

# SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

**FEBRUARY 14—SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

- 4:30 pm **Sat.** For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
- 9:00 am Deceased of the Delongchamp & Russell Families—Terry & Debra Russell
- 11:00 am Thomas & Virginia Abbott—Daughter, Carole Wassilchalk & Family  
Liturgy of the Word for Children

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

*No Morning Mass Today*

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

*No Morning Mass Today*

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17—ASH WEDNESDAY**

- 8:00 am (Birth) Charlotte Malys—George & Loretta Aul
- 9:30 am *School Mass* Frank Plevel—Rick, Cheryl & Garrett McLaughlin
- 4:00 pm *Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes*
- 7:00 pm James L. Fordanich—Michael J. Hazy

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

- 8:00 am (Anniv) Anthony Semancik, Sr.—Louis Turcheck

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

- 8:00 am Ann Bedner & Steven & Angela Teringo—Connie Puglia
- 2:15 pm Stations of the Cross for Children
- 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

- 11:30 am Sacrament of Penance

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

- 4:30 pm (Birth) James Guerra—Alberta Fields

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

- 9:00 am Deceased of Niehaus & Mavrakis Families—Evangeline Niehaus
- 11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish Rite of Sending
- 3:00 pm Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg

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

- Weekdays, Feb. 17,18,19 8:00 am S. Necciai—M. Fabean
- Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17 9:30 am *School Mass*
- 7:00 pm *D. & J. Columbus*
- Saturday, Feb. 20 4:30 pm A. Kutcy—M. Fabean (MC) M. Couser
- Sunday, Feb. 21 9:00 am E. Claybaugh—M. Bury (MC) D. Kossol
- 11:00 am J. & S. Pokol (MC) K. Pokol

**LECTORS**

**COORDINATOR**

**MINISTERS**

- Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17**
- 8:00 D. Koury Volunteer Needed S. Necciai—M. Fabean
  - 9:30 M. Pesi S. Zolock T. Plevel, K. Warfield, J. Moody  
J. Cannizzaro, M. Strickland, S. Zolock
  - 4:00 B. Anderson E. Studnicki, E. Niehaus, M. Moody
  - 7:00 C. Gorski S. Waldbaum J. Morris
- 3 Volunteers Needed

**Saturday, Feb. 20**

- 4:30 M. Patterson S. Rygiel S. Battaglia, R. Couser, C. Farrier  
T. Rodriguez, J. Stringhill, K. Rygiel

**Sunday, Feb. 21**

- 9:00 K. McLaughlin D. Seman S. Raymond, D. Stasko, M. Nogy  
D. Atkinson, J. Krosoff, P. Morigi
- 11:00 C. Rhodes Volunteer D. Cooper, T. Betters, E. Pokol  
M. Druciak, G. Klamerus, C. Zoppetti

**ALTAR FLOWERS** this weekend are given to the glory of God and in memory of THOMAS & VIRGINIA ABBOTT, by their daughter, Carole Wassilchalk & Family and in memory of DENNIS ZUCCONI by his wife, Joan & Family.

**SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS** Please remember in your prayers those who died last week: MARY ADAMS, our parishioner; REV. RICHARD MACKIEWICZ, former Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish; MARY MAZANET, former parishioner; and WILLIAM E. MURPHY SR. of Belle Vernon. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

- Monday - No Religious Ed classes
- Valley of Hope, Church/Hall, 7:30 pm
- Tuesday - Rotary Pancake & Sausage Dinner, Parish Hall, 11:30 am
- Wednesday - RCIA, Parish Center, 7:00 pm
- Thursday - Knights of Columbus Meeting, Parish Hall, 7:00 pm
- Saturday - Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, Parish Hall, 8:00 am
- Sunday - PreK/Kindergarten, Religious Ed., School Kindergarten Classroom, 11:00 am
- RCIA Candidates/Catechumens Luncheon following 11:00 am Mass, Parish Center

