



SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

AUGUST 16—TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 4:30 pm Sat. Valent & Maria Talpas & Deceased Family Members—Family
- 9:00 am Mary Ann Ercegovich—Children
- 11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

No Morning Mass Today

- 7:30 pm Valley of Hope Mass

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

No Morning Mass Today

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

No Morning Mass Today

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20—ST. BERNARD

No Morning Mass Today

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21—POPE ST. PIUS X

No Morning Mass Today

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22—QUEENSHIP OF MARY

- 11:30 am Sacrament of Penance

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- 4:30 pm Walter & Helen Fryske—Daughters

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

- 9:00 am Steve & Mary Tkachik—Granddaughter, Kim Garnic
Liturgy of the Word for Children
- 11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS—SERVERS &
MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

- Saturday, Aug. 22 4:30 pm A. Osiol—RJ Kozura
(MC) B. Antal
- Sunday, Aug. 23 9:00 am B. Pacy—G. McLaughlin
(MC) E. Russell
- 11:00 am T. & J. Beeler
(MC) K. Pokol

LECTORS

Saturday, Aug. 22

- 4:30 C. Gorski

Sunday, Aug. 23

- 9:00 D. Free

- 11:00 T. Verin

COORDINATOR

- S. Waldbaum J. Moody, L. Aul, M. Nogy
S. Wawro, D. Stasko, J. Barger

- S. Raymond M. Free, L. Keene, P. Morigi
J. Krossoff, J. Russell, C. Peterson

- Volunteer M. Druciak, M. Blevins, D. Cooper
E. Studnicki, G. Klamerus, G. Saladna

MINISTERS

PLEASE NOTE: For those wishing to attend morning Mass this week, there is an 8:00 a.m. Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord Parish, Monessen, Monday thru Thursday and at the Church of St. Anne, Rostraver on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

SUNDAY COUNTERS

August 16—C. Shernisky, J. & B. Picchiarini, S. & S. Zolock

August 23—J. Ciccarelli, R. Melnick, D. & J. Kerestan

SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS Please remember in your prayers those who died last week: PATRICK TRACY, nephew of Toni & Gene Saladna, our parishioners. We extend our sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

- Monday - Parish Cookbook Committee Meeting, Parish Center, 6:30 pm
- Valley of Hope, Church/Hall, 7:30 pm
- Saturday - BVAHS Color-guard Car Wash, parking lot, 10:00 am

MISSION STATEMENT We the Parish Family of Saint Sebastian, Belle Vernon, serve people in Westmoreland and Fayette Counties. We are Roman Catholics of various ethnic backgrounds with strong family values demonstrating a variety of skills, trades and professions. The purpose of the parish is to glorify God by assisting the community on the "Journey of a Lifetime" through the Liturgy and Sacraments, teaching and preaching the Word of God, and witnessing to our faith. As a community of faith, we are committed to love of God and neighbor through worshiping together and serving others in caring for their spiritual, emotional and physical needs. Each of us is called to strengthen and reach beyond our parish through being responsible stewards of our time, talent and treasure in the spirit of our patron, Saint Sebastian.

Stewardship of Treasure

	Sunday Stewardship	Needed for Budget	Over/Under + / -
Aug. 8/9	\$8,417.43	\$10,200.00	-\$1,782.57
Fiscal Year to Date	\$54,641.86	\$61,200.00	-\$6,558.14
Utilities & Maintenance collection—\$2,236.00			
DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL Week #22			
	This Week	To Date	
No. Families	0	501	
Pledged	\$0	\$65,476.00	

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH especially Leda Arrigoni, Sister Mary Vera Bartley, Joseph Beresik, Donna Biagini, Greg Brooks, Peter Carrozza, Jenna Christner, Irene Colborn, Alex Danyi, Angelina DeMarco, Edward Drotos, Ernest Ehlers, Darlene Engle, Joan Eversburg, Margaret Foglia, Thomas W. Galley, Jr., Madison Marie Gardner, Mary Gira, Rudy Halgas, Betty Jean Henderson, Janice Hill, Ann Husovitz, Philomena Iacovangelo, Barbara Kubik, Debbie Kurtis, Ann Krossoff, Stanley Lubinski, Fr. Leonard McAlpin, Kathleen McCullough, Mike Mendicino, Janet Misenko, William Molnar, Sr., Mary B. Nagy, Joseph Naylor, Karen O'Neil, Stella Povlich, George Rue, Mary Ann Rocco, Mathew Russell, Barbara Sedlak, Steve Semancik, Loretta Senich, Guido Simboli, Joseph Smith, Patti Smith, Mary B. Snyder, Darla Staff, Chuckie Stringhill, Clara Tonarelli, 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.

