

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

MAY 17—SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 4:30 pm **Sat.** John & Matilda Bury—Son, Bob, Kim, Gareth & Morgan
- 9:00 am (Birth) John A. Krempasky—Family
- 11:00 am *Choir* For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
Sacrament of Baptism

MONDAY, MAY 18—POPE ST. JOHN I

- 8:00 am (Anniv) James R. Ritson—Mom & Dad
After Mass: Miraculous Medal Novena & Rosary
- 8:00 pm Valley of Hope Mass

TUESDAY, MAY 19

No Morning Mass Today

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20—ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA

- 9:30 am Deceased of the Klimo & Fedor Families—Fred & Betty Fundy

VIGIL OF THE ASCENSION

- 6:30 pm (Birth) Raymond (Benny) Ciferno—Marge Foglia

THURSDAY, MAY 21—ASCENSION OF THE LORD

- 9:30 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
- 5:30 pm Deceased of Bill & Kozon Families—Bob & Marge Bridge

FRIDAY, MAY 22—ST. RITA OF CASCIA

- 8:00 am (Birth) James L. Fordanich—Michael J. Hazy

SATURDAY, MAY 23

- 11:30 am Sacrament of Penance

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 4:30 pm *Choir* For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

SUNDAY, MAY 24

- 9:00 am Living & Deceased Members of FCSLA Branch 88—FCSLA Branch 88
Liturgy of the Word for Children
- 11:00 am (Birth) Joseph Kubitzka—Sister, Catherine Brachna

LITURGICAL MINISTERS—SERVERS & MASTER OF CEREMONIES

- Weekdays, May 18, 20, 22 8:00 am T. McCullough—D. Kossol
- Wednesday May 20 9:30 am *School Mass*
Vigil of the Ascension 6:30 pm D. & J. Columbus
(MC) Volunteer Needed
- Ascension Thursday May 21 9:30 am *School Students*
(MC) School Student
5:30 pm J. & E. Pokol
(MC) K. Pokol
- Saturday, May 23 4:30 pm RJ Kozura—M. Lowe
(MC) B. Antal
- Sunday, May 24 9:00 am G. & A. Iacoboni
(MC) E. Russell
11:00 am J. Couser—S. Anderson
(MC) M. Couser

Second Collection this Weekend is the annual collection for the U.S. Bishops' CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN; **next weekend** is the collection for our diocesan newspaper, THE CATHOLIC ACCENT.

SUNDAY COUNTERS:

- May 17—C. Shernisky, J. & B. Picchiarini, S. Schussler, S. Mavrakis
- May 24—J. Ciccarelli, D. & G. Sepic, R. Ritson, R. Melnick

Please keep Fr. Len McAlpin in your prayers as he is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

PASCHAL CANDLE FLOWERS this weekend are given to the glory of God and in memory of the DECEASED MEMBERS of the METROSKY FAMILY by Patricia Morris.

SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS Please remember in your prayers those who died last week: ANGELA GIGLIOTTI, mother of Michael Gigliotti, our parishioner. We extend our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

- Monday - Valley of Hope, Church/Hall, 7:30 pm
- Tuesday - Girl Scouts, Parish Center, 6:00 pm
- Athletic Association, Parish Center, 6:30 pm
- Wednesday - Choir, Church, 7:29 pm
- Thursday - Finance Council, Parish Center, 7:00 pm

Stewardship of Treasure

	Sunday Stewardship	Needed for Budget	Over/Under + / -
May 9/10	\$9,708.91	\$9,200.00	+\$508.91
Fiscal Year to Date	\$418,808.96	\$414,000.00	+\$4,808.96

UTILITIES & MAINTENANCE collection—\$2,255.00

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL Week #8

	This Week	To Date
No. Families	31	369
Pledged	\$3,095.00	\$47,091.00

LECTORS

COORDINATOR

MINISTERS

Wednesday, May 20

- 6:30 Volunteer M. Druciak P. Morigi, S. & S. Zolock
L. Forbeck, J. Barger, J. Wiggins

Ascension Thursday, May 21

- 9:30 D. Staff M. Pesi J. Moody, T. Plevel, S. Wawro
C. Simboli, K. Warfield, Volunteer
- 5:30 Volunteer Volunteer E. Studnicki—Volunteer
M. Strickland—Volunteer

Saturday, May 23

- 4:30 D. Free M. Free S. & K. Rygiel, M. Nogy
C. Farrier, S. Battaglia, J. Stringhill

Sunday, May 24

- 9:00 C. Williams S. Raymond T. Betters, M. Blevins, D. Seman
T. Rodriguez, C. Peterson, E. Niehaus
- 11:00 B. Anderson J. Morris K. Keene, D. Cooper, R. Couser
J. Frederick, G. Klamerus, S. Waldbaum

ELECTION DAY SOUP & SANDWICH On Tuesday, May 19, at the new North Belle Vernon Fire Hall, Soup and Sandwiches will be offered to the public beginning at 10:00 a.m. The Fire Hall is located at 535 Graham Street.

