



# St. Sebastian Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania  
Charitable  
Trust

A Parish of the  
Diocese of  
Greensburg

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 9, 2020

# be amazing



801 Broad Avenue  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Let your  
light shine  
before others.  
MATTHEW 5:13-16

### Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Crookston	Pastor
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Rev. Joel Boco	Parochial Vicar
jboco@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich	Business Manager
dlisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Scott J. Martin	Director of Faith Formation
smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Dean Dellamalva	Coordinator of Liturgical Music
ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Linda Drury	Parish Secretary
ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Darleen Koury	Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary
dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org	

### Parish Telephone Numbers:

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

**Parish Website:** [www.saintsebastianchurch.org](http://www.saintsebastianchurch.org)

### Weekend Masses:

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

**Weekday Masses:** Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri. 8:00 a.m.

### Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday 3:00—4:00 p.m.

### Parish Office Hours:

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

### Saint Sebastian Regional School

Mrs. Carol Aiello	Principal
caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Tiffany Miller	School Business Manager
tnmiller@sssbv.org	
School Telephone	724-929-5143
School Fax	724-929-3038
Website	<a href="http://www.sssbv.org">www.sssbv.org</a>

**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 Wednesday 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.

**MONTHLY OVERVIEW**—Listed below is a breakdown of what our monthly expenses were as opposed to the amount of money taken in. We will be providing this to you on a monthly basis.

January Expenses	Amount
Maintenance	\$ 227.54
Phone	\$ 259.74
Utilities	\$ 2,548.93
Misc. Office	\$ 1,710.17
Church/Liturgy	\$ 3,165.39
Payroll	\$ 24,415.18
Diocesan Expenses (Breakdown)	\$ 14,546.85
Accent	\$ 1,112.44
Ed. Assessment	\$ 6,922.10
Dio. Assessment	\$ 4,012.81
Insurance	\$ 2,426.66
Data Processing	\$ 45.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 46,873.80</b>

Week	Collection
January 1	\$ 3,870.00
January 5	\$ 7,696.66
January 12	\$ 9,789.46
January 19	\$ 8,562.85
January 26	\$ 8,872.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 38,790.97</b>

**Little Things for Little People**

Would you please give a little piece of your heart to Little Things for Little People program for Valentine's day? Little Things for Little People program is sponsored by the Belle Vernon Minsterium and is held at our church the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. The program supplies families in our community with much needed items to care for children age 0-3. We are in need any size diapers, wipes, baby lotion, wash, shampoo, baby powder, diaper cream as well as monetary cash only donations. We invite you to come see the room located in parish office and learn more about our program. We are hosting a open house donation day on **February 24** from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on Monday, **February 10**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Center.

**Lent**

This year Lent begins of the 26<sup>th</sup> of February with Ash Wednesday. This is a time that the Church sets aside for us to contemplate on our life and relationships with one another and with God. There are many ways that we journey through this season, but the important thing is that we somehow prepare ourselves to once again celebrate the great gift of Easter.

There will be a number of opportunities for you to enrich your Lenten Season through prayer and study. On Monday's we will gather for Taize prayer at 6:00 pm at Epiphany in Monessen. Immediately following we will do a study of a Overview of the New Testament. On Thursdays at St. Sebastian's at 6:30pm., we will be offering a class on Forgiveness. On Friday we will pray the stations at 6:00 pm. at St. Sebastian's as well as at Epiphany. Epiphany will be having a fish fry on Friday's during Lent from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Lent is also the time when we focus on our stewardship and how we sacrifice for the good of others. This year during Lent we will have the opportunity to help local organizations, more information will follow on that.

**BEST LENT EVER!**

**You've Got 40 Days, Who will You Become**

Possibilities are everywhere! Big possibilities. Small possibilities. Amazing possibilities. God sees them all. And the saints are ready to help you see them, too. Join Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic Team for another incredible journey through our BEST LENT EVER daily video reflections. Because Lent isn't about what you give up. It's about who you become. To sign up, visit: [info@dynamiccatholic.com](mailto:info@dynamiccatholic.com).

**St. Sebastian Travel Group**  
"Queen Esther", Lancaster **April 28/29**.  
10 seats available for this new show.  
**Balance due by February 15.**

"Buddy Holly" on **July 23**, join us at the Mountain Playhouse, Jennerstown.  
For more information, call Sandy Wawro at 724-938-0865.

**ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH  
FUNDRAISER  
CRAFT & VENDOR  
EXPO**

SATURDAY MARCH 28, 2020  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
LOCATED IN THE CHURCH SOCIAL HALL  
801 BROAD AVE.  
BELLE VERNON, PA 15012

**FREE ADMISSION**  
**GREAT EASTER GIFTS**  
50 CRAFTER AND VENDOR TABLES,  
WITH BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED CRAFTS  
AND GREAT ITEMS

\*\*\*SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE\*\*\*  
CHINESE AUCTION AND MORE!!!

