



# **The Roman Catholic Communities Of St. Stephen - St. Patrick**

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 25, 2024**



**Psalm 133**

**How Good And Pleasant It Is When  
God's People Live Together In Unity!**



**Rev. Thomas Macauley, Administrator**

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 25, 2024

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.ccssp.com](http://www.ccssp.com)

Before or After Monday's 6:00PM Mass  
or Tuesday's 9AM Mass.

Please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

**Pastoral Administrator's Column**

Dear Parishioners,

Grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you and your family.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B readings remind us of the importance of choosing to follow God, living in loving unity, and facing the challenges of discipleship.

In the first reading, Joshua challenges the Israelites to choose whom they will serve. This decision is crucial for their identity and future. We, too, face choices about our allegiance. We can choose to follow God or be swayed by other influences. This choice is a daily decision, and it requires faith and dedication.

The second reading from Ephesians speaks about the love and respect in marriage. Husbands and wives are called to reflect the love between Christ and the church. This unity is a model for all relationships. This reading teaches us about the sanctity of marriage. Genuine love in marriage builds a strong foundation for family and community.

In the Gospel, Jesus talks about the difficulty of His teachings. Many of his disciples find His words hard to accept and leave Him. Peter, however, reaffirms his faith in Jesus.

Following Jesus is not always easy. It requires accepting difficult truths and making sacrifices. Some may find this too challenging and turn away. Peter shows us to whom we should go - Jesus, the Holy One of God, our divine savior.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to choose you every day, strengthen our commitment to follow your ways. Fill our hearts with faith, hope and charity. Guide us through the challenges we face. Amen

Have an amazing Sunday and a Blessed week!!!

Rev. Thomas Macauley

**WELCOME!**

**We gather  
We prepare  
We listen  
We respond  
We offer  
We receive  
We go  
We proclaim  
the Good  
News of  
Salvation!**

**GOD  
BLESS  
YOU!**

**Are you new to the Parish? Welcome to our church!** We are glad you are here!!!

Feel free to ask questions, introduce yourself, [pick up a Welcome Bag at the church entrance](#) and read through our Volunteer Ministry Booklet. We have a lot going on for different age groups.

We are looking forward to getting to know you better and have you participate in worship & events.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### Weekly Collection Report - Last Sunday, August 18, 2024:

**Regular Collection:** Envs.-\$1,560. Loose-\$518. Elect: \$120. Total Regular Collection; \$2,198.

*Thank you for your ongoing generosity of your time, talents and treasure to our parish.*

### Stewardship Thoughts

Seeking and putting God and his Kingdom first in everything and putting our money and possessions second gives us freedom not to make "idols" of passing things.

### Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Women and men religious offer gratitude.

"Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next,"

says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate.

Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement.



Thank you for your donations this month.

During **September** we are collecting **Jiffy Cornbread Mix & cereals** for the Whitney Point Ecumenical Food Pantry. Please place your donations in designated baskets at the entrances of our churches. **Thank you for your food and monetary donations that help to feed those less fortunate in our community.**

**CREATION TIPS:** "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

—Joshua 24:15.

This week, choose not to fret about what your near and far neighbors aren't doing to care for the environment. Instead, focus on what you and your household can do or can continue to do to serve the Lord by caring for creation. If your family can afford the more expensive recycled toilet paper, then buy it. If you can get to the farmers' market to buy your produce while supporting local farmers, do it. If you have space to hang laundry on a clothesline, go for it, regardless of whether your neighbors do the same or not.

### Electronic Givng

Your donations will be debited from your savings, checking or credit card account monthly, weekly or bi-weekly. Please call our Parish Office for more information and a form.



**Church Picnic** The Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Churches' Annual Parish

**Picnic is on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**

There'll be one Mass at St. Patrick's Church at 11:00 AM followed by the picnic at the North Pavilion at Dorchester Park in Whitney Point. Please bring a dish to pass, a lawn chair and an outdoor game if you wish.

