



St. Sebastian Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania
Charitable
Trust

A Parish of the
Diocese of
Greensburg

Twentieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 18, 2019



"I came to
bring fire to
the world."
- Luke 12:49-53 -

801 Broad Avenue · ~ · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Parish Staff

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Parish Telephone Numbers:

Parish Center/Office: 724-929-9300
Parish Fax: 724-930-7611
Faith Formation Office 724-929-9300
Emergency Number for a Sick Call:
724-684-7661

Parish Website: www.saintsebastianchurch.org

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Mon.—Fri. 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday 3:00—4:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 12:30-1:00 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Saint Sebastian Regional School

Mrs. Carol Aiello Principal
caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org
Mrs. Tiffany Miller School Business Manager
tmiller@sssbv.org
School Telephone 724-929-5143
School Fax 724-929-3038
Website www.sssbv.org

Bulletin Deadline: 9:00 a.m. on Monday. Please
print or type all announcements.

Ministry to the Homebound: For the Sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick, call the Faith Formation Office.. Extraordinary Ministers are available for Communion to the Homebound on Sundays.

Catholic Charities: Counseling is available through the Diocesan Catholic Charities Office. Call 724-929-4699.

Religious Education/Formation: Please call the Faith Formation Office at 724-929-9300.

(RCIA) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, please call the Faith Formation Office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance. Couples must participate in Marriage Preparation sessions.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants: Please call the Faith Formation Office to schedule Baptism and to register for the Baptism Preparation session held at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Parents must attend prior to their child's Baptism.

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, St. Sebastian.



Making Pierogi's and other Festival Foods

We will be doing 2 festival food prep days this week. The dates are Monday and Tuesday **August 19th and 20th** from 10:00 am-2:00 pm in the parish hall kitchen. Various festival food items will be made such pierogi, sauce, meatballs and stuffed shells. We are in need of many hands to come out for a fun afternoon of prepping some of these homemade recipes. All ages are welcome to join in. Don't know much about cooking? Don't worry! We will be glad to teach you! Bring your potato peeler if you have one. Also, on Saturday, **August 31**, will be making cabbage rolls from 2—5 pm in the Parish Hall kitchen. Come on down & help!!

Second Collection

Next Sunday is for our diocesan Catholic Schools and the The Catholic University.

Position Available—Director of Music Ministries

at the Church of St. Anne in Ros-traver Township. Applicants will have a thorough understanding of Roman Catholic liturgy, proficient organ and keyboard skills and shall be responsible for the effective planning and execution of music within the liturgical celebrations of the Parish. Other responsibilities include playing three Masses on a weekend, Masses for Holy Days, Weddings, Funerals and Special Liturgies on the Petty Madden pipe organ and directing and playing for choir rehearsals, in addition to forming a youth Christmas choir. Scheduling and working with cantors, producing a weekly cantor notebook and providing a quarterly hymn schedule that coincides with liturgies are requirements. This position provides allowance for NPM and AGO dues and the NPM Annual Convention. Knowledge of instruments and sound equipment is a plus. Please contact Father David Nazimek, Pastor, at 724-872-3555, for more information.



Parish Picnic

Our Parish Picnic is scheduled for August 25 which is only two weeks away. I am sorry to say that I think we will have to cancel the picnic for this year. We had nobody offer to chair the picnic this year, or even call to help. At this point there really isn't enough time to get everything together. I feel bad that I didn't start encouraging this a lot sooner and for that I truly am sorry.

Parish Census

When we had our parish assembly we spoke of doing a census of our parish to get an accurate count of our parishioners. We will be starting this in September. We will begin with the people who come to church, there will be forms in the pews to take home and fill out and return to the church. Once we do this, then we will make visits to those who haven't returned their census. The forms are simple and will only take a few minutes to complete. They will be in the church the first week of September. We will have a meeting for everyone who might want to help with the home visitations to complete the remaining census forms.



Stewardship of Treasure

August 11, 2019

Regular Offertory:	\$ 4,810.25	(283 envelopes out of 1299 families)
Youth:	\$ 8.00	
Loose:	\$ 964.28	
Total Offertory:	\$ 5,782.53	
Amount budgeted for weekly regular offertory		\$7,986.31
Over/(under) budget:		\$(3,176.06)
Average adult donation this weekend	\$10.00 per envelope	
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	1,288.00
Votive Candles:	\$	238.00
Capital Project/Roof Fund:	\$	168.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	113.00
Assumption:	\$	32.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	5.00
Total August 10/11 collection:		<u>\$ 7,626.53</u>

Sacramental Prep / Faith Formation

It is hard to believe that school will be starting in just a couple weeks. Summer always seems to go by so quickly, and we don't appreciate these summer days until January when we long for the warmth. Regardless of how fast these months have gone, we turn our thoughts to the beginning of another school year.

Sharing our faith and passing it on to our children is one of the greatest responsibilities a parent has. When we have our children baptized we make that promise to do all in our power to see that our children are raised in the faith. This responsibility is not only one for parents but it is one for the church as well. We must provide an environment where your child can learn about the church they profess to belong to.

