



14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Stephen's Catholic Parish

JULY 2 - 3, 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

Judy Wendtland, *Finance Council Chair*
jwendtland@charter.net

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

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14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God is at hand for you.’” - Lk 10:8-9

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

CLPI

Wednesdays

Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 - 8:00pm

Benediction ~ 7:50pm



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

parish@ststephensclinton.com

www.ststephen.weconnect.com

MASS INTENTIONS

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*

**Rosary prayed 30 minutes before each Mass*

MONDAY, JULY 4th

Independence Day

No Mass at St. Stephen's

TUESDAY, JULY 5th

+ St. Anthony Zaccaria, St. Elizabeth of Portugal+

No Mass at St. Stephen's

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6th

+ St. Maria Goretti +

8:00am - (+) *Jim Lipetri*

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

THURSDAY, JULY 7th

No Mass at St. Stephen's

FRIDAY, JULY 8th

8:00am - (+) *Leo & Jessie Fitzpatrick*

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SATURDAY, JULY 9th

+ St. Augustine Zhao Rong +

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

5:00pm - *For the People of the Parish*

SUNDAY, JULY 10th

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

9:00am - (+) *Peter Goessl*

Liturgical Ministers July 9 - 10

Saturday, July 9 - 5:00pm

Servers: Kelby & Evan Schneider

Lector: Garrett Schneider

Sunday, July 10 - 9:00am

Servers: Noah, Allison, & Henry Hahn

Lector: Larry White

Dear St. Stephen's Family,

When we think about the great saints of our Catholic tradition, we realize that they very often come in pairs: Paul and Barnabas, Perpetua and Felicity, Benedict and Scholastica, Francis and Clare of Assisi. To the list of martyrs and consecrated religious women and men, we can also add married couples like Isidore the Farmer and Maria or Louis and Zelig Martin (the parents of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux) — *husbands and wives who proclaimed and lived their faith through the daily witness of their marriage vows and family commitments.*

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus sends out seventy-two of his disciples in pairs to "every town and place he intended to visit." These disciples were to let the local communities know that Jesus and the Apostles were on their way. They were being asked to evangelize — to announce the "Good News" that Jesus was coming. (Remember that our word "evangelize" comes from the Greek word *evangelion*, which originally meant a joyful announcement — good news — that a king was coming to visit or that a military battle had been won.) And **the message, the *evangelion*, that Jesus had instructed the disciples to proclaim was simple: "The Kingdom of God is at hand for you." Here. Now.**

The disciples' journey and their announcement of the coming of the Kingdom — and of the King himself — was the action. But what was bubbling beneath the surface, within the hearts and souls of those early evangelizers? *It was their faith in and relationship with Jesus and with one another.* When Jesus sent out those pairs of disciples as "laborers for his harvest," *he wanted them to work together, to share their faith, support and encourage one another when the journey was difficult, and to witness to the fact that to be a disciple of Jesus calls for collaboration and community.* This is why we see so many saints — including those listed above — working collaboratively to fulfill their mission. This Gospel passage reminds us that living our faith with integrity means that we express what is going on in the depths of our hearts and souls in and *through our words and actions - and not just on Sunday.* We can't live out our faith or exercise our ministries within a vacuum.

In this passage, we also hear Jesus teaching an important lesson in relationships by urging the disciples to pay attention to the response of the people they were visiting. Yes, they were to share their message about the coming of the Kingdom, but he also wanted them *to watch and listen - to be in relationship with the people they visited, to be sensitive to how the Good News was being received and to act accordingly.* Keeping this in mind not only helps to be sure that the Gospel is being proclaimed effectively, but it also allows us to be sensitive to the "signs of the times" and the needs of the communities we are called to serve.

In the end, the mission of the disciples was to proclaim the faith they held within their hearts and invite others — *all others* — to join them in building up God's Kingdom as faithful disciples. *Faith and action came together in relationships — the communion and community of the Kingdom of God.* The Gospel demands that we, as Christians — collaborating disciples proclaiming our interior faith through our public works of mercy and justice — make ourselves available for the task of making the Kingdom a reality within our families, parishes, communities, and country.

This is the Freedom we enjoy and celebrate during this long weekend. The freedom not only from oppression, but a freedom FOR - For LIFE; For LIBERTY; For the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. The freedom won and defended by so many, that we might have the freedom to pursue holiness, which is always linked to happiness found in Jesus and the Gospel. Thank you to the many that have won and defended our Freedom, and a blessed Fourth of July weekend to you and your families!

In Christo per Mariam,
Fr. Andrew

Ministry of Giving ~ Offertory

June 5: \$1,698.00 Received to Date: \$145,250.27
 June 12: \$5,213.00 Budgeted to Date: \$125,008.00
 June 19: \$1,599.00
 June 26: \$1,169.00



CALENDAR

- July 4 - Independence Day Mass at St. Thomas, 8:00am
- July 5 - LAST Thirsting Tuesday, 6:00pm
- July 7 - Pastoral Council Meeting, 6:30pm
- July 9/10 - Father Andrew's Last Weekend at St. Stephen's
- July 15 - Father Prabhakar's Birthday
- July 16/17 - Father Prabhakar's First Weekend at St. Stephen's



BEST WISHES FATHER ANDREW

The weekend of July 9-10 will be Fr. Andrew's final time with our parish. Please join us for refreshments after Mass to thank him and wish him well. Wear your T-shirts one more time!

CHURCH CLEANING

Thank you to our church cleaning crew for June. Scheduled for cleaning in July are:
The Gilbank Family

THANK YOU

A donation of **10 boxes** of non-perishable items and a monetary donation of **\$1,335.00** were made to the Clinton Community Outreach Program from our 50th Anniversary Special Collection! **THANK YOU!!!**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on Monday, July 4th, in observation of Independence Day. We will be open regular hours on Tuesday, July 5th. We apologize for any inconvenience. Have a safe & happy 4th of July!

50TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

Our 50th Anniversary was a wonderful event full of blessings, and we appreciate the many people involved. We were given a monetary gift from the Clinton Ministerial Association. The other churches and pastors in Clinton sent their congratulations and good wishes. We are grateful for their friendship and support.

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.

14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR AFTER YEAR I PROCLAIM THE LOVE OF GOD, AND STILL ONLY HALF OF MY PARISHIONERS SEEM TO GET IT!

WOW, YOU GOT HALF?

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!

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