

SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

NOVEMBER 22—SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

4:30 pm **Sat. Choir** For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
 9:00 am Anthony Kosykoski & M/M Joseph Pepera—Family
 11:00 am (Birth) Eleanor Mancuso—Mathilda Gyanovich
 Liturgy of the Word for Children

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23—POPE ST. CLEMENT I

8:00 am (Anniv) Bertha Feccsen—Daughter, Terri & Joe
 After Mass: Miraculous Medal Novena & Rosary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24—ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC & Companions

No Morning Mass Today

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25—ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

9:30 am (Birth) Delores Harger—Frank & Eleanor Pidanich

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26—THANKSGIVING DAY

9:00 am (Anniv) Jay Stark—Mike Mendicino & Family

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

No Morning Mass Today

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

11:30 am Sacrament of Penance
 2:00 pm *Sacrament of Matrimony*
Amber Lyn Dongilli and John Anthony Gido

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:30 pm (Birth) Dennis Zucconi—Wife, Joan & Family

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9:00 am *Choir* Deceased Members—Holy Name Society
 11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

LITURGICAL MINISTERS—SERVERS & MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Weekdays, Nov. 23, 27 8:00 am S. Necciai—M. Fabean
 Wednesday, Nov. 25 9:30 am *School Mass*
 Thursday, Nov. 26 9:00 am *L. Kutcy—Volunteer Needed*
(MC) B. Antal
 Saturday, Nov. 28 4:30 pm A. Kutcy—M. Lowe
(MC) B. Antal
 Sunday, Nov. 29 9:00 am L. Galiszewski—R. Parzynski
(MC) T. McCullough
 11:00 am J. Hartman—R.J. Kozura
(MC) J. Hartman

LECTORS COORDINATOR MINISTERS

Thursday, Nov. 26—Thanksgiving Day
 9:00 J. Barnot Volunteer Needed M. Strickland—D. Koury

Saturday, Nov. 28
 4:30 M. Paterson S. Waldbaum M.A. Cialone—M. Moody

Sunday, Nov. 29
 9:00 B. Moskovitz M. Nogy C. Peterson—J. Krosoff

11:00 L. Wilson T. Betters D. Cooper—J. Cannizzaro

The Thanksgiving collection is for the needy of our Parish and Community.

Second Collection this Weekend is the CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT and CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES. **Next weekend** is for the CATHOLIC ACCENT, our diocesan newspaper.

ALTAR FLOWERS this weekend are given to the glory of God and in memory of MARY A. BORRELLO by Mary Ann & Albert Cialone and in memory of BUTCH FORBECK by Georgia Rush.

SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS Please remember in your prayers those who died last week: KAREN GALENSKY, of Belle Vernon. We extend our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.

PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Monday - Rel. Ed. Class, Gr. 1-5, School Bldg., 6:15 pm
 - Valley of Hope, Church/Hall, 8:00 pm
 Wednesday - Parish Office & School close at Noon. They will reopen Tuesday, December 1, as usual.
 Thursday - Turkey Dinner, Parish Hall, 11:30 a.m.

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST last Sunday, SARA CATHERINE WINTERHALTER, daughter of Erik and Christine (Pesi) Winterhalter. We welcome Sara into the Church. God bless her parents and family.

Stewardship of Treasure

	Sunday Stewardship	Needed for Budget	Over/Under + / -
Nov. 14/15	\$7,818.91	\$9,800.00	-\$1,981.09
Fiscal Year to Date	\$174,307.34	\$196,000.00	-\$21,692.

Today's Challenge, Tomorrows Hope		
Goal: \$720,000.00		
	This Week	To Date
No. Families	26	99
Pledged	\$ 39,915.00	\$413,115.00
Paid	\$ 10,015.00	\$ 36,910.00

Children's Stewardship Corner

Our children share their God-given talents of: baseball, golfing, swimming, football, soccer, music, violin, piano, dance, cheerleading and karate. God bless Gavin Rabe, Daniel Jacob Rabe, Brock McCulloch, Shannon McCulloch, Abbey Sheehan-Hanula, Morgan Sheehan-Hanula, Sam Kovell, Kyle D'Alessio, Gianna Lorenzo, Jamie Satryan, and Jacob Taylor for sharing their gifts.



SUNDAY COUNTERS:

Nov. 22—D. Lisovich, S. & B. Monro, M. & D. Free
 Nov. 29—T. Rodriguez, L. Toth, S. Schussler, S. Wawro, S. Mavrakis

ANGEL CHRISTMAS TREE

The Saint Sebastian Conference of the St. Vincent dePaul Society will again sponsor the Angel Tree Program. Please fill out a form that is in the pamphlet racks. We are looking for people who are in need or who are alone and may not receive a present. **Return this form no later than today, Sunday, November 22.** The Angel Tree will be placed in the vestibule of the Church with the Angel Tags in place.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE BY...



