

# Lord, If My Brother Sins Against Me, How Often Must I Forgive Him?



**Catholic Community Of St. Stephen - St. Patrick**

**Fr. Jim Serowik**

**Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**September 17, 2023**

**Rev. James Serowik, Administrator**

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2023

P.O. Box 711  
Whitney Point, New York 13862  
(607) 692-3911 Fax: (607) 692-7171  
Parish Halls: WP(607)692-3357  
M(607)849-3630

Whitney Point: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-Noon

Email: [ststephenstpat@syrdio.org](mailto:ststephenstpat@syrdio.org)  
Website: [www.ccsssp.com](http://www.ccsssp.com)

Following Monday's 6:00PM Mass with Fr. Jim.

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

**Pastor's Column**

Last week's Hope Appeal Video was received extremely well in our parish. It was great to see the Newman House Ministry at Binghamton University and the great work done there focused on in the video. There are so many ministries that are supported by the Hope Appeal and they truly make Jesus Christ present in the lives that these ministries touch. I would like to encourage everyone to please be generous in supporting this year's Diocesan Hope Appeal.

This weekend we begin the Faith Formation Classes in our parish. I would like to thank all members of our parish who serve as Catechists for our young people. The time and effort that you put into your ministry is evident and it is that which makes our program so special. I would like to thank all parents who make the sacrifice to ensure that our young people make it to Faith Formation classes AND MASS every week. This is the best formula for us to pass on our faith to the next generation of disciples in our parish. I would especially like to thank Sherry Dee and Jackie Wright, the Faith Formation Coordinators in our parish for all the hard work, effort and love they put into this important ministry. Let's all continue to pray for our young people as they begin another year of Faith Formation.

This weekend's Readings from Sacred Scripture speak to us about the importance of forgiveness in our lives. Our First Reading from the Book of Sirach remind us that "wrath and anger are a terrible thing." How many of us journey through life angry with someone? How many of us journey through life just waiting for that chance to get back at someone who has hurt us? It is sad to see so many people in our nation angry at people who might have different political views than they do. There is so much anger in our world today. We need to hear Jesus' message of love and forgiveness in our lives. Let us take some time this week to examine our lives and our hearts to see if there is someone who needs our forgiveness in their lives. HAVE A GREAT WEEK!!

Fr. Jim

**Creation Care Tips:**

A typical American family spends nearly \$2,000 per year on their home energy bills.

Much of that money, however, is wasted through leaky windows or ducts, old appliances, or inefficient heating and cooling systems.

The Energy Saver Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Savings Projects offer easy, step-by-step instructions for energy efficiency improvements that will save you energy and money. Go to [energy.gov](http://energy.gov) to explore ways to improve your energy efficiency, lowering your bills and saving the planet valuable resources.



## Weekly Stewardship Report:

Last Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023

Regular Collection: Envs: \$760. Loose: \$603.

Electronic: \$285. Total: \$1,648.

Other: FForm-\$50. IMO M. Pendell-\$50.

Because of your contributions, we were able to pay the following bills this week: Dmpstr: \$33.

Office: \$179. WorshipExp: \$110.

RelStip: \$100. Salaries: \$1,000. Total Pd: \$1,422.

*Your generosity is greatly appreciated!*

**Sanctuary Candles** - Please call the parish office if interested in having the sanctuary candle in memory of a loved one. Cost is \$20.00 for the month. Months available in 2023 are, in Marathon: Oct & Dec.

**2023 Hope Appeal You Strengthen the Fabric of Our Faith!** All gifts graciously and gratefully accepted! \$1 - \$5 - \$25 - \$40 - \$75 - \$100 - \$500 Each gift brings us closer to our goal! It is our HOPE that you will choose to participate in the Annual Diocesan HOPE Appeal Campaign. With the participation of each and every parish family we should be able to meet our parish goals (assessment). We make it easy for you. We accept cash, checks and even credit cards. No cash now? You can make a pledge. The diocese will send you reminders later in the year to make payments. Simply fill out the form that you will be receiving in the mail or fill out a form from the pews at church and return them via the collection basket or by mail. You may also make a secure gift online at [www.syrdio.org](http://www.syrdio.org).

**Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott, and Our Lady of Sorrows, Vestal** are celebrating **Jr. and Sr. High Youth on Sunday, September 24th** at Our Lady of Sorrows and would like to invite youth in grades 7 - 12th to join us. **The Jr. High Event will be from 2 - 4 p.m.** and **the Sr. High Event will follow from 5 - 7 p.m.** at OLS. We welcome all youth to this gathering as well as friends too!!

# FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

**We have a parish subscription to Formed.org. Enter our parish name and search for the titles.**

**Padre Pio: Miracle Man** - This movie captures the Capuchin friar's intense faith, devotion, and deep spiritual concern for others, as well as his great compassion for the sick and suffering. It reveals the amazing details and events in Padre Pio's life as a boy and throughout his fifty years as a friar, dramatizing the frequent attacks from the devil, as well as the persecution he suffered at the hands of people, including those in the Church.

**The Calling of Matthew** - Dr. Tim Gray provides an extended analysis of Caravaggio's The Calling of St. Matthew.

**The Reluctant Saint: The Story of St. Joseph Cupertino** - This film portrays the life of St. Joseph of Cupertino, the humble Franciscan friar who literally rose to sainthood. In the impoverished village of seventeenth century Cupertino, Italy, Joseph's peasant mother convinces the reluctant abbot to accept her son into the monastery. With the support of the kindly local bishop who sees in him a great deal more than others do, and by a series of miraculous incidents, the simple but pious Joseph is ordained a priest.

## Formation for Ministry presents PROJECT COMPASSION

with Fr. Charles Vavonese and Dr. Paul Fiacco on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9:00AM-3:00PM at Christ The King Church, Liverpool.

Workshop highlights Project Compassion, an initiative to provide support and resources to those who administer to individuals and families coping with serious illness, end of life moral and medical issues, grieving and loss. Fr. Vavonese, Director of Project Compassion, will review basic skills needed for pastoral care visits. Dr. Fiacco, Medical Director of Project Compassion, will give an overview of resources available on the Project Compassion website

Cost: \$35.00/individual not enrolled in Formation for Ministry. \$90.00 for parish teams of three or more. Lunch will be served. Deadline to register is October 13<sup>th</sup> and if you are interested in going please call our parish office before registering so if we get 3 or more we can register together for discounted rate and carpool.

**Individuals and families living in Broome County can sign-up for a Thanksgiving basket**

**until October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023** by calling the United Way 211 phone number (dial 2 1 1) from Monday -Friday 7:30AM to 4:30PM. For additional information please contact Hannah Burge at 607-729-9166.



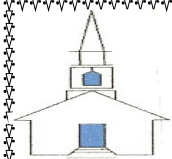
**Care & Concern Cards for Sharon Barry** can be sent to 11 Mara Lane, Marathon, NY 13803

**Save the Date!** The Syracuse Catholic Women's Commission invites all women to join them at the **Catholic Women's Conference on Saturday, November 11** at the **OnCenter in Syracuse starting at 7:30 am**. The theme this year is, **"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done: Preparing for His Eucharistic Reign."** The event will include 3 renowned speakers, Mass with Bishop Lucia, confession, the rosary, Brown Scapular enrollment, Adoration, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and shopping. Cost is \$55 and includes plated lunch and refreshments. Bus transportation information will be forthcoming. Registration and more details can be found at [www.syracusecatholicwomen.org/conference](http://www.syracusecatholicwomen.org/conference).  
→ Table of 10 form gets discount and you can sit with your fellow parishioners.