*Stewardship of Treasure*

	Sunday Stewardship	Needed for Budget	Over/Under + / -
<b>Feb. 6/7</b>	\$4,231.00	\$9,800.00	-\$5,569.00
<b>Fiscal Year to Date</b>	\$273,696.47	\$313,600.00	-\$39,903.53

Church of Eastern Europe—\$218.00

**Today's Challenge, Tomorrows Hope**

Goal: \$720,000.00

	This Week	To Date
No. Families	18	348
Pledged	\$ 11,310.00	\$685,285.00
Paid	\$ 795.00	\$ 70,100.00

**Second Collection this Weekend** is the monthly UTILITIES & MAINTENANCE collection. **Next weekend** is the diocesan collection for HOME MISSIONS.

**SUNDAY COUTNERS**

**Feb. 14**—T. Rodriguez, J. & B. Picchiarini, S. Schussler, R. Triggiani

**Feb. 21**—C. Shernisky, D. & M. Free, S. & B. Monro

**SAINT SEBASTIAN WEB SITE**

Don't forget to check our web site for the latest information, forms and pictures of parish events. The Web address is:

<http://www.saintsebastianchurch.org>

## ASH WEDNESDAY

The ancient ritual of imposing ashes is a reminder of our sinfulness, our limitations and weaknesses, our mortality, but also it is one of hope. “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel,” says the minister as the ashes are imposed. The message is clear: we are sinners but we are not lost; we are loved by the Father and therefore change is possible. **Masses** for the day will be at 8:00 am, 9:30 am with school children in attendance, and 7:00 pm, with imposition of ashes during the Mass. A Liturgy of the Word with imposition of ashes will take place at 4 pm.



**RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION** At the 11:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, February 21, we celebrate the Rite of Sending for our Catechumens. Then at 3:00 pm at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, all candidates and catechumens will gather from across the diocese to celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion. **Our Catechumens celebrating the Rite of Election are CHARLES R. AXTON, JR. and JACQUELINE S. DILEGGE; they will be among the elect.** (see article on the RITE OF ELECTION in the next column). Let us pray for these our elect and the elect and candidates from all parishes of our Diocese in this Lenten Season.

**SECOND GRADE STUDENTS & PARENTS** The Intergenerational Workshop for First Eucharist will take place on Saturday, February 27. For your convenience the Workshop will be held twice: first at Epiphany of Our Lord Chapel Hall in Monessen, from 10:00 a.m. until 12-Noon and repeated at St. Sebastian Parish Hall from 2:00—4:00 p.m. All 2nd grade students and their parents should attend this workshop. (St. Sebastian parents should turn in the Mass date & time form for their child’s Sacraments).

**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.

## RITE OF ELECTION

How strange this title sounds to us! While many of us would probably agree that our national, state and local elections are rituals of a special breed, we hardly expect to find a “rite of election” in church. But long before any of our ancestors thought of electing their leaders, God was electing a people, selecting Israel, a rag-tag clan in a tiny corner of the earth, to be special, holy, a chosen people. God did not choose them because they were noteworthy in any way; they were not powerful, strong or particularly clever. But once they were chosen, they were God’s forever. Even when they strayed, looking to other gods for hope or help, God clung to them fiercely, calling them back again and again when anyone else would have gladly let them go.

It is the same with us. God chooses us, elects us, in Christ, to be a holy people, to be a church, to be signs of the reign of God on earth. The catechumens who have been preparing for baptism and those who have been working with them for months and years believe that God has chosen them to be one of us, the baptized. At the Rite of Election, their godparents, sponsors, catechists, pastors and friends will testify before the bishop that God has chosen these people. They will offer the evidence of their lives among us, hearing and following God’s word, praying with God’s people and taking part in the work and the communal life of God’s church. After listening to this testimony, the bishop will declare that they are elected for baptism, chosen to be God’s own in Christ Jesus—not because they earned it, but because God wants it. And that is election by a landslide.

