



13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Stephen's Catholic Parish

JUNE 25-26, 2022

Father Andrew Showers, Pastor
608-676-2242
frandrew.showers@gmail.com

Amy Jones, Parish Secretary
608-676-2241
parish@ststephensclinton.com

Heather Schneider, Faith Formation
608-676-7329
fuerniss@hotmail.com

Araceli Montoya, Hispanic Ministry
608-856-0566
mhbeloit@hotmail.com

Shawn Skaife, Pastoral Council Chair
sskaife@charter.net

716 Shu-Lar Lane
Box 399
Clinton, WI 53525
(608) 676-2241



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Wednesdays
Eucharistic Adoration
6:00 - 8:00pm
Benediction ~ 7:50pm



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MASS INTENTIONS

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SATURDAY, JUNE 25th

The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00pm - 4:45pm - *Confessions*

5:00pm - +Bishop Donald Hying

SUNDAY, JUNE 26th

8:00am - 8:45am - *Confessions*

9:00am - *For the People of the Parish*

**Rosary prayed 30 minutes before each Mass*

MONDAY, JUNE 27th

+ St. Cyril of Alexandria +

No Mass at St. Stephen's

TUESDAY, JUNE 28th

+ St. Irenaeus +

No Mass at St. Stephen's

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29th

**Solemnity of Sts. Peter & Paul*

8:00am - *For the People of the Parish*

6:00pm - 8:00pm - *Adoration & Confessions*

THURSDAY, JUNE 30th

+ The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church +

5:30pm - *In Thanksgiving for 5 Years of Ordination*

FRIDAY, JULY 1st

+ St. Junipero Serra +

8:00am - (+) Tom Scott

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SATURDAY, JULY 2nd

8:00am - 8:45am - *Confessions*

9:00am - (+) Marie Hammond

4:00pm - 4:45pm - *Confessions*

5:00pm - (+) Bernie Haines

SUNDAY, JULY 3rd

8:00am - 8:45am - *Confessions*

9:00am - *For the People of the Parish*

Liturgical Ministers July 2 - 3

Saturday, July 2 - 5:00pm

Servers: Russell & Noah O'Donnell

Lector: Kay Wildenberg

Sunday, July 3 - 9:00am

Servers: Garrett, Kelby, & Evan Schneider

Lector: Bonnie Zahn

How do I fit the practice of my faith into the demands of everyday life? Putting our faith into action is the challenge of every believer. We are pulled between making time for prayer and good works on the one hand and raising a family and holding down a job on the other. It is difficult to pray the rosary or study the Bible when supper needs to be prepared, the kids need a ride to soccer practice or when we have to work overtime on a project. It is difficult to keep our minds focused on the kingdom of God when so many other demands are made on our time and energy. *Nonetheless, Jesus calls us to love him no matter what the circumstances of our life may be.*

This Sunday's readings give us some important clues on how to balance the practice of our faith with the demands of life in the 21st century. Love is the calling of every Christian. It makes everything we do pleasing to God. By adding a little love, we can take whatever we're doing and make it an opportunity to serve Jesus. When we offer our thoughts, words, and actions up to God in love, then the demands of job and family no longer get in the way of our life of faith, but actually help us to grow closer to God and others. They become opportunities for prayer as we draw on the power of his Spirit to enable us to love as he does.

We must be always ready to serve the needy around us. In today's gospel, two of the people who approach Jesus have excuses for not following him. But Jesus did not have time to wait around for them. It was "now or never." How many times have we used the demands of family life or of our job as an excuse not to practice charity? Mother Teresa said, "*Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta.*" Find the sick, the suffering, and the lonely, right where you are — in your own homes and in your own families, in homes and in your workplaces and in your schools. You can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have eyes to see. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by society — completely forgotten, completely left alone." She made a big change in a lot of people's hearts. She changed the world by loving — and loving hard. If we are to become holy in the 21st century we must not let our busy schedules be an excuse for not doing good. You were born here, and you are at this very place for a purpose.

We do not have to give up on the hope of becoming saints because we have jobs and families. By offering our work up to God in love, by not valuing the accumulation of wealth too highly and by not allowing our busy lives to be an excuse to overlook the needs of others, we can discover a sure path to holiness in our everyday lives. Don't be afraid to do the ordinary, because to someone else it may be extraordinary. As "the saint of the gutters" said, "*Do ordinary things with extraordinary love.*"

I would like to thank Fr. Luis for coming to give a Parish Mission talk this weekend and sharing with us the great missionary work his Order is doing around the world to bring the Gospel to all peoples. May his witness inspire in us the call to be missionaries in our own families and community - that we would "Find our own Calcutta" right here in Clinton. Thank you for your hospitality and generosity to Fr. Luis and the Institute of the Incarnate Word this weekend!

In Christo per Mariam, Fr. Andrew

Ministry of Giving ~ Offertory

May 29: \$1,813.00 Received to Date: \$144,081.27

June 5: \$1,698.00 Budgeted to Date: \$122,604.00

June 12: \$5,213.00

June 19: \$1,599.00

THANK YOU!



MSGR. DAN'S RETIREMENT

Msgr. Dan will be celebrating his last weekend Masses on **July 2 & 3 at Nativity of Mary, 313 East Wall Street, Janesville.** Nativity of Mary's Mass Schedule:

- **Saturday: 4:30pm**
- **Sunday: 8:30am & 10:30am**

Come join us and celebrate Msgr. Dan for his many years of service to our Diocese! If you are unable to make it, please feel free to send a card with your blessings & well wishes!