**Please Pray For Our Following Friends and Family in the Military:** Pvt Ryan E. Eaton, 2<sup>nd</sup>Lt. Trevor Jones, Sgt Avery Hull, Major Corrine Miller, PV2 Samuel Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Brett Hayes, A2C Derek Lescord, Major Joy Thomas, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Devon McGill, SSgt Michael Hetzler, Major Caleb Miller, Sgt Heather Fox, Major John Thomas, Daniel Morehouse USMC, LCDR Paul McDonald, 2<sup>nd</sup>Lt. Emily Steele USAF, LCDR Maria Lescord, SSgt Dan Votra USMC, SSG Steven Gross, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, A1C Brendan Schneider, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC and PFC Isaac James Silvanic USMC **If you have a friend or family member serving our country and would like their name mentioned weekly in our bulletin, to be kept in our prayers, OR for any changes, please contact our parish office.**

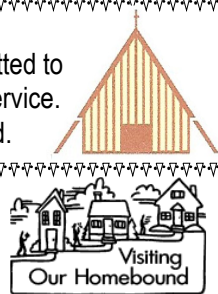




## Mission Statement for The Catholic Community of St. Stephen - St. Patrick

We are a Roman Catholic Community of faith, welcoming the strength found in diversity. We are committed to using our time, talent, and treasure in proclaiming the Kingdom of God through prayer, fellowship, and service.

We experience our unity at the Eucharistic Table of the Lord, and our direction from the Word of God.



If you know of parishioners that have not been able to come to Mass because they are ill, hospitalized or homebound, please let the Parish Office know so our Hospitality Groups can provide contact with them through visits and cards, or any spiritual needs such as communion, and perhaps they would like to receive a copy of our bulletin.



If you know someone that is ill, facing surgery, or some other kind of difficulty, and needs our prayers, please call **Dottie Angel** at 656-9230 or **Pat Canfield** at [pattycafe@yahoo.com](mailto:pattycafe@yahoo.com). They will lead the Prayer Chain we have at The CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick Church. Supporting each other with the Power of Prayer is the best medicine. If you are not on our Prayer Chain and would like to be, please call our Parish Office, 692-3911.

Our bulletin & OLPH's can be viewed online at [www.ccssp.com](http://www.ccssp.com)  Our face book page: [www.facebook.com/ccsssp](http://www.facebook.com/ccsssp)

### Parish Council

**Chairperson** - Shelley Warnow, [donsgirl1956@aol.com](mailto:donsgirl1956@aol.com)

**ViceChair** - Dan Burke, [dburke1114@gmail.com](mailto:dburke1114@gmail.com)

**Secretary** - Sue Stevens

**Trustees** - Kathy Cusick, Ron Orzel

**Parish Business/Office Manager** - Mary Wied **Bulletin Deadline:** Tuesday, Noon - Phone, Mail or Email, [ststephenstpat@syrdio.org](mailto:ststephenstpat@syrdio.org)

### PARISH STAFF

**Director of Faith Formation** - Sherry Dee, 759-1876

**Ministry Coordinator** - Peg Orzel, [porzel10@yahoo.com](mailto:porzel10@yahoo.com)

**Church Organist/Music Director** - Jennifer Austin

**Maintenance** - (Please call parish office w/maintenance concerns)

### Daily Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, Sept. 17 8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Bill Sliter, Anniv. by Alice Sliter  
 10:15 AM Marathon for **Robert Fleming** by CCSS-SP's Hospitality Comm.  
 12:00 PM OLPH...for Francis Naylor by Bob & Joanne Livermore  
 for Margaret & Francis Pratt, Jonathan Pratt,  
 Bernie Massar by Sharon Massar

Monday, Sept. 18 6:00 PM Whitney Point...for The People Of Our Parish

Thursday, Sept. 21 9:00 AM Whitney Point...Communion Service

Sunday, Sept. 24 8:30 AM Whitney Point...for Joe Sculley by Kathy Scott  
 for Elsie Zelsnack by Elsie Poyer  
 10:15 AM Marathon...for Michael Joseph by Marie Joseph  
 12:00 PM OLPH...for Joe Auberger by Ellie Auberger