NOTICE: Volunteers are needed for the "Fresh Express" produce distribution sponsored by the Belle Vernon Ministerium on Tuesday, August 24 from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in our parking lot. If you are able to help, please call the Parish Office at 724-929-9300.

TAKING STEPS TOWARD CURES The Annual Light the Night Walk will take place on Saturday, September 26 at Uniontown High School. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and refreshments are provided. Our Youth Group has attended this walk for several years now and raised funds toward the cure of Leukemia, Lymphoma, Myeloma and Hodgkins's Disease.

This year our youth will participate once again, but **all in our parish** are invited to join us. It is not a difficult walk and is an inspiration to all who attend as they see survivors and fighters of these forms of cancer. For more information you may visit the site www.lightthenight.org or call the Faith Formation Office at 724-930-8504 to learn how our group has participated.

STATEMENT OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA:

In response to inaccurate online media reports, Catholic Charities USA states unequivocally that it does not support any plan to reform health care and/or any proposed legislative provision that allows or promotes the funding of abortions or that compels any health care provider or institution to provide such a service. In fact, Catholic Charities USA will continue to work with the Catholic Health Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to ensure that any health care reform legislation will not include such provisions. All media accounts or public comments that misrepresent this position are inaccurate.

"These attacks appear to be politically motivated by opponents of health care reform. They are distortions of the truth and disingenuous. Catholic Charities USA will continue to work to reform health care in a way that is consistent with the teachings of our faith."

Fr. Larry Snyder, President

For additional information, please visit:
www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=1782

VIRTUS—There will be a Virtus Protecting God's Children awareness session on Saturday, August 29 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church Social Hall in Fairchance. All staff or volunteers who work with children and have not attended previous sessions are required to attend. To register call 724-552-2507.

PRAY FOR A PRIEST THIS WEEK

Parishioners' Relatives or Former St. Sebastian Priests

Mon: Father John Sedlak
Tue: Father Charles Mitchell
Wed: Father William Feeney
Thu: Father Donald Nesti
Fri: Father John Foriska
Sat: Father Leonard Stoviak
Sun: Father Michael Crookston

"O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live and act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life. Let him live in you. Amen."

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IN 2009

Bishop Brandt invites all couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during the calendar year 2009 to participate in a special Golden Jubilee Mass to be held at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Sunday, September 20, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. The Jubilarians, their children, relatives or friends should contact our Parish Office (724-929-9300) to register couples for this celebration.

If some couples may not be able to attend the Mass, they will still receive a scroll signed by the Bishop commemorating their anniversary.

PARISH COOKBOOK Tomorrow, Monday, August 17, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center, there will be a meeting for those interested in helping with our Parish Cookbook. Those wishing to submit two or three of their favorite recipes are asked to type them out along with your name & phone number and turn them in at the Parish Office, or drop them in the Sunday collection marked "Cookbook."

FALL MUM FUND RAISER (from McShane's Florist) The First United Methodist Church, Belle Vernon is holding a Fall Mum Sale. Order forms are available in the church pamphlet racks. For more information call 724-929-4696.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN



Every other Sunday during the 11:00 a.m. Mass, **(Please note the new time which begins on September 13)** the children in the congregation are called forth to hear the Word of God in language they can understand. Here at Saint Sebastian Parish this program began in Fall of 1994. Back then LWC took place every Sunday and there were four different teams that shared the Word of God with our young parishioners. However with changes in the Mass schedule and volunteers retiring or moving on, the LWC has declined.

The purpose of Liturgy of the Word for Children (LWC) is to lead the children into a deeper relationship with God through reflection on the Word. It is part of the Eucharistic Liturgy that takes place in our Parish Center. A variety of ministries are necessary for this program: leader, reader, musician. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS PROGRAM TO CONTINUE TO BE A VIABLE PART OUR PARISH.**

If you feel called to help with this Ministry please call Mr. Scott Martin, Director of Faith Formation (724-930-8504).

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CATECHISTS NEEDED



Volunteers are needed to fill the role of Catechist for our Religious Education Program at several levels. If you would like to share your faith with the young people of our parish, please call Mr. Scott Martin at the Faith Formation Office 724-930-8504. Catechist training will be available through the Diocese of Greensburg at no cost to you. Only your time and faithfulness are needed to fill the role of Catechist!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Classes for public school students in **Grades 1 thru 5** will begin on Monday, September 21 from 6:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. in the school building. Registration forms are available in the church pamphlet racks. **Children in the program for the first time** need to include a copy of their Baptismal Certificate with their registration form. If your child was baptized at St. Sebastian, Epiphany of Our Lord, or the former Holy Spirit Parish, you need not bring a Baptism Certificate.

