

The Roman Catholic Community of **ST. STEPHEN, ST. PATRICK & OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

MARCH 30, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Visit Us On The Web!

www.ccsssp.com

Our Catholic Community

P.O. Box 711, 51 Keibel Road

Whitney Point, NY 13862

(607) 692-3911

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00AM - 1:00PM

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Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:30AM St. Patrick

10:15AM St. Stephen

12:00PM Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Monday

6:00PM St. Patrick

Tuesday

9:00AM St. Patrick

First Thursday Weekday Mass

11:00AM Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Mission

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 and the Church Teaching.



Psalm 133

How Good And Pleasant It Is When

God's People Live Together In Unity!

You can access our 8:30AM Sunday Mass live or later: <https://www.youtube.com/c/CatholicCommunityofStStephenStPatrick>

From the Pastoral Administrator's Desk**LAETARE SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
God's Unconditional Love and Mercy.

Dear Parishioners,

Grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you!

Why is pink or rose color used on the Fourth Sunday of Lent? The tradition of using the color rose is thought to come from the tradition of the Golden rose; at one time popes sent golden roses to Catholic heads of state.

Pink or rose is worn today to show joy and love as we anticipate Christ's birth and resurrection.

Today on Laetare Sunday, we are encouraged and uplifted by the Parable of the Prodigal son. "Laetare" is Latin for "rejoice" the traditional designation for the Fourth Sunday. We rejoice because of God's abundant mercy. The temptation to sin can be overwhelming and impossible as it nudges us away from God. But once we "come to our senses" and seek forgiveness, the Lord is ready to embrace us and welcome us home. God calls us to reconciliation. Let us rejoice indeed.

God's love is bigger than our differences and personality dynamics. God embraces ALL: saints and sinners! That is Good News! The implication of the parable is God's interest in reclaiming the lost. God continues to seek out those who are lost and celebrates when they get back on track.

Parables are a distinctive form of ancient storytelling designed to leave us scratching our heads and thinking deeper. Is there any character that resembles you in the story? Are you like God the Father? Are you like the prodigal son or prodigal daughter? Are you like the Pharisees that the older brother represents?

There are three characters in this parable: the Father, representing God, the older son, the Pharisees. Who is the younger son? Is he the sinner or perhaps human beings?

Such is our God and Father, the one who creates us day after day, without our being aware of it. While we go on our way, the one seeks sinners and saints whom he can fill with his treasures, marvelous gifts and blessings!

Rev. Thomas Macauley

Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age.

Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread. Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering. Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**First Sunday of the Month**
HOLY HOUR

Sunday, April 6th,
7:00AM to 8:00AM at
St. Patrick's Church,
Whitney Point
Jesus desires to reveal
himself more deeply in
the Eucharist.

First Friday of the Month
HOLY HOUR

Friday, April 4th,
5:00PM at St. Stephen's Church, Marathon.



Readings for March 30, through April 6, 2025

Today | Jos 5-9a, 10-12| 2 Cor 5:17-21| Lk 15:1-3,11-32

Monday | Is 65:17-21| Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday | Ez 47:1-9, 12| Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday | Is 49:8-15| Jn 5:17-30

Thursday | Ex 32:7-14| Jn 5:31-47

Friday | Wis 2:1a, 12-22| Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday | Jer 11:18-20| Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday | Is 43:16-21| Phil 3:8-14| Jn 8:1-11

Stewardship Report**"With every call to sacrifice and service to the everlasting way, there is also given a "look of love" and a divine care of comfort, "well-done."****Last Sunday, March 23, 2025:**

Envelopes: \$ 1,485.00

Loose: \$ 603.00

Electronic Giving: \$ 50.00

Other Income: \$ 85.00

Total Regular Collection: \$ 2,223.00**Thank you for your continued generosity!****"Only the best is good enough for God."****Firm in Faith, Active in Charity, Together in Hope**

Together let us reach our parish goal.

Balance Due: \$ 1,166.00 by March 31, 2025**93.6% of goal met.****Please make your check payable to the****"Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of****Syracuse and in memo:****for CCSS-SP, Whitney Point."****God loves a cheerful giver.**

Thank you to everyone returning their HOPE Appeal pledge cards! If you are still prayerfully considering your pledge, you may bring your completed pledge card to Mass next week, drop it by the parish office or use the return envelope with your letter.

You can also make a gift online at www.syrdio.org.**Stewardship Thoughts****The US Bishops' pastoral on stewardship reinforces,**

"because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and wellbeing are the responsibility of the members - the personal responsibility of each of us. We all are stewards of the Church."

