



St. Sebastian Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania
Charitable
Trust

A Parish of the
Diocese of
Greensburg

Third Sunday of Easter—May 5, 2019



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

Parish Website: www.saintsebastianchurch.org

Weekend Masses:

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

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday and Friday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days, Holidays, call the Parish Office

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. - 5:00 p.m.

Saint Sebastian Regional School

Dr. Nina Zetty Principal
nzetty@dioceseofgreensburg.org
Mrs. Tiffany Miller School Business Manager
tnmiller@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.

Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Easter has come and gone and we still have not heard from the majority of our parishioners for this year's DLA. To date we have heard from 182 of our parishioners who have given a total of \$40,282. We are still a long way from our diocesan goal. I am hoping that we are able to meet our Diocesan goal, and that everything above and beyond that goal will go to help pay for the roof. If you have not yet responded to this year's campaign won't you please consider doing so? If you have any questions please know that I am available to answer them. I am grateful for your generosity and I am confident that we will succeed in doing well with this year's DLA.

Car Show

On the 18th of May Epiphany of Our Lord will be having their first "Car Show." We are hoping for a good turnout. If you have a Car – Motorcycle –or Truck that you would like to show, give us a call. If you have any questions you can call Chris Coccari at 724-777-3328 for more information.

Second Collection next weekend is the monthly Utilities & Maintenance collection.

Gluten Free Hosts

If you cannot consume the wheat hosts, there are gluten free hosts available for those who need them. Please do not be embarrassed to stop by the priest's sacristy before Mass and request this special consideration so that you may receive the Eucharist. Father Mike asks that you stop in the sacristy at least 10—15 minutes before Mass begins.

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.

April Expenses	Amount	Week	Collection
Maintenance	\$395.24	April 7	\$9,983.50
Phone	\$233.24	April 14	\$13,811.60
Utilities	\$2,008.60	April 21	\$20,655.14
Misc. Office	\$1,468.18	(includes Easter collection)	
Church/Liturgy	\$1,798.00	April 28	\$8,170.00
Property Taxes	\$1,406.27		
Payroll	\$18,508.04		
Diocesan Expenses	\$13,323.81		
(Breakdown)			
Accent	\$1,098.20		
Ed. Assessment	\$6,685.90		
Dio. Assessment	\$3,848.00		
Insurance	\$1,656.71		
Email	\$35.00		
Total	\$ 39,141.38	Total	\$ 52,620.24

Stewardship of Treasure

April 28, 2019

Regular Offertory: \$ 5,912.00 (296 envelopes out of 1301 families)
Youth: \$ 124.00
Loose: \$ 994.00
Total Offertory: \$ 7,030.00

Amount budgeted for weekly regular offertory \$7,986.31
Over/(under) budget: \$ (956.31)

Average adult donation this weekend \$10.00 per envelope

Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	47.00
Votive Candles:	\$	104.00
Capital Project/Roof Fund:	\$	148.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	350.00
Good Friday :	\$	55.00
Lenten Offering:	\$	20.00
Easter :	\$	589.00
Holy Thursday:	\$	30.00

Total April 27/28 collection: \$ 8,373.00

First Holy Communion



Last weekend we celebrated First Communion with our children. This is a special time in their lives as well as the life of our parish family. I congratulate all of our recipients and my prayer for them is that the Grace of

God grows only stronger in their hearts.

Please keep these children in your thoughts and prayers as they share in the gift of the Eucharist.

Hayden Bastian	Brennah Keller
Paige Bilsky	Max Manley
Rebecca Bisceglia	Kellen Mitchell
Luke Breakwell	Olivia Mitchell
Adam Buretz	Camryn Scherer
Jakob Coneybeer	Noah Van Sickle
Carter Frank	Noah Spedalieri

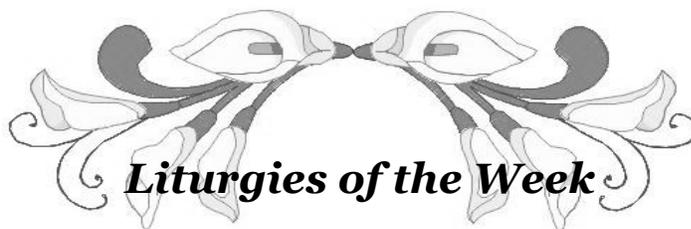
Aliana Watson

Parish Assembly

On **May 20** at 6:30 pm we will have a parish assembly in the church. This is a good time for me your pastor to get to know you and hear your wishes and dreams for our parish, but it is also a good time to give you all a presentation of where we are as a parish. I am hoping that many of you will be able to come to this meeting. In the meantime, think about what you would like to see happen in our parish and how we can become more vibrant. All of your suggestions and comments are most welcome. So, mark your calendars and plan on attending this parish assembly. There will be a reception following in the parish hall. I hope to see you all there on the 20th!

Diocesan FamilyFest

You are invited to a day of fun, games, food and faith at the diocese's second annual FamilyFest on Sunday, **June 9**, at the Christ Our Shepherd Center. The day will include parish food vendors, an evangelization project #FindJesusRocks, and activities for people of all ages, including an Indoor Bingo. The day begins with an outdoor Mass celebrated by Bishop Malesic at 11 a.m. with music provided by a Diocesan Youth Honors Choir. We look forward to seeing you and your family there! For information, and to register your child, go to FamilyFest-Greensburg.org.