The YOUTH GROUP will sponsor the food drive this weekend, November 21/22, and next weekend, November 28/29. Please bring food items, cleaning products and/or paper products to the church entrances, or you may bring them to the Parish Office during regular office hours. If you or someone you know in our parish or community needs help of any kind, please contact the Parish Office. All calls are kept confidential.

THANKSGIVING DAY FRIENDSHIP DINNER

NOVEMBER 26, 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.



The Belle Vernon Area Ministerium in conjunction with the St. Sebastian Conference of the St. Vincent dePaul Society will sponsor a turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Dinner is open to the community. There is no charge for this dinner.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help serve the Thanksgiving Day Friendship Dinner. Desserts are needed such as: pumpkin or apple pies, carrot cakes, whatever is your specialty. If interested in dining with us and/or helping, please fill out the form below.

REGISTRATION/VOLUNTEER FORM

I WILL BE ATTENDING THE THANKSGIVING DINNER:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

TRANSPORTATION NEEDED: YES _____ NO _____

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP SERVE THE DINNER:

NAME _____

PHONE _____

I WOULD LIKE TO BRING A DESSERT FOR THE DINNER:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES



At a recent Regional Council Meeting it was decided that during Advent three parishes will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas. The five parishes of Region 8 will rotate Penance Services for the different seasons. The following is the schedule for our Regional Advent Penance Services:

Wednesday, December 9—7:00 p.m.
Holy Family Church, West Newton

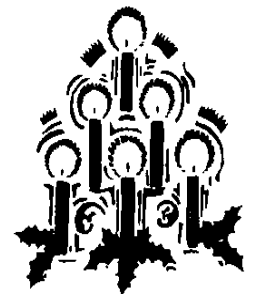
Thursday, December 10—7:00 p.m.
Saint Sebastian Church, Belle Vernon

Thursday, December 17—7:00 p.m.
Saint John the Baptist Church, Perryopolis

Please avail yourself to the Penance Service that accommodates your schedule.

Service of Lessons and Carols

On Sunday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m., the Belle Vernon Ministerium Choir will celebrate the Service of Lessons and Carols here at our church. The Service, which began in 1918, is a Service of nine Lessons (readings) from Scripture, followed by the singing of Christmas Carols after each Lesson. It is a Service filled with joy! Both the Lessons and the Carols reflect the love, peace, and happiness of the Christmas season!



The Ministerium Choir is composed of singers from a multitude of churches, coming together to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus Christ. Traditional hymns, as well as anthems designed solely for choir, will be sung. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this festive service.

AT HOME WITH THE WORD:

Understanding the Sunday Readings

Each year on the First Sunday of Advent we move to a new cycle of Readings at Mass. On Sunday, November 29, 2009, we begin Cycle C. **AT HOME WITH THE WORD** is a Book that invites you to be comfortable with and to understand God's Word, to prepare yourself for Sunday Mass during the week. The books begin Sunday, November 29, 2009 through the Solemnity of Christ the King, November 21, 2010. The books, along with envelopes for payment, are available at the entrances of the Church. The cost is \$7.00 per book. Place the envelope with payment for the book in the collection basket.



ADVENT WREATHS—Members of our Youth Group have made sturdy, wooden based ADVENT WREATHS which they are offering for sale. This month one of these wreaths will be on display in the Church vestibule and side exits along with order forms. The cost is \$12 per Wreath and forms may be turned in at the Parish Center. Wreaths will be available for pick up at the Parish Office during regular office hours. Even if you already have an Advent Wreath, adding an additional Wreath to your home will always be a blessing.



LITTLE BLUE BOOK An Advent Booklet This booklet can be used for reflection and prayer for each day of Advent. We are asking \$1.00 donation for each booklet. Please place your donation in the basket provided or in the drop box in the Parish Center breezeway.

MUSIC TO CELEBRATE "One More Day"

St. Sebastian parishioner Greg Capozzi will be giving a concert featuring his new CD "One More Day."

Event: CD Release Concert.
Where: The River House Cafe, 506 McKean Ave, Charleroi
When: Saturday, Nov 28, 2009, 8:30PM to 12 AM
Admission: \$10/includes FREE copy "One More Day"
Contact: For tickets/info call 724-930-9330

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

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN AND AGING

Please welcome this weekend Rev. G. William Fischer, O.S.F.S., who will speak to you about the work being done by the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, and how this provides a trustworthy way to actively participate in the social outreach of the Catholic Church and answer the Gospel call to serve the poor. CFCA's unique sponsorship program matches a child, youth or aging person overseas with a sponsor in the U.S. For about a dollar a day, a sponsor helps to provide much-needed nourishing food, medical and dental care, the chance for a child to go to school, livelihood programs for families and much more! All of these efforts are directed at affirming the dignity of every person in their local community.