### Readings for Sept. 17 through 24, 2023:

**Today:** Sir 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

**Monday:** 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 7:1-10

**Tuesday:** 1 Tm 3:1-13; Lk 7:11-17

**Wednesday:** 1 Tm 3:14-16; Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13

**Friday:** 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Tm 6:13-16; Lk 8:4-15

**Sunday:** Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a



**Mass Intention Offerings** - The offering for all Mass intentions (both living and deceased) is \$15 per Mass. If paying by check, please make payable to: CC of St. Stephen-St. Patrick Church.



### Whitney Point

**Greeters:** Cathy Cummings, Anne Clerkin

**Next Sunday:** Earl Markham, Cris Broderick

**Lector:** Sue McDonald

**Next Sunday:** Tom Nichols

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Peg Orzel, Cathy Shoemaker, Emily Jordan

**Next Sunday:** Kathy Bensley, Ingrid Wennerod, John Mihalko

**Tabulators:** Peg Orzel, Cathy Cummings

**Next Sunday:** Dick & Kathy Bensley

### Marathon

Kathleen Allen, Colleen Brown

Don Atwood, Bob Barry

Carol Niggi

Shelley Warnow

Cindy Barry, Eric Barry

Shelley Warnow, Kathy Cusick

Don & Terrie Atwood

Don & Terrie Atwood

**Sept. Ushers:** Syd McEvoy, Bob Barry

**Funeral Planning Booklets** are available at the church entrances if you would like to begin selecting the readings and music that you would like played at the time of your death. A member of the bereavement ministry would be glad to meet with you or the completed booklet can be returned to the office so it is available when needed.

Please notice additional announcements on our church bulletin boards.



**Interested?** Are you, or someone you know interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith? If so, contact our parish office, 692-3911, for Kathy Cusick.

**WP Ecumenical Food Pantry:** M-Th & Sat, 10AM-Noon, Closed Fridays, Holidays, & when school is closed for inclement weather.

**FoodPantry Chairperson:** John Mihalko

**Sept's Pantry Need:** JiffyCornbrdMix & cereal

**WPClothing Bank:** M,T & Sat, 10AM-Noon

**The Mobile Food Truck** is at Fairgrounds the

**2nd Wednesday of each month.** Registration

is required (begins the day before the truck)

and is on-line or by calling the Southern Tier

Mobile Food Truck Food Bank of the Southern

Tier - NY (foodbankst.org) 607.796.6061

### RetireGuide

A guide was created to Meals on Wheels for seniors, covering what the program is, how to sign up, and what types of meals are offered. Please feel free to take a look:

<https://www.retireguide.com/retirement-life-leisure/senior-housing/aging-in-place/meals-on-wheels/>

➔ If anyone notices any kind of church maintenance need from needing a bulb or battery for something, if something has fallen or is broken, to any major need, please call our parish office, so it can be taken care of asap.

## This Week In Our Parish

**Today, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>** 9:20-11:00AM - Faith Formation Classes - Whitney Pt Church Hall  
**Tuesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>** 9:30AM - CCSS-SP's Hospitality Committee Mtg-Whitney Pt Ch Hall  
**Thursday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>** 9:00AM - Communion Service - Whitney Point Church



### Whole Community Catechesis Readings and Questions for Discussion

#### Reading 1 - Sirach 27:30-28:9

Those who seek God's mercy must be merciful toward others.

#### Reading 2 - Romans 14:7-9

We belong to the Lord.

#### Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

Jesus teaches that we must forgive one another as God has forgiven us.