As we assume these responsibilities, we look to the starting of this year's formation programming. We have registration forms in the church so that you can get your children registered. We are also looking for people to volunteer their services to the program this year. If you think you might be interested in helping with our formation program, please call the office and we can talk about it. There are many ways that you can help. The more people involved the more we will be able to do with the program.

Another aspect of our Formation programming is the area that deals with Sacramental Prep. If your child is in **the second grade and has completed one year of Formation**, then they are eligible to receive the sacraments of First Eucharist and First Penance. Please call the office and let us know if your child is eligible. There will be more information on our Formation Programming in the coming weeks.

Our faith formation program needs volunteers!

Volunteers are needed as **catechists, particularly for 2nd and 6th grades**, substitute teachers, aides, and hall monitors. All clearances are necessary as these people regularly work with children. Please call the Faith Formation Office to volunteer or with any questions you may have (724-929-9300).



Liturgies of the Week

August 17—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Jeffrey Francis Sefchok—Mom & Brothers

August 18—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Lee Vincent Yowonske—Jerry & Carol Claybaugh

11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

Monday, August 19—St. John Eudes

8:00 am (MM) Louis Usher—George Cowan & Family

Tuesday, August 20—St. Bernard

8:00 am (Date of Birth) John J. Ross—Kathy Savarino

Wednesday, August 21—Pope St. Pius X

8:00 am Darlene Engel—Donna Bitonte

Thursday, August 22—Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Raymond & Fosca Frederick & John Jarvis—Mark, Karen & Sons

Friday, August 23—St. Rose of Lima

8:00 am Chad Angelo—Grandmother, Mary Hufford

Saturday, August 24

3:00 pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Saturday, August 24—Vigil

4:30 pm Ray & Fosca Frederick & John Jarvis—Mark & Karen Frederick & Sons

August 25—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Catherine Mendicino—Steve & Regina Angelo

11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

Liturgical Ministers—Servers

Saturday, Aug. 24 4:30 pm A. Peden, S. Molesky

Sunday, Aug. 25 9:00 am Volunteers Needed

11:00 am E. & L. Baron

Lectors Lit. Coordinators Ministers

Saturday, Aug. 24

4:30 S. Wawro C. Farrier S. Zolock, L. Aul, M. Grados
C. Farrier

Sunday, Aug. 25

9:00 B. Moskovitz B. Mallonee L. Turcheck, D. Seman
B.A. Linskens, B. Mallonee

11:00 L. Nallo H. Baron G. Rush, R. & S. Mesick
H. Baron

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: **Iona Misher and Donna Ambrose**. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

Baptism Congratulations

Austin Jeffrey Ambrose was baptized in Christ last weekend. We welcome Austin into the Church and into our parish family. God bless him and his family.



Pathways registration open for 2019-20

Registration is open for Pathways, which is the diocese’s commitment to adult faith formation and nurturing mature discipleship. Pathways will be held Thursdays from 6:30-9 p.m. at St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City. To register www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/pathways. Or email pathways@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship at 724-552-2598. Financial assistance is available. For information or to apply for a scholarship, call 724-837-0901, ext. 1249.

Natural Family Planning

Natural Family Planning CM-BBT instruction will be held **September 14** at 10 a.m. in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Contact Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840, ext. 1658 for additional information or to register. Please call at least one week prior to the instruction date to pre-register.

“The Accent On-Air,”

“The Accent On-Air,” Health and Wellness, will air on WTAE-TV, Channel 4, Sunday September 1 and September 15 at 11:30 a.m. In Mass at that time? Set your DVR, or watch the show on TheAccentOnline.org. The show also airs at 2:08 a.m. on September: 5, 7, 11, 14, 18, 20, 25 and 27. The show features Bishop Malesic talking about spiritual health, the Church battling the opioid epidemic, inspiring priests and their healthy habits, building strong minds in Catholic schools, and how faith is helping a man confronted by a terminal illness.

Part-time Foreign Language Teacher (K-7) Needed



A foreign language immerses students in the beauty and culture of others. Students will receive instruction in World Language each week through immersion. All courses are taught through the infusion and exemplification of our Catholic faith and beliefs.

Teach 1 or 2-days/week; teaching certification required. Contact the school at 724-929-5143.

Parking When School is in Session—

School begins next Monday, **August 26**. For safety reasons, the Parking Lot behind the Church is to remain empty from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on school days. School buses and parents bringing children to school need access to this lot, and the children use it for recreation at lunchtime. If you are planning a visit to the school or coming to daily Mass when school is in session, please park in the lot below Henry Street or the lot along Fayette and Henry Streets. Thank you for your consideration and God bless you.

New Student
Registration Open for Religious Education Classes for the 2019-2020 School Year

Parents, If your child is entering **kindergarten**, the **first grade**, or has not attended Religious Ed classes as yet and is not attending a Catholic School, please call the Faith Formation Office (724-929-9300) so that we may enter his/her name to the class roster. Attending Religious Education classes is necessary for public school students in order for them to understand and receive their sacraments. Classes begin Monday, **September 16**, from 6:15—7:30 in our School building. Registration forms are available in the church pamphlet racks.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. Sebastian Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will meet this **Tuesday, August 20**, at 7 pm in the Parish Center.