PREPARING THE WAY FOR CHRIST The Office for Clergy Vocations of the Diocese of Greensburg will be offering an Advent vocation awareness program entitled "Preparing the Way for Christ", an Advent evening of discernment on Thursday, December 10 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Bishop William G. Connare Center in Greensburg. The evening is open to any single Catholic male between the age of 14 and 40. The evening will include prayer, presentations, open discussions and a question-and-answer session. It will begin with dinner and conclude with evening prayer. There is no charge for this event. Reservations may be made through Monday, December 7 by contacting Father Larry J. Kulick at the Office for Clergy Vocation: 724-837-0901, ext. 332 or at lkulick@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

St. Sebastian Regional School Fundraiser

St. Sebastian Regional School is currently selling tickets for a 2010 Ford Edge AWD-SE (purchased from C. Harper Auto Group). The drawing is Friday, January 29, 2010. In addition, \$1,000 will be given away on January 9, 16, 23, and 30. All the prizes will play the 4-digit number of the 7:00 pm PA Lottery. The first number drawn is official. Not valid for bonus drawing. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Each ticket has two numbers. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please contact Amy Zakrzewski at 724-929-5143 or by email: amyscrip@comcast.net



Saint Sebastian Regional School will close Wednesday, November 25 at Noon. School will reopen on Tuesday, December 1 at 8:30 a.m.



SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Pope Pius XI established this feast in 1925. The rise of totalitarianism in the world at that time must have made it seem that apocalyptic forces had been unleashed on the world. Communism reigned in Russia, Fascism in Italy, the bloodshed of civil war flowed in many places, and from every quarter came foreboding of new dictatorships in Germany and elsewhere. So the pope proclaimed: *Pax Christi in regno Christi*: "The peace of Christ in the reign of Christ."

Over eighty years later is the world very different? Some totalitarian walls have crumbled, but new forces of oppression have rushed in, enslaving bodies and minds in our world, not excluding the bondage of consumerism at home and abroad. Terrorism brings violence and death, as we have so tragically witnessed since 9/11/2001 and the resulting war that continues in Iraq.

Jesus Christ is the answer, our salvation and hope for a world of peace.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH especially

Leda Arrigoni, Paula Baker, Sister Mary Vera Bartley, Joseph Beresik, Donna Biagini, Greg Brooks, Peter Carrozza, Jenna Christner, Irene Colborn, Alex Danyi, Michael DeFrancisco, Edward Drotos, Ernest Ehlers, Darlene Engle, Joan Eversburg, Michael Fenyar, Thomas W. Galley, Jr., Madison Marie Gardner, Mary Gira, Rudy Halgas, Betty Jean Henderson, Janice Hill, Ann Husovitz, Philomena Iacovangelo, Marie Koliscak, Barbara Kubik, Debbie Kurtis, Ann Krosoff, Stanley Lubinski, Fr. Leonard McAlpin, Kathleen McCullough, Mike Mendicino, Janet Misenko, William Molnar, Sr., Mary B. Nagy, Joseph Naylor, Karen O'Neil, Joanne Pavalonis, Stella Povlich, George Rue, Mary Ann Rocco, Mathew Russell, Joylyn Sabolek, Barbara Sedlak, Steve Semancik, Loretta Senich, Guido Simboli, Joseph Smith, Darla Staff, Frank Stancato, Chuckie Stringhill, Clara Tonarelli, 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.

LET US GIVE THANKS

Thanksgiving Day, more than any other national holiday, touches our Christian faith. It expresses a very deep Christian belief: the need to be thankful. Being thankful is of the utmost importance, if we are to recognize who we are in the eyes of our Creator, and therefore what we should be for each other. It is not primarily the things we possess, the food on our tables, the natural beauty and riches of these United States, or even the freedom we enjoy in our society that gives us reason to be thankful, though thankful we are. Above all else it is the gift of what we are, made in the image of God, members of the Body of Christ, creatures capable of loving and being loved. To be thankful is to know this, and know it well. And so if we are blessed with material goods, to be thankful means to share with those in our own Nation and the Third World, members also of God's family, who barely, or even not at all, sustain a decent life.



Our parish family will gather to give thanks in the celebration of MASS AT 9:00 AM this Thanksgiving Day. The Thanksgiving Collection will be for those in need in our Parish and Community. Our tradition of blessing bread and wine will continue at this Mass. Bring the bread and wine you will have for Thanksgiving dinner to be blessed at the end of Mass. Then at home the family can share it with each other, a symbol of Christ sharing His love with us in the Eucharist and our desire to respond to Him.

Celebrate Thanksgiving.

Bring the family to our Parish Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 26.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE The Belle Vernon Ministerium is hosting a Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 25 at the Church of the Nazarene, Reed Ave., Belle Vernon, at 7:00 p.m. The St. Sebastian Choir will be singing at this celebration.

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.