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**TIME TO START GETTING  
READY FOR OUR  
4th ANNUAL  
WINTER INDOOR  
YARD SALE  
SAINT SEBASTIAN  
PARISH HALL  
Saturday March 6, 2010  
8:00 am—2:30 pm**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** will meet this Thursday, February 18 in the Parish Hall at 7:00 p.m. All interested men are most welcome to attend.

**HOME MISSIONS OF THE AMERICAS** This collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend. The purpose is to assist the apostolate among the Blacks, Native Americans and Hispanics of our country and of Latin America. Our Sister-Diocese of Sicuani, Peru also benefits from this appeal. The American Board of Catholic Missions will also share in the benefits. Your donation to the Missions of the Americas Appeal on the First Sunday of Lent, can be an expression of your faith this holy season of Lent.

*PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK OF OUR PARISH especially*  
Leda Arrigoni, Paula Baker, Sister Mary Vera Bartley, Michael Bashada, Joseph Beresik, Donna Biagini, Greg Brooks, Peter Carrozza, Jenna Christner, Irene Colborn, Alex Danyi, Ann Dorcan, Ernest Ehlers, Darlene Engle, Joan Eversburg, Michael Fenyar, Thomas W. Galley, Jr., Madison Marie Gardner, Rudy Halgas, Betty Jean Henderson, Janice Hill, Ann Husovitz, Philomena Iacovangelo, Marie Koliscak, Barbara Kubik, Debbie Kurtis, Ann Krossoff, Stanley Lubinski, Kenneth Mathianas, Fr. Leonard McAlpin, Kathleen McCullough, William Molnar, Sr., Mary B. Nagy, Chris Naylor, 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, Laverne Stark, Frank Stancato, Chuckie Stringhill, Donna Sweitzer, Clara Tonarelli, Jim Webb.  
Lord, we ask that you bless your friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**YOUTH GROUP**—Special thanks to all those Y.E.S. members who braved the cold & snow last weekend to collect for the needy in Haiti. A total of \$142.00 was collected and will be sent to Father Gilbert Exumé, whose family still live in Haiti. Thank you one and all for donating and collecting for this very special situation.

**FISH FRY**—Epiphany of our Lord Parish will once again hold their Annual Fish Fry the first being on Ash Wednesday and continuing every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** The American Legion Post 659, Broad Ave. is holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, February 28 from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. For more information call 724-350-1782.



**Will you be doing some  
spring cleaning soon?  
Finding things you just don't  
want anymore?  
Don't have anyplace to store  
your stuff until  
Yard Sale weather arrives?**

**Then come to St. Sebastian Parish Hall and  
set up a table!**

**Cost to rent a table for Saturday is \$15.00  
(second table is an additional \$10.00).**

**Make a few extra dollars;  
sell that stuff that's cluttering your living  
space.**

**Have you made a collection of Craft Items  
you want to sell?  
Bring them to our Winter Indoor Yard Sale  
and  
sell what you've made.**

**Refreshments will be available.**

**For more information, or to rent a table,  
call Darleen Koury at 724-929-9300 or  
724-930-8504 to leave a message.**

**Please tell your friends and spread the word,  
try out**

**ST. SEBASTIAN'S  
WINTER-INDOOR-YARD-SALE  
HAPPENING ON MARCH 6, 2010.**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
★ **Cookbook Enthusiasts** ★  
★ Our parish cookbook has arrived. Easter, ★  
★ Mother's Day, June Weddings—just a few of the ★  
★ special occasions you can give the gift of our ★  
★ Saint Sebastian Cookbook, or for your very own ★  
★ collection. Cookbooks are available at the Parish ★  
★ Office. The cost is \$10.00 per book. ★  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**FAST/ABSTINENCE:** Days of Abstinence-Ash Wednesday & Fridays in Lent. All persons 14 years and older are not to eat meat on these days. Days of Fast-Ash Wednesday & Good Friday. All between the ages of 18-59 are to eat only one full meal and not eat between meals.

