

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday July 9, 2018
NO MASS SCHEDULED

Tuesday, July 10, 2018
8AM William Chambers

Wednesday, July 11, 2018
8AM John Toner

Thursday, July 12, 2018
8AM Elizabeth Gursky

Friday, July 13, 2018
8AM Jacqueline Jones Allison

Saturday, July 14, 2018
4PM Ken McCarthy

Sunday, July 15, 2018 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30AM Joseph Chaposky
10:30A Leonard Wade

From the Pastor's Desk:

When we gather together as a faith community to give glory to God each weekend, we expect that our experience will be similar to what it was the week before, or the week before that. Most likely this is how the faithful of Nazareth felt when they went to synagogue. Then one day, Jesus, son of Mary, a carpenter whom some may have known when he was a boy, stood up to preach. The teachings of Jesus are meant to bring comfort to the challenged and challenge the comfortable. There are times where the Gospel should make each of us feel a little uneasy about the way we live our lives. If the Gospel does not challenge us to live better lives as Catholic Christians, we are not hearing Jesus' message. Unlike the crowd in today's Gospel, may we be open to the Word of God entering in unexpected ways.

When we gather together as a faith community to give glory to God each weekend, our experiences should not be the same as the week before, or the week before that. Rather each week brings a new set of challenges and reasons to be grateful; we need to bring those to God. We also need to make our Liturgies "living

celebrations" just as the Body and Blood of Christ comes alive on our parish altar. We need good music, fuller participation and representation (everyone is involved and animated), and lectors who proclaim the Word of God making it stir our hearts and minds. If you do not find Liturgy to be invigorating, what can you bring to Mass to Mass it better?

Enjoy Your Summer

With this great weather to be outside and hopefully get some time away to be with family and friends, we pray for your leisure time and your safety. However, please remember that while you are away, the bills still keep coming. Don't forget your parish if you are away for a weekend.

This week's Second Collection will be for Cemetery Upkeep. Next week's Second Collection will be for diocesan collection for central & eastern Europe.

Changes in the Mass Schedule

Fr. Bill is going to take a few days off next week. There will be no daily Mass Monday, July 16 to Friday, July 20.

Our Thanks to our parishioner Barry Kellner who is making a new cross to replace the one that fell in ICC Cemetery two weeks ago. We are working on trying to find a corpus (the body of Christ) to hang upon it.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Evening Prayer

This Wednesday the priests of the Deanery will gather for a period of prayer and fellowship at St. Clare of Assisi. The Blessed Sacrament will be on the altar beginning at 4PM and Evening Prayer will be prayed at 5PM. All our parishioners are invited to pray for and with our priests during this Holy Hour. It is also a great time to pray for the needs of Bishop Schlert, our Diocese, and an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Vacation Bible School Meetings

Vacation Bible School meetings are held every Tuesday night in St. Clare of Assisi Church Basement at 6:30. Everyone welcome! We are looking for our older children to be crew leaders for Vacation Bible School. You will

have fun and any time spent helping with VBS will count as service hours. This is especially important for our eighth graders who will be receiving Confirmation in 2019. If you want to volunteer to help, we would love to have you but you **MUST** attend a meeting in the Church Basement on July 10th from 6:30 to 7:30. VBS Registration forms are in the back of both churches. Please drop the forms off at the rectory or place them in the collection baskets at Mass as soon as possible.

Dates for Bible School: July 23, 24, 25 and 26.

Important PREP News:

New this summer, registration materials will be emailed to all families that have attended the PREP program in the previous year to be filled out at your convenience. **ALL** non-parishioners attending the St. Clare/St. Stephen PREP program must get written permission from their pastor to attend our program. Make sure all email addresses are written clearly since this is our main mode of communication. Place all material and payment in an envelope and either send to the rectory or place in the collection basket. Please send in registration by July 31st. Have a great Summer!!!

10th Anniversary Parish Celebration Plans – Mark the Calendar!

On Sunday, August 12 we will celebrate the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi and the tenth anniversary of our parish under her patronage with a special Mass at 3PM and a picnic to follow “up da Gunny” till 7PM. Fr. Mark Searles will be our homilist for the Mass.

The picnic will be catered by Hess Catering. The menu will include: B-B-Q chicken and ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, and pulled pork sandwiches. There will also be pasta salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, fresh fruit, nachos w/ salsa. The cost will be \$15 per person. Those attending need to bring their own refreshments.