Our parish's Hospitality Committee will be providing the meat, beverages and place settings.

Everyone join us for a fun-filled day!



### A Family Perspective

Even though many found the teachings of Jesus "difficult," He did not back down. In our families, it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding.



### Women's Faith Group

We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 9:30AM in the social hall of our Whitney Point Church. We will be starting a new book, Let us Dream: The Path to a better Future by Pope Francis in September. We welcome new members. Books can be ordered on line on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or on many web sites. We hope you can join us.

### BEWARE OF FRAUDSTERS

#### →PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

We have heard from a few of you that there is a spam email impersonating Bishop Lucia and our priests going around.

If you have received an email that looks like it is from Bishop Lucia or our priests but is not from his diocesan email address or one you are sure of, please do not respond to the email.

Thank you!

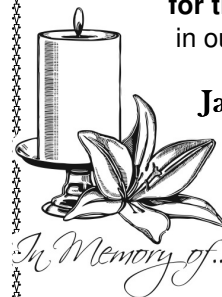
Please notice additional announcements on our church bulletin boards.

**Sanctuary Candles:** Please call the parish office if interested in having the sanctuary candle in memory of a loved one. Donation is \$20.00 for the month. Months available in 2024 in **WP:** Nov & **Marathon:** Oct.

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

in our Whitney Point Church is *In Memory Of:*

**Jane & Rudy Valachovic**  
by Joanne Valachovic  
in our Marathon Church is *In Memory Of:*  
**William Holland**  
by Sandra Holland



### PRAY MORE, WORRY LESS - Please Continue to Pray For Our Sick and Our Military:

Mary Sculley, Barry & Dottie Angel, Ron & Jackie Burroughs, Richard & Elaine Crowe, Eloise Dauley, Fran Decker, Ray & Gladys Nolan, Larry & Mickey Piech, Terry Preston, Jo Ackerman, Joanne Vega,

Pvt Ryan E. Eaton, 2nd Lt. Trevor Jones, Sgt Avery Hull, Major Corrine Miller, PV2 Samuel Lilley, PV2 James McGill, Brett Hayes, A2C Derek Lescord, LCpl John Larkin, Jr., USMC, Devon McGill, SSgt Michael Hetzler,

Major Caleb Miller, Sgt Heather Fox, LtCol John Thomas, Daniel Morehouse USMC, LCDR Paul McDonald, 2nd Lt. Emily Steele USAF, LCDR Maria Lescord, SSgt Dan Votra USMC, SSG Steven Gross, SSgt Justin Blaisdell, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III,

LtCol Major Joy Thomas, A1C Brendan Schneider, OS3 Jonathan Schneider, Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC and

LCpl Isaac James Silvanic USMC

If you have a friend or family member who's sick, homebound or 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

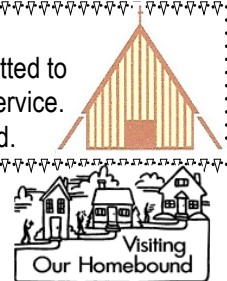
We are a Roman Catholic Community of faith, welcoming the strength found in diversity. We are committed to using our time, talent, and treasure in proclaiming the Kingdom of God through prayer, fellowship, and service.

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 contact Pat Canfield at [pattycafe@yahoo.com](mailto:pattycafe@yahoo.com). She 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 or contact Pat. → If you choose to be updated about a particular prayer chain request, please recontact Pat.



