

July 12, 2020

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The seed that falls on
good ground will yield
a fruitful harvest

—Lk 8:8



Getty Images

St. Stephen's Catholic Church

303 Lincoln Way East

McConnellsburg, PA 17233

717-485-3723

Pastor: Father Derek Fairman

Mass Times:

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday at 12:00 Noon

Confession Times:

Saturday before Mass & Sunday after Mass





Week of July 12, 2020



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:
Isaiah 55:10-11

2nd Reading:
Romans 8:18-23

Gospel Reading:
Matthew 13:1-23

Ministry Contacts

St. Stephen Church

717-485-3723

<http://www.fultoncatholic.com>
ssmcb@dioceseaj.org

Pastor - Father Derek Fairman

In case of an emergency and you need to contact

Father Fairman, please call the
Everett Parish Office at
814-652-5854

dfairman@dioceseaj.org

Fulton County Catholic Mission

Carmelite Community of the Word
Sr. Martha Burbulla, 717-485-5917

If you see or suspect child abuse...
Call PA Childline at 1-800-932-0313 or
visit <http://keepkidssave.pa.gov>



PARISH
COUNCIL
MEMBERS

Susan Cabbage

Marlene Joyce

Deb Leese

Alex Serrano

Russ Trembl

Janice Wolfe

Collection
June 28, 2020

Regular/Weekly	\$1,048.00
Energy	\$35.00
Maintenance	\$50.00
Peter's Pence	\$100.00

Collection
July 5, 2020

Regular/Weekly	\$1,147.00
Energy	\$15.00
Maintenance	\$55.00



MASS
INTENTIONS

- 7/4 +Angelo Gotto req. by Karen & Jeff Croft
- 7/5 +Mary Bendik req. by St. Stephen Family
- 7/11 For the People
- 7/12 +Margaret Fleming req. by Estate



Upcoming Events

Theme Basket Raffle

The Family Life Committee would like to begin organizing our annual Fall Theme Basket Raffle.

We need to move forward and bring life back to our Parish. Everyone enjoys getting involved by donating an "original" Theme Basket. But the oldies but goodies are popular too. Please consider making a commitment of donating a basket again this year. The drawing will be held the third weekend in October 2020. Please call Deb Leese at 717-485-3666. We would like to have our tickets printed by mid-July to start ticket sales.

Family Life Bird Lover Drawing

This weekend we are starting tickets sales for a Bird Feeder and Seed and Unique Rustic Bird House Package Raffle. Check it out in the church gathering space! This raffle was to begin in March as our spring raffle, but of course has been postponed. Help support the Family Life Committee by purchasing tickets to win the whole package. Tickets are \$1.00 each.



Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating 1, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, and 60+ Wedding Anniversary in 2020 (and their families) to attend the

Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy.

Couples may attend Sunday, September 13 in ALTOONA at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, September 20 in JOHNSTOWN at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families.

Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Wednesday, August 19.

If you are interested please contact Donna Fisher, Parish Secretary to complete the registration form.



To Parishioners celebrating their Birthday in the Month of July

Happy Anniversary

To all the couples celebrating their Anniversary in the Month of July

MASS INTENTIONS

At this time we have several weekend Mass Intention dates available in June through December

If you would like to have a mass intention for your loved one living and/or deceased, please use the Mass Intention Envelope.

You may put your Mass Intentions in the offering box located in the back of the church

Thank You



Let us say a prayer for our Catholic Members who are homebound and unable to attend church.

Pat Frazier Julie Canary Millie Trembl

Peggy Hoffman Doris Nolte

and

All other Members who cannot attend at this time.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, July 12, 2020 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING 1 IS 55:10-11

Thus says the LORD:
Just as from the heavens
the rain and snow come down
and do not return there
till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the one who sows
and bread to the one who eats,
so shall my word be
that goes forth from my mouth;
my word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have visited the land and watered it;
greatly have you enriched it.
God's watercourses are filled;
you have prepared the grain.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,
breaking up its clods,
Softening it with showers,
blessing its yield.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have crowned the year with your bounty,
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;
The untilled meadows overflow with it,
and rejoicing clothes the hills.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

The fields are garmented with flocks
and the valleys blanketed with grain.
They shout and sing for joy.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

READING 2 ROM 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters:
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.
For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves

who have the first fruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

GOSPEL MT 13:1-23 OR 13:1-9

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

The disciples approached him and said, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.* Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says: *You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.*

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."