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

Barry & Dottie Angel, Jackie Burroughs, Richard & Elaine Crowe, Fran Decker, Ray & Gladys Nolan, Larry & Mickey Piech, Jo Ackerman & Joanne Vega / Pvt Ryan E. Eaton, 2ndLt. Trevor Jones, Sgt Avery Hull, Major Corrine Miller, A2C Derek Lescord, SSgt Michael Hetzler, Major Caleb Miller, Sgt Heather Fox, LtCol John Thomas, LCDR Paul McDonald, 2ndLt. Emily Steele USAF, LCDR Maria Lescord, SSgt Dan Votra USMC, SSG Steven Gross, SSgt Justin Blaisdell,

OS3 Jonathan Schneider, LCDR Marvin Joel Scott III, LtCol Major Joy Thomas, A1C Brendan Schneider,

Sgt Zachary Reardon USMC and LCpl Isaac James Silvanic USMC **Please kindly pray for the repose of the soul of****Martha Parrino who has entered into the Kingdom of Heaven. May she rest in peace.****HOPE FOR TODAY - PILGRIMS OF HOPE****"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."**

Romans 15:13

"Hope...is one of the ways in which what is merely future and potential is made vividly present and actual to us. Hope is the positive, as anxiety is the negative, mode of awaiting the future."

Emil Brunner, *Eternal Hope*, 1954

"Hope, like faith, is nothing if it is not courageous; it is nothing if it is not ridiculous."

Thorton Wilder, *The Eight Day*, 1967**Mass Intentions****Sunday, March 30, 2025**

8:30AM for Evelyn Halloran by Family

for Carl Wennerod by Ingrid Wennerod, Steve & Eileen Faughnan

10:15AM for Ken O'Neil & Kay Kurtz by Don & Terrie Atwood

12:00PM for Jennie Ricca by Pat & Terri Fedele

Monday, March 31, 2025

6:00PM for The People of Our Parish

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

9:00AM for The People of Our Parish

Next Sunday, April 6, 2025

8:30AM for John & Ellen Donahue by Anne Ballard

10:15AM for Marge Carroll by John Carroll

12:00PM for Millie Leszczynski by Pat & Terri Fedele

Ministers For Today, March 30, 2025:**St. Patrick's:** Greeters: Anne Clerkin, Earl Markham

Lector: Ingrid Jordak Tabulators: Ron & Jan Orzel

Eucharistic Ministers: Cathy Shoemaker, Kathy Bensley

St. Stephen's: Greeter: Kim McCrory Lector: John Ewanciw

Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Niggli, Tony Zelsnack

Ushers: Bob Barry, S. McEvoy/Tabulators: Claire Hinman, John Ewanciw

OLPH: Greeters: Bob Crowley, Joe VanSteenburg

Lector: Hugh Cook Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Constantino

Gift Bearers: Jay & Lisa Holt

Next Sunday, April 6, 2025:**St. Patrick's:** Greeters: Youth

Lector: Youth Tabulators: Bob & Sue Stevens

Eucharistic Ministers: Peg Orzel, Cathy Shoemaker

St. Stephen's Church: Greeter: Youth Lector: Youth

Eucharistic Ministers: Shelley Warnow, Kathy Cusick

Ushers: Bob Barry, Syd McEvoy Tabulators: Don & Terrie Atwood

OLPH: Greeters: Bob Crowley, Joe VanSteenburg Lector: Linda Crowley

Eucharistic Minister: Lisa Holt Gift Bearers: Betty Carter, Chris Klein

Whole Community Catechesis**Readings and Questions for Discussion****FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY****March 30, 2025****Introduction:**

The scripture readings today give us great reason to rejoice. In the readings today we are really feasting on God's Mercy. The prodigal son is welcomed back by His Father (Luke 15:11-32), Paul tells that Christ has reconciled us to the Father (2 Corinthians 5:18-19), and in the first reading the Hebrews celebrate their first Passover in the Promised Land (Joshua 5:9-12). The readings indeed give us many reasons to rejoice. Above all, we rejoice over God's great love and mercy for us all, including other reasons.

First Reading - Joshua 5:9, 10-12

The book of Joshua purports to be a historical account of the conquest and division of Canaan among the twelve tribes under the leadership of Joshua who had been Moses' aide-de-camp.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 34

"Taste and see the goodness of God." The Responsorial Psalm sings of this divine generosity.

Second Reading-2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Paul, the Apostle underscores the message of today's Gospel:

"All this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation; namely God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ.

Gospel - Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The context of the Parable - Jesus was receiving criticism from the Pharisees for including tax collectors and sinners into his circle. At the heart of today's gospel is the joyful news of reconciliation.

Questions for Reflection

1. How do you celebrate and give thanks for all the special moments of life?
2. How do you seek reconciliation with God?
3. Do you feel the freedom and joy of God the Father after the Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation?

Upcoming Celebration/Events/Meetings:

1. Monday Mass on March 31, 2025, at 6:00 PM at St. Patrick's Church, Whitney Point.
2. Tuesday Eucharist and Lenten Lectio Divina on April 1, 2025 - Eucharistic Meal at 9:00AM and Lenten Lectio Divina at 10:00-11:00AM at St. Patrick's Church, Whitney Point.
3. Faith Formation Classes next Sunday, April 6, 2025, at 9:30 AM at St. Patrick's Church, Whitney Point.
4. Disciple Maker Index Survey-The Diocese of Syracuse asks parishioners for full survey participation open through Easter. In collaboration with the non-profit organization, Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) to gather survey data completed by priests and parishioners that will help guide and grow our journey of faith and community. We encourage you to participate out of love for your parish, as it will be so beneficial for clergy and laity in the Diocese of Syracuse.
5. Stations of the Cross - Come pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays, 3:00 PM at OLPH and 6:00 PM at both St. Stephen's and St. Patrick Churches.
6. Hope Appeal: Please help us reach the remaining balance of \$1,166.00. Make your check payable to the "Foundation of the Diocese of Syracuse" and mail it in the enclosed envelope by tomorrow, March 31, 2025. Thank you for supporting the 2024 Hope Appeal. May God bless and reward you and your family.