**STEWARDSHIP of TREASURE—February 2, 2020**

<b>Regular Offertory:</b>	<b>\$7,259.50</b>	<b>(317 envelopes out of 1,263 families)</b>
<b>Youth:</b>	<b>\$ 33.00</b>	
<b>Loose:</b>	<b>\$ 829.05</b>	
<b>Total Offertory:</b>	<b>\$ 8,121.55</b>	
<b>Amount budgeted for weekly regular offertory</b>	<b>\$7,865.38</b>	
<b>Over/(under) budget:</b>	<b>(\$605.88)</b>	
<b>Average adult donation this weekend:</b>	<b>\$10.00 per envelope</b>	
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$ 81.00	
Votive Candles:	\$ 436.00	
Capital Project/Roof Fund:	\$ 581.50	
Catholic Accent:	\$ 37.00	
Church in Eastern Europe:	\$ 819.00	
Food Bank:	\$ 106.00	
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$ 25.00	
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 18.00	
Christmas:	\$ 20.00	
Solemnity of Mary:	\$ 7.00	
Lenten Offering:	\$ 160.00	
<b>Total February 1/2 collection:</b>	<b>\$ 10,421.05</b>	

**From the Pastor—****We are the Light of the World... (Or are we?)**

There are a number of ideas that we are left to think about from this week's readings, and they all speak in one way or another about the social teachings and justice of Jesus. Isaiah sets the stage by giving us a reading that is often associated with Lent. The people of Israel are once again complaining that God doesn't seem to listen to their cries for help even though they felt they were following the rules and teachings of their religion. Even though they felt they were performing religious acts, God points to their hypocrisy. They are then reminded that true piety is feeding the hungry, caring for the homeless and naked, loving their neighbor and be a light to all nations. The prophet tells the people that when they do care for the needs, God will hear them and their light will shine.

St. Paul in the second reading this week is challenging some of the values of the world. He talks about how worldly wisdom looks for the presence of God in the wrong places. It makes us pause to think about what "worldly wisdom" is present in our world today. If we look at our world and all of the people in it, what would you say people value the most? When we look at our own country, what would be our most coveted value? Sometimes I think we almost have to hang our heads in shame for our value systems seem to be all wrong. St. Paul could have been speaking to us in just the same way that he spoke to the people of Corinth in the sense that we too often look for the divine in displays of power and wealth, but the Gospel shatters all of those images by replacing them with a revelation of suffering and forgiving love. That is the ultimate mystery of God and that is exactly what we should value.

This week in the Gospel Jesus follows up on the Beatitudes by reminding the disciples as well as reminding us as well that our mission in life is to be the salt and light to people we share this life with. The image of salt was very clear to the disciples. Unlike the salt we pour from a box today, the salt in Jesus' day came from mines and the sea. Such salt actually contained a variety of minerals, some of which were more pleasant and useful than others. Tasteless salt would have been the residue left over after the best salt had been extracted. Salt was also used in the temple as a part of the daily sacrifices. It symbolized the ever presence of the covenant. Like salt, if the disciples became bland, uncommitted or unfaithful, they were good for nothing. When the disciples hear Jesus speaking of light, they are reminded of Isaiah and his references to be the light of the world. This is nothing less than a call to action. The light that they bear, the salt that they offer is a living witness to the reality of God's kingdom. We too must come to this same realization for we are also the salt of the earth and light to the world. It is by living lives of justice and mercy that these images are given life. It is when we get caught up in our own piety that these images turn around and haunt us. The question we carry this week is: what kind of salt are we to the people in our world and how much light do we bring to help them realize the love of Christ?

**Liturgies of the Week****February 8—Vigil**

4:30 pm Fr. Joseph Kleffner—Brother, John Kleffner

**February 9—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

11:00 am Chris Bosch—Family

**Monday, February 10—St. Scholastica**

8:00 am Julia Paholski—Homebound Eucharistic Minister

**Tuesday, February 11—Our Lady of Lourdes**

8:00 am Frances Seman—Holy Spirit Rosary Society

**Wednesday, February 12**

8:00 am (MM) Justina Santoro—Pat Amprim

**Thursday, February 13****No Mass Today****Friday, February 14—Ss. Cyril & Methodius**

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Edward Lyons—Elliott Bianchi

**Saturday, February 15**3:00 pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation***Saturday, February 15—Vigil**

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) Matthew Canestrone, Jr.—Dilegge

Family

**February 16—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

11:00 am Matthew Zoppetti, Sr.—Ron &amp; Jackie Novak

**Liturgical Ministers—Servers**

Saturday, Feb. 15 4:30 pm A. Peden

Sunday, Feb. 16 9:00 am Volunteer Needed

11:00 am T. Breckenridge, B. Barber

**Lectors****Lit. Coordinators****Ministers****Saturday, Feb. 15**

4:30 S. Wawro

C. Farrier

J. Stringhill, S. Zolock

J. Wiggins, C. Farrier

**Sunday, Feb. 16**

9:00 B. Moskovitz

B. Mallonee

D. Stasko, J. Russell

L. Turcheck, B. Mallonee

11:00 T. Sebetich E. Breckenridge

E. Studnicki, R. Messick

G. Klamerus, E. Breckenridge

Choir: S. Messick

**Sympathy and Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: AGNES M. ATKINSON, JOCELYN L. TOM, ROSE ANN HOUDYSHELL and HELEN E. YENCSIK. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

**Altar Candle Ring Flowers** last weekend were in memory of JAMES V. BITONTI by his wife and family.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** St. Sebastian Conference will meet on **Tuesday, February 21**, at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.