TRAVEL GROUP

Join us on Thursday, **October 10**, to see MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET a musical of the Rock n Roll era.

If you enjoy music from the 50’s, 60’s and 70’s, Elvis, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins, then join us on October 10 to see Million Dollar Quartet. Cost is \$105 and must be paid in full by August 30 with your reservation.

Time is running out. Don’t miss this fabulous show along with lunch at DeNunzio’s Italian Chophouse, a tour of Quecreek Mine Site, and topped off with a free Sundae at Dairy Queen.

For more information call Sandy Wawro at 724-938-0865.

FROM THE PASTOR**The Cost of Peace!**

How often have you kept “peace” no matter what the cost; probably more often than you care to remember. Most of us were probably raised with the notion that it is better to do whatever is necessary to keep the peace rather than to be fighting all of the time. Well, if we are to do what the gospel is asking of us today, peace should not be one of our priorities. Jesus is telling us that if we are to be sincere about following the gospel then we must be willing to forgo peace.

We like to imagine Christianity as a religion of harmony and peace and sometimes we blind ourselves to passages such as today’s: “I have come for division” (Jesus in the gospel); “You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood” (Hebrews, second reading); “He is demoralizing the soldiers...and all the people by speaking such things” (Jeremiah, first reading); “I have come to set the earth on fire” (gospel).

History has certainly shown us what can happen to people who speak against the norm in the name of the common good. We can all remember Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his struggle to lead a nonviolent civil rights movement. It eventually led to his death and the ruination of many people along the way. Prophetic voices are not the most welcome in any day or age. Even today prophetic voices in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, who cry out for justice and religious tolerance, are killed. Nobody likes to be told that they are living wrong or that their priorities are all out of sync, and for certain, no political leader likes to hear the truth about their mistakes or foiled plans.

The decision to follow Jesus can meet harsh rejection. To walk in the footsteps of Jesus can mean a loss of peace and security. If we look at how Jesus lived and the way He taught we can clearly see that He is the supreme model of faith who allows us to maintain our hope in the promises that God has made to us. Like Jesus we do not choose division and strife, divisions occur simply by being faithful to God’s message. This becomes the real shock of the gospel: being a faithful disciple of Jesus will instigate a clash of values, of principles, of priorities. The message of Jesus is divisive because it calls others to a radical way of living – self-giving for the good of others. We all have to make a conscious decision to follow Him or not, to share His passion or not, to be self-giving as He is. If we compromise our gospel message in order to have peace now, we forfeit the everlasting peace which is promised to the faithful disciple. The choice is ours.

We are hardly called to be like Jeremiah to announce to the Israelites that their beloved Jerusalem fell into the hands of the Babylonians – nor are we thrown into a cistern to die! Nor like Jesus will we be nailed to a cross because of our preaching. Nevertheless, we are called to be faithful to God’s word in the small, everyday things as well as at times when the more serious challenges come along. We do not seek division, but we seek consistency in living gospel values. Gospel living is never easy!

Lord, please remember the sick, the homebound and those in nursing homes from our parish and community:

Doreen Abler, Minerva Albert, Donna Biagini, Sally Biava, Anthony Boyle, Dane Breakwell, Brennan Breakwell, Tricia Pelissero Bruenn, Adam Canigiani, Jr., Elizabeth Cannizzaro, Ron Carson, Eric Cecchetti, Josie Cekinovich, Jenna Christner, Albert Cialone, Joe Ciferno, Sr., Elaine Costello, George L. Cowan, Bernadette Dayner, Frank Delia, Betty Eversburg, Jean Ferreri, Autumn Fields, Betty Fisher, John Fisher, Dolores Frazier, John Gira, Mary Gira, Wayne Granchai, Michael J. Hazy, Betty Jean Henderson, Avery Kazakewicz, John Kelemen, Jr., Bronson Keller, Sr., Jackie Koliscak, Jared Konsugar, Terry Krolik, Lilian Laird, Cole Layhue, Catherine Lennex, James Litterini, Marjorie Lopez, Marge Marek, Stephen McCulloch, Brandon Morris, Tricia Pelissero Narus, Val Novak, Paul Novakovich, Melissa O’Brien, Julia Paholski, Shirley Patten, Jack Pesi, Joy Pozum, Barbara Riffle, Joel Rivera, Dorothy Rodgers, Mary Ann Rocco, Matthew Ross, George Rue, Betty Savarino, Patricia Senko, Betty Smereczniak, Robbie Stout, Ralph Swantek, William Tansmore, Joseph P. Trenk, Debra Vaden, Christopher Valerio, Arlene Vargo, Melvin Walkush, Sr., Jack Welshans, Helene Wozniak, Paul Zoppetti.

Lord, give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please Note: If you know of someone who has recovered from his/her illness, or perhaps has passed away, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.