**ALLELUIA, FAREWELL!** One of the longest and oldest traditions of Lent in our liturgy is to fast from the "Alleluia." You might say we bury "Alleluia" for the 40 days of Lent and resurrect it on Easter to celebrate the risen Lord. We do not sing Alleluia in any of our hymns or at any other time in our liturgies during Lent. We replace the Alleluia with the words "Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory."

### 2010 DAY by DAY LENTEN BOOKLETS

The LITTLE BLACK BOOK for adults and the LITTLE PURPLE BOOK for young people will again be offered this year. These Lenten booklets, with prayers and reflections for this Lenten season, are available for \$1.00 each at the entrances to the Church. Please place your offering in the envelope provided. Envelopes may be placed in the collection basket or brought to the Parish Office or night deposit box.

**LENTEN FOLDER** For your convenience the Lenten Folder is now designed to hold quarters or dollar bills. The Lenten Self-Denial Folders have been mailed to all parishioners. During Lent each of us is asked to put 50 cents or a dollar, daily, or weekly, whenever you can, in the slots provided as a symbol of penance and almsgiving, a traditional Lenten practice. You may place your folder in the collection basket at the end of Lent.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND** Next Sunday, February 21, please pick up blessed ashes and prayers in the priest's sacristy for distribution to those you visit.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Lent is the time of preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil and during the Easter Season. **The Sacrament of Baptism is not solemnly celebrated in our Parish during Lent.** If you would like to have your child baptized after Lent and have attended the class, please call the Faith Formation Office at 724-930-8504. The next Baptism Preparation session is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11 at the Epiphany of Our Lord Chapel Hall at 7:00 pm.

**PARKING FOR DEVOTIONS** If you are attending Lenten devotions held during the afternoon and evening hours, **we ask you refrain from using the parking lots of our neighbors.** Parking spaces across from the Parish on Broad Avenue are for the patients attending physical therapy and patrons of local businesses. We have plenty of parking available in the 3 lots adjacent to Henry Street. Please be considerate of our neighbors and those who patronize their establishments.

**48th ANNUAL PANCAKE FESTIVAL**  
**Pancakes (all you can eat)**  
**and Sausage Luncheon**  
**Sponsored by the Belle Vernon Rotary**  
**on Tuesday, February 16 from**  
**11:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.**  
**in our Parish Hall**  
**Tickets may be purchased from Rotary**  
**members or at the door.**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations will be prayed on Mondays and Fridays during Lent. All are invited to attend these services. Please check the bulletin for changes in the schedule. If there is no school, the children's Stations of the Cross will be cancelled. The schedule is as follows:

**Beginning This Friday, February 19, 2:15 P.M.**  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN**

**This Friday, February 19, 7:00 P.M.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Followed by**

**BENEDICTION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**Beginning Monday, February 22, 6:30 P.M.**  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN**

### LENTEN EVENING PRAYER

Beginning next Wednesday, February 24, at 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer will be prayed in Church, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Evening Prayer is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the Church. It is prayed at various hours of the day by priests, deacons and men and women in many religious communities. Its origins were many centuries ago in monasteries and convents, and consists of public recitation of psalms of the Old Testament, scripture readings and prayers. There will be a Prayer Basket for your special intentions. If you are in need of prayer, know someone who is, or if you have a special intention, simply write the person's name or the intention on a piece of paper and place it in the Prayer Basket. We will place these names and intentions before the altar and make intercession for them each Wednesday throughout the season of Lent. All are invited to join in this "sanctification" of the hours of our daily lives during these weeks of Lent.

**LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA**—Available this Lent are inspirational CD's that will enrich and strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ and understanding of your Catholic Faith. There are a variety of CD's by speakers such as: Scott Hahn, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Captain Guy Gruters, Chris & Linda Padgett. The cost of the CD's on display is \$3.00 each. Additional CD's available by becoming a member of the Catholic CD of the Month Club.