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

### Parish Council

**Chairperson** - Shelley Warnow, [dongirl1956@aol.com](mailto:dongirl1956@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, 607-759-1876

**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, Aug. 25 **8:30 AM** Whitney Point for **Tom McGuire** by Joe & Sue McDonald  
for **Evelyn Halloran** by Family  
for **Michael Carroll & Elsie Carroll Zelsnack** by Elsie Poyer  
**10:15 AM** Marathon...for **Dick Barry** by Don & Terrie Atwood  
**12:00 PM** OLPH for **Jennie Ricca** by Pat & Terri Fedele  
Monday, Aug. 26 **6:00 PM** Marathon...for **The People Of Our Parish**  
Tuesday, Aug. 27 **9:00 AM** Whitney Point...for **The People Of Our Parish**  
Sunday, Sept. 01 **8:30 AM** Whitney Point for **Blessing to Mary Sculley on her 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
for **Paul Scott & Bernie Shaffer** by Mary Sculley  
**10:15 AM** Marathon...for **Marge Carroll** by John Carroll  
**12:00 PM** OLPH...for **The People Of Our Parish**



### Readings for August 25 through Sept. 1, 2024:

**Today:** Jos 24:1-2a,15-17,18b; Eph 5:21-32;  
Jn 6:60-69

**Mon:** 2 Thes 1:1-5,11-12; Mt 23:13-22

**Tues:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a,14-17; Mt 23:23-26

**Wed:** 2 Thes 3:6-10,16-18; Mt 23:27-32

**Thurs:** 1 Cor 1:1-9; Mk 6:17-29

**Fri:** 1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13

**Sat:** 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30

**Sun:** Dt 4:1-2,6-8; Jas 1:17-18,21b-22,27;  
Mk 7:1-8,14-15,21-23



### Whitney Point

**Greeters:** Anne Ballard, Cathy Shoemaker  
**Next Sunday:** Anne Clerkin, Cathy Cummings  
**Lector:** Ron Orzel  
**Next Sunday:** Gene Jordan

### Marathon

Bob Barry, Kathleen Allen  
Kim McCrory, Claire Hinman  
Kathy Cusick  
Shelley Warnow  
Wayne & Carol Niggli, Karen Standish  
T. Zelsnack, S. Warnow, C. Barry  
Don & Terrie Atwood  
Don & Terrie Atwood

**Eucharistic Ministers:** S. McDonald, I. Wennerod, P. Orzel  
**Next Sunday:** C. Shoemaker, E. Jordan, Sue McDonald  
**Tabulators:** Peg Orzel, Cathy Cummings  
**Next Sunday:** Ron & Jan Orzel

**The Gospel of St. John**  
**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**  
with Rev. Thomas Macaulay  
**Tuesday, August 27th,**  
**10:00-11:00AM** at the  
**Whitney Point Church Hall.**

Please bring your Bibles  
and writing materials

**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:** Jiffy Cornbread Mix & cereal  
**WPClothing Bank:** M,T & Sat, 10AM-Noon  
**The Mobile Food Truck** is at Fairgrounds the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
**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](http://foodbankst.org)) 607.796.6061

**August Ushers:** Wayne Niggli, Tony Zelsnack  
**Sept:** Bob Barry, Syd McEvoy

→ Please make sure lights are shut off and  
doors are closed shut and locked when you  
leave one of the churches. Thank you.

→ 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.

Anyone interested in becoming a Lector,  
Eucharistic Minister, Greeter or  
Tabulator, please call the parish office.  
Training will be provided.



**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.

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.retirequide.com/retirement-life-leisure/senior-housing/aging-in-place/meals-on-wheels/>

For those homebound, you can access our 8:30AM Sunday Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CatholicCommunityofStStephenStPatrick>

### This Week In Our Parish

**Mon., Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>** 10:00AM - Finance Meeting - Rectory  
6:00PM - Mass - St. Stephen's, Marathon  
**Tues., Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>** 9:00AM - Mass - St. Patrick's, Whitney Pt.  
10:00AM - Bible Study-The Gospel of John-Whitney Pt Ch

### Readings and Questions for Discussion Introduction

**Reading 1 - Joshua 24:1-2a,15-17,18b**  
Joshua challenges Israel to choose their allegiance at Shechem, the people reaffirm their commitment to the Lord, recalling His deliverance and protection through history.