Please use a reply form found in the back of the church so we can include you in the count. Payment is needed with the form. Deadline to submit an RSVP is Monday, August 1.

Important Mass Change on August 12

When we celebrate our 10th Anniversary on

Sunday, August 12, there will be a change in the Sunday Mass schedule! **THERE WILL BE NO 10:30am Mass** that day due to many of our parishioners attending the anniversary Mass at 3pm followed by the parish picnic.

Mass Schedule Weekend of Sunday, August 12

Saturday at 4PM

Sunday at 8:30AM

Sunday at St. Stephen's 9:30AM

Sunday at 3PM followed by picnic

Diocesan Red, White, & Blue Mass

All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, & their Families are invited to join to Bishop Alfred A. Schlert as he celebrates the First Red, White, & Blue Mass on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena. Please wear your uniforms.

Great News about our Trip to Assisi/Rome

UniTours which is overseeing all the arrangements for our fabulous 10 day pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome has extended the deadline to reserve a spot on the pilgrimage until the beginning of July. Our trip will be from October 6-15, 2018 with a direct flight to Rome departing from JFK. We will charter a bus (an additional cost) to get us to JFK. The total cost of the trip is \$4,300.00 per person per double occupancy which includes air fare, hotels, group transportation in Italy and the following meals 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners. There will be some other incidental expenses not included in the trip cost.

NOTE: Father Bill has obtained 20 tickets for us to be in Vatican Square for the Canonizations of Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Oscar Romero of Mexico. The canonization ceremony is our last full day in Rome.

We welcome and certainly could use a few more travelers with us; please tell your friends! For more information ask for a flyer or visit <http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly>

Upcoming Second Collections

July 8 Cemetery Upkeep
July 15 Central/Eastern Europe
July 22 Cemetery Upkeep
July 29 Building Fund

Sunday Collections – Week of July 1, 2018

Plate: \$4,828.00

Building Fund: \$1,467.00

Mission Co-Op: \$728.00

Sunday Mass Attendance – Week of July 1, 2018

4PM: 191 people

8:30AM: 151 people

10:30AM: 169 people

Upcoming Parish Events

July 23-26 – Vacation Bible School (VBS)
6:30PM each night in church hall
August 12 – Celebration of the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi & 10th Anniversary of Founding of the Parish, Mass at 3PM. Parish Picnic up the Gunny following Mass till 7PM.
September 24 – Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love at 6:30PM with Bishop Schlert (more information to follow)

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal

We are grateful to our parishioners who have made a pledge or donation to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Thus far, we have contributed \$22,629.00 to benefit the needy of our diocese and the many diocesan projects in Schuykill County. Making a six-month pledge allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$300 gift to the BAA may be set-up with six \$50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those less fortunate will allow the ministries of our Diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can make your gift online at FaithHopeCharityGives.org, or pick up a pledge form in the back of church or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.

Healing Mass

On Monday, September 24 at 6:30 PM there will be a Mass Celebrating the Lord's Comfort and Healing Love. All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass here at St. Clare of Assisi with The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert as celebrant and homilist. Following Mass there will be a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for confession. The evening will conclude with Benediction at 8:30 PM.

Sanctuary Candle Intention

In Memory of John Toner requested by Mary Toner.

Looking for Help

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

It is necessary for us to begin planning and preparing for our next school year and religious education. We are in need of hall monitors to sit in the halls near the bathrooms to make sure our children are safe. Hall monitors can bring a book or a laptop while performing this duty.

We are in need of classroom aides to assist our catechists in those classes where there are a large number of children or projects needing help or supervision.

We could always use some more catechists or substitutes to teach our young people. How can we expect our children to pass on the faith if we do not pass it on to them?

All these positions will require compliance with State and Diocesan Codes of Conduct. While not extensive, it will take some time to receive back clearance checks. Therefore, it helps if we begin now. For more information please speak with Tom Dowd, Fr. Bill, or Mary Ann Lubinsky.

Service Hours for Confirmation & High School

Service hours are required for those to be confirmed next Spring, as well as to fulfill graduation requirements for Nativity BVM High School and many clubs and organizations at Pottsville High School. Our 8th grade and high school parishioners can easily obtain their service hours over the summer by helping around the parish. Vacation Bible School to be held in July can be a great way to fulfill service hours but also have fun! See Dottie Frie for more information.