POLISH FEST

Sunday, August 14, 11:30am - 8:00pm
St. Stanislaus Kostka Church
201 Buckbee Street, Rockford, Illinois

The 39th annual Polish Fest returns on Sunday, August 14th. The public is invited and there is no entrance fee. A Polish/English **Mass at 10:00am at St. Stanislaus Church** opens the Fest. Entertainment, ethnic Polish food, Polish beer, domestic beer, wine, children's games, bingo, and raffles. The John Paul II Cultural Center will be open for visitors to view two rooms of artifacts from Poland. Contact Margaret Borowski for information: margaretb@st-stanislaus.org or 815-965-3913.

GETTING-TO-KNOW PARISH MEMBERS FORMS

We will continue the feature of "Getting to Know Our Parish Members" in the bulletin. If you haven't yet, please submit a picture and article to Pat Wendtland or the parish office. (Forms are still available in the gathering area.)

If you submitted pictures to the office that you would like returned: please stop by, email, or call the office: parish@ststephensclinton.com or 608-676-2241 to make arrangements.



PARISH DIRECTORY

If you did not have your picture taken for the parish directory, please submit a digital picture to the parish email: parish@ststephensclinton.com. Please list names of individuals in photo in order of how they are standing or sitting. Thank you!

CALENDAR

June 27 - Blood Drive at the Family Center, 12:00pm - 5:00pm

June 27 - Finance Council Meeting, 6:30pm

June 28 - Thirsting Tuesday, 6:00pm

June 30 - Mass, 5:30pm (Thanksgiving for 5 Years of Ordination)

June 30 - High School Group Discussion & Planning, 6:30pm

July 2 - First Saturday Mass, 9:00am

July 4 - Independence Day Mass at St. Thomas, 8:00am

50TH ANNIVERSARY PICTURES





ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Stephen's Catholic Church: Getting to Know Parish Members



Mykel Wedig and Brandon Bickham

We are Mykel Wedig and Brandon Bickham. We are an engaged couple that is looking forward to our wedding on June 11. Brandon works at the DeLong Company in export sales and Mykel works for the Dairy Business Association working on federal government relations.

We are very new to St. Stephen's. We joined in 2021 and our involvement thus far has been our preparation for Brandon's baptism and confirmation, and preparation for our wedding.

Like we just mentioned, we are spending a lot of time in preparation for sacraments this year. Brandon's baptism and confirmation at Easter Vigil will always be a great memory surrounded by friends and family, but he also enjoyed meeting with Father Andrew throughout the RCIA process to discuss Catholicism and their similar world views.

We are both Clinton transplants. Brandon grew up on a farm in north central Nebraska and moved to Clinton in 2006 to work for DeLong's. Mykel grew up on a dairy farm in Darlington and lived in Washington, DC, until 2019 when she moved back to Wisconsin. We met through mutual friends in December of 2014, but were just acquaintances until we started dating in July of 2020.

We have loved our time with St. Stephen's so far and are looking forward to growing closer to the parish community. We are blessed to have St. Stephen's and Father Andrew to guide us through this important time in our lives and we are excited to continue our involvement in the church.

Filomena Brown

My name is Filomena Brown and I moved from Glendale Wisconsin to Clinton in 1987 when I married my husband, David Brown. We have a blended family of 5 children (Nina Marie, Bridget, Ron, Randy, and Jennifer) and 13 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren living in Hudson, LaCrosse, Berlin, Janesville, and Williams Bay, Wisconsin. In the past, I've participated in our salad luncheons, pork chop dinners, and Mass at Meadowpark Nursing Home.





St. Stephen's Catholic Church: Getting to Know Parish Members



Andy and Laura Benisch

We are Andy and Laura Benisch. Married in July of 2011. Joined St. Stephen's when we moved to Clinton in 2013. Our son, Brooks, was born in May of 2013.

We joined St. Stephen's in the spring of 2013. Brooks was baptized in August of 2013 and made his 1st Communion in 2021 at St. Stephen's. Brooks enjoys giving back to our church by altar serving once a month.

Andy and Laura enjoy educating youth. Andy is a math teacher at Clinton Junior Senior High School and Laura is the Director of Career Planning and Partnerships at The Lincoln Academy in Beloit.

Mike and Heather Schneider

We are the Schneider family--Mike & Heather, Garrett, Kelby and Evan. We moved to the rural Clinton area in February of 2013 and visited St. Stephens right away. Father Bill met us the first Sunday and told us that the closer we sat the less we had to put in the collection basket. As the kids were only 1, 2 and 4 at the time we were in the habit of sitting close to the front of church so they could see. As you can imagine, he called us out during the homily saying that he didn't realize we'd take him up on sitting right up front! What a welcome to St. Stephens!



We are so grateful for the many parish members who made us feel at home so quickly. From the Franseen's having us out to visit the goats, Ruth and Gus spoiling our kids with candy at every holiday, Eva (who actually sat in front of us!) and Pat and Ken adopting our kids as honorary grandchildren and on and on, our entire family knew we found a family here at St. Stephens. The entire parish has been so supportive of our family--the kids' robotics team, homeschooling, taking care of us through the unexpected loss of Mike's parents early in our years here, and celebrating our 10th anniversary with a fun dance in the hall.

We've tried to give back to St. Stephens by helping where we can. Mike has served on the Parish Council and lectors at Mass, all three kids are altar servers, Garrett lectors, Heather has been a Faith Formation teacher and is now director, and we help at the Pork Chop Dinner, bake sales and funerals when needed. St. Stephens is a great parish to call home.

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