When did the Ascension take place?

Dear Padre,

In Bible study class I learned that Luke's Gospel says Jesus ascended to heaven on the evening of Easter Sunday. But in the Acts of the Apostles he ascended forty days later. What's going on? Who's right?



Determined to know

Dear Determined,

As you know from your Bible study, most biblical scholars believe Luke wrote both the gospel named after him and the Acts of the Apostles. If so, then why does he seem to indicate, in Luke 24, that Jesus ascended on Easter Sunday evening and then turn right around and say, in Acts 1, that Jesus ascended forty days later?

Luke is doing what any good Greek writer would do when writing a sequel to his first work. He starts the second book by recounting in greater detail the events that formed the conclusion of his first book. Reading Luke 24, it is easy to see how the events seem to run together. Jesus rises from the dead, word goes out to the disciples, and there is disbelief. Two disciples head home for Emmaus, and Jesus joins them walking and talking till evening when they stop for supper. Realizing Jesus was with them, they immediately return to Jerusalem. Then Jesus appears while they are telling their story and has a meal and talks with the disciples. Only then do they leave the city, and Jesus ascends to heaven. That's a lot for one day! It must have been very late in the night when his ascension took place. What is more likely is that Luke concluded the gospel in a very compact manner, leaving out time references. But he will return to these events in the opening chapter of his second book. There he will present a more understandable narrative of those last moments of Jesus' earthly sojourn.

What is important, of course, is the Ascension of Jesus and what it means for Luke. Jesus must leave if the gift of the Holy Spirit is to arrive. The physical Jesus was limited to a definite locale; now through the gift of the Holy Spirit, this same Jesus can invite all people to become disciples everywhere and in every age. After Jesus disappears from sight, two figures in dazzling white ask they key question: "Why are you standing here?" The tendency is to stay put with our memories, but the challenge is to go forward, with the Holy Spirit, confident that Jesus is still very near.

The Padre

Fr. William J. Parker, C.Ss.R.

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Here at Saint Sebastian our Masses for the Holy Day, Ascension Thursday, will take place with an anticipated Mass on Wednesday, May 20 at 6:30 pm and on Ascension Thursday, May 21, 9:30 am (school students in attendance) and 5:30 pm.

**VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL
ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL
&
PARISH HALL
JUNE 16—20
9:00 A.M.—12-NOON
GRADES PRE-K thru 5**



This year Vacation Bible School will take place Tuesday, June 16 thru Saturday, June 20 here at Saint Sebastian's in our Parish Hall. This year's theme is "The Life & Times of Sassy Saul otherwise known as Sainly Paul." Learn how Jesus touched the heart of Saul the Pharisee helping him to see, though now blind, the error of his ways and become PAUL the APOSTLE to GENTILES (that's us)! VBS is offered to Grades Pre-K through Grade 5 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon. Registration forms are available in the church pamphlet racks or by calling the Faith Formation Office at 724-930-8504.



**SANDCASTLE WATER PARK
FOR ALTAR SERVERS
and
YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS
RESERVE YOUR TICKET!!**

Each year our Parish **Altar Servers** are treated to a Fun Day in appreciation for their service to our parish. Such a good time was had past two years that once again we are treating the Altar Servers to **A Day at Sandcastle Water Park on Wednesday, June 24 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.**

Mark your calendars for this date. Letters have been sent to all Altar Servers. Please fill out the form and return it to the Parish Office via the mail, collection basket, or drop box in the breezeway of the Office.

Youth Group members may also attend **A Day at Sandcastle Water Park** along with the Altar Servers for the discounted price of \$20.00. Please make out your check to Saint Sebastian Church.

A bus will be provided and all those attending must ride the bus to and from Sandcastle.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

St. Pius X, Mt. Pleasant will hold an All-You-Can-Eat Omelet Breakfast today, Sunday, May 17, from 8 a.m. til Noon.

Belle Vernon Fire Dept. #2 is holding a Pancake/French Toast Breakfast, today, Sunday, May 17, from 9 am til 2 pm.

Holy Family Parish, West Newton, is sponsoring a Meatloaf Dinner on Sunday, May 31 from Noon til 5 p.m.

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH

2009 PARISH FESTIVAL—SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Volunteers are needed for our parish festival. We need your help the day before, the day of, and the day after the festival. So even if you are unavailable on Sunday, you can still help. If you are able to give of your time and talents to help make this festival a success, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office.