*Adults: When someone hurts you, are you more inclined to be just or to be merciful?*

*Children: When have you forgiven someone who treated you unfairly?*



### A Family Perspective

Unable to forgive another, means we are holding onto a past wrong and hoping for a better past. That is not going to happen. We must move on with our life by accepting we were unjustly treated and it will not be corrected. We aren't condoning the injustice. We just don't let it control our lives any longer. Forgiveness is critical to living a healthy life in the present.



### The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the Month of September

in our Whitney Pt Church  
is In Memory Of:

**Lucie & Larry  
Frechette**

by Jim & Pat Dean

in our Marathon Church  
is In Memory Of:

**Michael Joseph** by Marie Joseph

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

### WELCOME back

past students and

**WELCOME to our new ones to the first class**

**of Faith Formation TODAY, September 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9:20-11:00AM,** downstairs in St. Patrick's Church Hall. Parents, if you have your registration forms please give to Sherry Dee. All children must be registered to attend.

**→→→If you have not registered please see Sherry Dee this morning.**

**\*\*Also at this time, in order to continue providing Faith Formation for your children, we are in need of the following volunteers:**

**\*\*Immediate need - due to vacancy for catechist (teacher) for grades 6th, 7th and 8th.**

**\*\*Substitute teachers for all grade levels and leaders for Children's Liturgy of the Word.**

Hospitality  
Committee



### ST. STEPHEN'S/ST. PATRICK'S

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** meets on the third Tuesday of every month in our Whitney Pt Church Hall. Our next meeting is this Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:30AM. We invite young and older, male and female and from all three church locations to join us. All are welcome!

### Annulment Information Session – October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Confused or have questions about the Annulment process? The Separated/Divorced Ministry will be hosting a session on **Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30-8:00PM at Christ the King Retreat House.**

Staff from the Syracuse Diocese Marriage Tribunal will present an informative overview of the annulment process. To register go to <https://bit.ly/3OgqkUX>.

For more information contact Erin Miller at 315-472-6754 opt. 3 or email [sepanddiv@syrdio.org](mailto:sepanddiv@syrdio.org).

All are welcome to attend.

### Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> is Priesthood

**Sunday!** On this day, we recognize and honor our priests for their lifelong dedication to the Lord, and all

that they do for our parishes.

Consider making a card or pray a rosary for your priest to show your gratitude for their vocation!

### INTERCESSIONS FOR LIFE

For solidarity and peace in our global human family: that we may work together to protect the lives of those who are most vulnerable; *We pray to the Lord:*



### Community Blood Drive

on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00-7:00PM at United Methodist Church, 7311 Collins St., Whitney Point.

### Congratulations to John Mihalko,

candidate for the diaconate and completing his fourth year in the Deacon Formation Program, will be receiving the Rites of Reader and Acolyte.

The Rites of Reader and Acolyte will be conferred on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse at 5:10PM with Bishop Douglas Lucia presiding.



**Vocation View:** "For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." We are not called to live for ourselves, but for the Lord. How is the Lord calling us to live? Is He calling us to live as His priest, deacon, or religious?

Call Fr. Jason Hage (315)470-1468, or [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org).



**THE GOOD  
SHEPHERD**

### The Ecumenical Peace Garden

Applications are available on the table in the vestibule or by contacting Mary Wied at the parish office, 692-3911. If you have any questions, please contact either Ken or Sylvia Bates at 607-237-9762 or 607- 743-6317.

**WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGE:** This Sunday's Gospel challenges us to treat others as we want to be treated. The example which Jesus uses to illustrate this teaching is the one of debtors and forgiveness of debt. Throughout the Scriptures, we hear God challenging us to forgive debt and give people a second chance. Your challenge this week is to focus personally or globally on debt forgiveness. If you go the local route, ask yourself who most needs a second chance in your life. Whose "debt" can you forgive? If you want to meet the global challenge, ask who most needs a second chance, or a chance to start over, in the world. Is it victims of a natural disaster? Could it be those who have suffered from political persecution? Pay attention to what is happening in the world, then choose a group or individual in need of a second chance. How you can help them get it?