk in procession with Fr. Bill carrying and  
waving of the Palm branches.

**3/27 Wednesday of Holy Week** – Chrism Mass  
at Cathedral (No Mass)

**3/28 Holy Thursday** HC 9:00 AM - Morning  
Prayer  
HC 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper

**3/29 Good Friday** HC 9:00 AM – Morning  
Prayer  
SCA 3:00 PM Commemoration of the Lord’s  
Passion

**3/30 Holy Saturday** HC 10:30 AM  
Morning Prayer & Blessing of the First Foods of  
Easter

SCA 8:00 PM Easter Vigil First Mass of the  
Resurrection w/ Blessing of New Fire & Easter  
Water

HC **Providing the Priest is still available**  
8:00 PM Easter Vigil First Mass of the  
Resurrection w/Blessing of New Fire & Easter  
Water

### **3/31 Easter Sunday**

8:30 AM Mass in Queen of the Universe  
Cemetery (weather permitting)

10:45 AM Mass at Holy Cross



**WOMER'S GARAGE**  
 24 Hour Road Service & Towing  
 Complete Collision & Mechanical Repair  
 527 Hotel Street • Pottsville  
**570-628-5415**

**St. John Neumann Regional Council 14009**  
**Knights of Columbus, St. Clair**  
*In service to God, Church and Country*  
**MONTHLY MEETING ~ 2ND THURSDAY @ 7PM**  
 229 NORTH MILL STREET • ST. CLAIR  
 www.stjohnneumanncouncil14009.org



**READY.GOV**  
 Don't be afraid...Be Ready


**C-WELL OPTICAL**  
 Ray Miske • Optician  
 Dr. Janine Davis Watkins  
 Optometrist  
 109 Pike Street • Port Carbon  
**570-622-0226**  
 Eye Exams For Any Age!  
 New Patients Welcome!

**SHIMOCK'S**  
**FURNITURE WORLD**  
*selling happiness since 1915*  
 www.shimocks.com  
**570-373-1531**


**WE PAY YOUR TAX SALE**  
 We **PAY** your sales tax  
 plus get **FREE** Delivery  
 NEW LOCATION - MT. CARMEL  
**121 E. 5TH STREET**

Patrick Dormer  
**ANCIENT ORDER of HIBERNIANS**  
 Irish • Catholic • American  
**Patrick Dormer AOH Division #32 (St. Clair)**  
**Meetings** The Wooden Keg, last Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm  
 www.facebook.com/people/Patrick-Dormer-AOH-Division-32/100064703977125/

*Providing Quality Orthopedic Care To Our Community For 21 Years*



- Board Certified Orthopedic Surgery
- General Orthopedics
- Specializing in Knee and Hip Arthroplasty
- Sports Medicine



**570-622-5672**  
 stoudtorthoped.com  
 Dr. Calvin D. Stoudt  
 Orthopedic Specialist  
**700 Schuylkill Manor Road • Suite 1 • Pottsville, PA 17901**

**WE NEED A WAFFLE LOT OF BLOOD DONORS**



American Red Cross

**HB**  
**HAHNER BROS. INC.**  
*Since 1939*  
 Roofing & Sheet Metal  
 Residential • Commercial • Industrial  
**★ EMERGENCY SERVICE**  
**570-622-6150**  
 www.hahnerbroosroofing.com

**Please Support Our ADVERTISERS**  
 They Support Our Parish

welcome to the front door  
**the front door**  
 flower school & studio  
 full service florist  
**570-581-1775**  
 77 coal street  
 port carbon, pa

**KEEP IT CLEAN ~ KEEP IT GREEN**



Sponsor a veterans' wreath at a cemetery near you.



**WREATHS across AMERICA**

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit  
**wreathscrossamerica.org**

**EVERY CHILD NEEDS SOMEONE WHY NOT YOU? FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED**



**WE NEED YOU NOW MORE THAN EVER.**

**SCHUYLKILL COUNTY CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Loving, caring foster parents.  
 Extended care & Emergency/shelter homes also needed.  
**FAMILY & FOSTERING**  
 Open your heart, Open your home,  
 Change a life.  
**1.800.722.8341**  
 324 N. Centre St., Pottsville **570.628.1050**

**ADVERTISE**  
 YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS SPACE

Join the thousands of professionals and businesses in our network and begin growing sales, driving new client visits and building client retention and name recognition.

**800-883-4343**



**WALTERS**  
**MONUMENT COMPANY**  
 570-645-3415 • www.waltersmonument.com  
 M-F 9-4, Sat 10-1 • Eve & Weekend Appt. Available  
 348 E. WHITE ST., SUMMIT HILL, PA 18250

Monuments  
 Mausoleums  
 Pet Markers  
 Community Projects  
 On-Site Engravings and Cleanings

**PADFIELD**  
 Plumbing • Heating • Cooling  
 205 S. Second St., St. Clair  
**429-1234**  
 Fuel Oil • Burner Service