Sincere thanks from, *The Festival Committee*

Please indicate the first name of family member volunteering for any of the following:

_____ Food preparation, Parish Hall, Saturday, June 13 at 9:30 a.m.

_____ Set up Booths/Tents on Saturday, June 13, 11:00 a.m.

_____ Set-up Games/Food in Booths, Sunday, June 14, 9:30 a.m.

_____ Cook/Serve of Indoor Food, Sunday, June 14, 12:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
Please specify time available _____

_____ Working Outdoor Food Booth, Sunday, June 14
Please specify time available _____

_____ Work Beer Cart, Sunday, June 14, 5:00-10:00 p.m.
Please specify time available _____

_____ Runner for Outdoor Food Booth (bring supplies from kitchen to outdoor booth)

_____ Cook BBQ Chicken on, Sunday, June 14, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
Please specify time available _____

_____ Working Game Booth on Sunday, June 14 (Circle Time Available)
11:30-2:30 pm 2:30-5:30 pm 5:30-8:00 pm 8:00-close

_____ Assist with Bake Sale, Sunday, June 14
Please specify time available _____

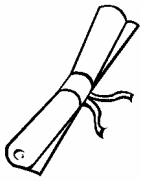
_____ Clean-up Sunday, June 14

_____ Inventory of Remaining Prizes on Monday, June 15 (Counting & Repackaging)

_____ Tear Down Booths/Tents on Monday, June 15, 7:00 a.m. (Removal of chairs/tables)

FAMILY NAME _____ PHONE _____

A SPECIAL NOTE: A hearty thank you to Ed & Denise Stasko for offering to chair the outdoor food booth for our festival.



2009 GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 31, 2009, all Seniors of the Class of 2009, who are members of Saint Sebastian Parish, are invited to participate at the 9:00 am. Mass. This will provide our Parish with the opportunity to pray with you and to ask God's blessing on you as you pursue your future endeavors.

This year we are expanding our celebration to include members of Saint Sebastian Parish who are graduating from College, along with Parishioners who are receiving Post-Graduate degrees.

A social for you and your family will follow in the Parish Hall. Graduates are asked to wear cap and gown (College Grads, too, if possible), and to meet in the Parish Hall at 8:30 am.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office by Tuesday, May 26. May God continue to bless you.

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**HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE GRADUATION
MASS - MAY 31, 2009**

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

NAME

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS!! Father Lawrence will hold a very important meeting for all Lectors (who read at weekend and weekday Masses and Funeral Masses) on Thursday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the church. From time to time it is necessary to be reminded of procedures already in place, and it is important to discuss any issues we may have concerning this ministry. This will be a time to gather and refresh. *Parishioners interested in becoming a Lector at Mass are encouraged to attend this session. New readers are always welcome. Please call the Parish Office for more information.*

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN The second collection today is for the annual collection for the U.S. Bishops' Catholic Communications Campaign. Half of the donations stay in the diocese to support local projects, including *The Catholic Accent* and the diocesan Web site. The other half supports multimedia projects developed by the Catholic Communications initiative of the U.S. Bishops that promotes Gospel values through the media. For more information about communication projects, visit www.dioceseofgreensburg.org, which was redesigned last Fall. For more international projects, visit www.usccb.org/cc.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH especially
Leda Arrigoni, Sister Mary Vera Bartley, Joseph Beresik, Donna Biagini, Peter Carrozza, Jenna Christner, Irene Colborn, Alex Danyi, Edward Drotos, Ernie Ehlers, Darlene Engle, Joan Eversburg, Thomas W. Galley, Jr., Madison Marie Gardner, Stanley Gates, Rudy Halgas, Betty Jean Henderson, Anne Husovitz, Philomena Iacovangelo, Barbara Kubik, Debbie Kurtis, Mary Ann Lenio, Ann Krossoff, Fr. Leonard McAlpin, Kathleen McCullough, Mike Mendicino, Janet Misenko, William Molnar, Sr., Mary B. Nagy, Joseph Naylor, Karen O'Neil, Eleanor Pidanich, Stella Povlick, Jemma Premus, George Rue, Mary Ann Rocco, Mathew Russell, Virginia Salko, Barbara Sedlak, Joseph Semancik, Steve Semancik, Loretta Senich, Guido Simboli, Afton Smereczniak, Joseph Smith, Patti Smith, Mary B. Snyder, Darla Staff, Chuckie Stringhill, Joseph Turcheck, Jim Webb. Lord, we ask that you bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNUAL JUNQUE SALE St. Sebastian Junque Sale has been set for Friday, July 31, and Saturday, August 1, from 9:00 until-3:00. Donations are now being accepted every Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 am-12 Noon and 6:00-8:00 pm at the church garage. After June 3, items will be collected in the Parish Hall entrance. Also, we are always looking for volunteers. Feel free to call Bonnie to sign up to help. The commitment is earthly, the reward is heavenly. For more information or to volunteer call Bonnie Halinka at 724-322-0355.



Please remember St. Sebastian's Parish in your will.

**SUNDAY & HOLY DAY PARKING
ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS**
There is a space next to the parish office that is reserved as a turn-around for those who park in the handicapped spaces behind the Parish Office by the Parish garage.
This space is NOT TO BE USED AS A PARKING SPACE.
It is not an additional handicapped space. It is to be used **ONLY TO TURN YOUR CAR AROUND** to face the traffic as you pull out of your parking space. Please do not park in this space.
ALSO The handicapped space closest to the breezeway is for *Handicap VAN parking only*. If you do not have a handicap van, please do not park in this space.