Wisdom From The Saints

"The saints are like stars. In his Providence, Christ conceals them in a hidden place that they may not shine before others when they might wish to do so. Yet they are always ready to exchange the quiet of contemplation for the works of mercy as soon as they perceive in their heart the invitation of Christ." St. Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor

The Sanctuary Candle Burning for the Month of March in St. Stephen's Church, Marathon, is

In Memory Of: **Michael Joseph, Jr.** by Marie Joseph

LEADERSHIP AND PARISH STAFF**Pastoral Administrator**

Rev. Thomas Macauley

Deacon

Rev. Mr. John Mihalko

Pastoral Care Associates

Peg Orzel, Carol Niggli, Linda Crowley

Parish Chairperson & Trustees

Chairperson: Shelley Warnow

Trustee: Kathy Cusick

Music Ministry

Organist: Jennifer Austin

Cantor: Larry McDonald

Outreach Ministries Coordinators

Joanne Livermore, Peg Orzel

Business Manager/Secretary

Mary Wied

Faith Formation

DRE: Sherry Dee

Joint Technology Coordinators

John Dee, Jason Somers

Building and Grounds Caretakers

Ken Bates, Noah Somers, Kody Barry

Church Caretaker

Yvonne Austenfeld

Rectory Caretaker

Rita Mae Accardi



WELCOME!

WELCOME!

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!

TUESDAY EUCHARIST AND LENTEN LECTIO DIVINA

WITH REFRESHMENTS (Coffee/Tea & Snacks)

**ALL ARE INVITED TO OUR TUESDAY
EUCHARISTIC MEAL (MASS) AT 9:00 AM,
FOLLOWED BY LENTEN LECTIO DIVINA**

With Rev. Thomas Macauley, O.P.

10:00 to 11:00AM AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, WHITNEY POINT

The Sunday Gospel Readings

Please bring your Bibles and writing materials.

Next Bible Study will be Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

Next First Thursday of the Month Weekday Mass

is on April 3, 2025 at 11:00 AM

at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Prayer Chain

If you know of someone in need of special prayers and would like them listed on OLPH's Prayer Chain or if you're not on our prayer chain list of calls and would like to be, please contact Betty Carter at 607-863-3163 or chopwood2@hotmail.com.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church is Handicap Accessible.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Mission Statement: "To advance the Kingdom of God by living a Community Life of Love & Worship, Telling the Good News of Jesus Christ."

PASTORAL ADMINISTRATOR: Rev. Thomas Macauley

OLPH Parish Staff:

Mission Council President, Linda Crowley 607-863-3574

Vice President, Terri Fedele | Secretary, Lisa Holt

Pastoral Care Lay Minister: Linda Crowley, lcrowley@zfastest.net

Parish Secretary: Mary Wied

Trustees: Betty Carter, Pat Rice

OLPH's Seton Hall: 607-863-4750

P.O. Box 310, 2708 Lower Cincinnatus Rd., Cincinnatus, NY 13040

PRAY



Pilgrim of Hope Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

**TODAY, MARCH 30 -TAYLOR WESLEYAN CHURCH,
4 PM**

APRIL 6 -CHRISTIAN UNION CHURCH,
CINCINNATUS, 4 PM

APRIL 13 - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CINCINNATUS,
EASTER CANTATA, 6 PM

Stewardship

With every call to sacrifice and service to the everlasting way, there is also given a "look of love" and a divine care of comfort," well-done."

Weekly Collection Report - Sunday, March 23, 2025:

Regular Collection: Envs-\$415.00 Loose-\$32.00

Total Regular Collection: \$447.00

Other Income: Fuel-\$10. Flowers-\$225. PSG-\$20.

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

RURAL SERVICES' FOOD PANTRY IS ALWAYS IN NEED OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS. THEIR BIGGEST DEMAND IS FOR PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY AND PASTA & SAUCE. ITEMS CAN BE BROUGHT ON SUNDAY WHEN YOU COME TO MASS AND PUT IN THE IN MARKED BASKET AT THE ENTRANCE OF OUR CHURCH. THANK YOU!

Newcomers & Current Parishioners: WELCOME!

If you would like to register, receive contribution envelopes, Catholic SUN, have a change in address, marital status, etc., please fill out small blue form by the bulletins & drop it in the collection basket.

You may also call our parish office at 607-692-3911.



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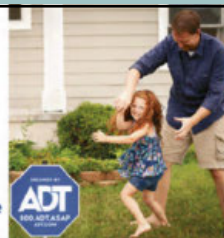


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