Pre-K and Kindergarten classes for children ages 4 thru 6 years of age begin on Sunday, September 27. The classes take place in the Kindergarten classroom during the 11 am Mass (*Notice time change*). Registration forms are available in the church pamphlet racks.



Students in Grade 6—12

in Public and Parochial School are invited to join **Y.E.S.** Youth of Epiphany and Sebastian Youth Group will have its opening meeting on Sunday, September 27 at Epiphany Chapel Hall, Monessen, from 4:00 til 6:00 p.m.

Registration forms have been mailed to students already in the program and those who now qualify for Y.E.S. Additional registration forms are available in the church pamphlet racks.

RCIA: WHAT IS IT?

The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults is a program for those who wish to become Catholic. It can also benefit those who wish to learn more about their Catholic Faith. Have you been baptized a Catholic, but never received Confirmation or First Eucharist? The RCIA program can help you to receive your Sacraments. Call our Director of Religious Education, Mr. Scott Martin, for information and help regarding the steps you need to take to participate in the RCIA program. Call 724-930-8504.

Quote for the Week: "God sends each person into this world with a special message to deliver, with a special song to sing for others, with a special act of love to bestow. No one else can speak your message, or sing your song, or offer your act of love.".....John Powell



Hello Everyone!

It's been a while since I communicated with you so I thought I would bring you up to date. You know, last year I joined our church choir. WOW!!! What an experience! I met so many wonderful people, I was able to sing at Mass on Sundays and Holidays, and guess what, all of this was a total blessing and pleasure! So, you ask, why am I writing? Well, I would like more people to have an opportunity for this amazing experience. There are soooooo many people in our parish who can sing. (You know who you are. I can see you smiling now!!) The choir practices once a week and sings for Sunday Liturgy. Really, that is not much time at all. I can tell that many of you reading my note have an interest. Now, take the next step! Either call Gene (he's the choir director, 724-489-9675) or simply come to a practice. (The first one is Wednesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm). C'mon, give it a try. It is something you will not regret! Talk to you soon.

Sincerely,
Joyne DeKwyre

BUSY MOM RETREAT

St. Emma Retreat House announces a special overnight retreat for Busy Moms, August 28-29 with Reverend Angelus Shaughnessy OFM Cap. The theme for the retreat is *Behold the Handmaid of the Lord: The Vocation of Motherhood*.

The vocation of motherhood is awesome—and time consuming! With that in mind, this overnight retreat was planned for mothers of young children knowing that a weekend is impossible, but an overnight is do-able!

The retreat opens with dinner at 6:00 pm on Friday with Mass at 8:00 pm (but you are welcome to come any time after 2:00 pm). The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at various times throughout the retreat. Saturday's schedule includes a conference and Holy Hour as well as time for sharing and quiet time just for you. We invite you to have your families join you for the 4:00 pm anticipated Sunday Mass AND to stay on for pizza, pop and ice cream.

For reservations, or additional information please call 724-834-3060 Ext. 139 or visit their website:

www.stemma.org.

ROSARY RALLY: October 4 at 3:00 pm at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral with Bishop Brandt presiding and preaching. All are invited to participate in the procession carrying banners as rosary leaders, ushers and greeters. Please call MSGR. ED MCCULLOUGH AT emccullo@dioceseofgreensburg.org or 724-2774236.

The Catholic Daughters, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, Serra Club, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, the Catholic War Veterans, and Catholic War Veterans Auxiliary, the Legion of Mary, the Pro-Life Committee all have long been associated with the Rosary Rally and are asked to participate in uniform again this year.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE AND TO EMITTSBURG

His Excellency, Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt will lead the Diocese in Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC in early November. All parishes and organizations are welcome to participate. The day at the Shrine begins approximately 11:30 am. Please Note: The pilgrimage can be for one or two days. The first day will be celebrated at the Sisters of Charity, Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The Sisters of Charity are celebrating their 200th Anniversary and this pilgrimage will be a tribute to them and the veneration of their founder, Elizabeth Ann Seton. There will be overnight accommodations. The second day of the pilgrimage will take place at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. More information will be available in future bulletins.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD

DISPLAY St. Edward Parish in Herminie invites you to expand your knowledge of the Eucharist and the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Eucharist by viewing the display of the Vatican Exhibition of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World. You can visit the display in their church hall on Friday, August 28 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., on Saturday, August 29 from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 30 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For more information call St. Edward Parish at 724-446-5197.

From the kindness of your heart, please remember Saint Sebastian Parish in your will.