#### **Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 34**

The Lord listens to the just and rescues them from trouble, delivering and protecting them in adversity.

#### **Reading 2 - Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a,25-32**

Christ's love guides marital roles: wives respecting husbands as the church respects Christ, and husbands loving wives as Christ loves the church, symbolizing unity and sanctity.

#### **Gospel - John 6:60-69**

Jesus addresses the difficulty of his teaching and acknowledges disbelief among his followers. After many leave, Peter reaffirms their faith, recognizing Jesus as the Holy One of God.

"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." John 6:68

#### **Questions For Reflection:**

1. What are the challenges of following Jesus?
2. How can we show love and respect to others?
3. How can we stay committed to God during difficult times?

### **FREE September EDITION**

if you haven't picked one up yet:  
**DAILY PRAYER FOR TODAY'S  
CATHOLIC - Give Us This Day**

Share the power of prayer.

Draw your community closer to God through morning and evening prayer, daily reflection and Mass texts, inspiring profiles of holy witnesses and so much more.

Please take one as a gift to you!

If you would like to continue receiving it, there is information there for how to order.

### **"HOPE AND GRATITUDE MASS"**

VICARIATE 6 is inviting members of the parish council and trustees to attend a "Hope and Gratitude" Mass at St. Mary's Church, No. Main Street in Cortland this Thursday, August 29, 2024. Meeting with Bishop Lucia, Beth Hoey and clergy will be at 4:30 PM.

Meeting with Beth and Parish Administrators with HOPE Appeal materials distributed will be at 5:00 PM and Celebration with clergy, staff and parishioners will be from 5:30-6:30 PM. Please make an effort to attend. Thank you.

### **Finance Committee Meeting**

The finance committee will meet on Monday, August 26, 2024 at 10:00 AM to prepare a proposed budget for the fiscal year and approve financial report for July 2023-June 2024 for the Diocese and our church communities.



The Catholic Community of St. Stephen-St. Patrick's next Parish Council

Meeting will be Monday, September 9th, at 6:30PM, at our Whitney Point Church Hall. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact our chairperson, Shelley Warnow, at [dongirl1956@aol.com](mailto:dongirl1956@aol.com).

### **New Bulletin For Our Churches**

Beginning the end of September our parish will have our bulletin sent out to be printed by a company at no cost to us because of the support of our advertisers that will be on the back of our bulletins every Sunday. This bulletin will have our events and information for all three of our churches.

Each bulletin will indicate when information is needed by to make it into the next Sunday's bulletin.

### **WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS:**

St. Therese of the child Jesus

"I prefer the monotony of the obscure sacrifice to all ecstasies. To pick up a pin for love can convert a soul."

And shortly before she died, she wrote: "I want to spend my heaven doing good on earth." St. Therese of Lisieux, pray for us.



### **Ordination**

#### **Priestly Anniversary**

Congratulations to Rev. Thomas Macauley as he celebrates his priestly ordination anniversary this month. Thanking and praising God for making the Eucharist available and for his priestly duties. Keep him and all priests in your prayers. Thank you. Glory and praise to our God!

**MONDAY MASS** at St. Stephen's Church, Marathon on August 26, at 6:00 PM.



### **Vocation View:**

"You have the words of eternal life." Could God be calling you to be a vessel of his eternal love and wisdom that guides and inspires others?

Follow Him into a life of service to others as a priest or religious brother or sister. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram

@vocationssyracuse or call Fr. Jason Hage at (315) 470-1468.



### **Mass Intention Offerings**

The minimum 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. Call or stop in the parish office. You may give generously.

### **COFFEE HOUR**

Consider coming to **Coffee Hour** after mass in Marathon to visit/meet fellow parishioners and visitors. Coffee, milk, juice, and baked goodies are there for your enjoyment. Free will offering.