May 4—Vigil

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) Conrad Lama—Lou & Pat Toth
Sacrament of Baptism

Mat 5—Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Holy Rosary Society—Rosary Society
Sacrament of Baptism

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

Monday, May 6

8:00 am Deceased Members of the Delopitro Family—Alexia Jones & Family

Tuesday, May 7

8:00 am (Date of Birth) chad Angelo—Grandmother, Mary Hufford

Wednesday, May 8

8:00 am William D. Weaver—Jackie & Stanley Koliscak

Thursday, May 9

8:00 am (Date of Birth) James V. Bitonti—Wife & Family

Friday, May 10

8:00 am George B. Aul—Diane & John Comer

Saturday, May 11

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, May 11—Vigil

4:30 pm For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

May 12—Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am Intention of All Mothers

11:00 am Intention of All Mothers

Liturgical Ministers—Servers

Saturday, May 11 4:30 pm A. & A. Peden

Sunday, May 12 9:00 am Volunteers Needed

11:00 am M. Wasicek, T. Breckenridge

Lectors Lit. Coordinators Ministers

Saturday, May 11

4:30 S. Wawro C. Farrier S. & S. Zolock, T. Rodriguez
L. Aul, M. Moody, K. Rygiel, C. Farrier

Sunday, May 12

9:00 B. Moskovitz B. Mallonee B.A. Linskens, L. Turcheck
M. & R. Smereczniak, D. Stasko, L. Kibler, B. Mallonee

11:00 C. Rhodes E. Breckenridge F. Aleman, M. Iacoboni
D. Bisceglia, R. & W. Hoffman, S. Kroskie, C. Rhodes
Choir—M. Druciak

Flowers This Week

Paschal Candle Flowers are in memory of John & Catherine Sulek by Eleanor & Jim Burrows.

Pittsburgh Steelers to hold youth mini-camp at GCC

The Pittsburgh Steelers will host a youth football mini-camp at Greensburg Central Catholic **June 20** from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Westmoreland Saints, the non-contact camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-14 and will feature six drill stations. The cost is \$60 and includes a T-shirt, water bottle and more. For information, go to steelers.com/youthfootballcamp. Click on REGISTER NOW, click on "2019 Youth Mini-Camps" at the top of the page, then go to the "Greensburg (Central Catholic)" link to register.

Catholic Youth at Cedar Point

Parish youth currently in grades 5-12 are invited to join the Diocese of Greensburg on Tuesday, **June 18**, for a trip to Cedar Point amusement park in Ohio. The cost is \$90 and includes park admission, bus transportation, lunch, an all-day drink wristband and a catered dinner in the park. Adults 18 and over must have appropriate clearances. Registration deadline is June 16 or when the buses are filled. Information: parish offices or visit www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/CedarPoint. All youth registrants must have an adult chaperone as part of their group.

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone, please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

Religious Education

This Monday, **May 6**, is the last day of CCD, children are to report to their classrooms at 6:15 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. we will celebrate with an Ice Cream Social! Dismissal will be to the parents at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This year 81 shawls/lap blankets have been given to our homebound parishioners. The ministry also makes specialty items for cancer patients and as well as baby blankets. Donations are needed to purchase yarn and other items to continue this ministry. For more information, call Darleen at 724-929-9300. The next Prayer Shawl ministry will be on **May 13**.

Wine and Cheese Tasting Fundraiser

Holy Family Parish, West Newton, will host a wine and cheese tasting fundraiser **May 11** from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Greenhouse Winery, Rillton. There are a limited number of tickets at \$20. Information: 724-256-6042.

Blessing of Bikes

There will be a Blessing of Bikes on Saturday, **May 11** at Fells United Methodist Church. Registration is at 9:00 a.m., Blessing at 10:00 a.m. For more information, call 724-379-4502.

School News

Please contact the School to register: 724.929.5143.



Nominate a teacher for a Golden Apple Award

The Diocese of Greensburg will celebrate excellence in teaching in its Catholic schools with the Golden Apple Award, which will be presented at the annual A Celebration of Catholic Schools Breakfast. Awards honor educators who exhibit excellence in and out of the classroom, are committed to Catholic values and are devoted to teaching in a Catholic school. Nomination forms are at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/celebration. The deadline is **May 14**. For questions, contact Amanda Iwinski at: aiwinski@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteer help is needed in Fayette County for Home Delivered Meals. Deliveries are made to Fayette City and the Fayette County half of Belle Vernon. For more information or to volunteer, call Center on The Hill at 724-930-8512.

Travel Group 2019 Travel Group Trips

★ In Jennerstown:
Mid Life 2—Aug. 8
Million Dollar Quartet—Oct. 10
★ Sweet Treats & Fancy Eats in York & Lancaster—July 25 & 26
★ Ark Adventure in Kentucky—Oct. 16-17.
For information, call Sandy at 724-938-0865.

FROM THE PASTOR**Jesus comes to us in the “ordinary” aspects of life.**

Sometimes it is interesting to see just how the scriptures reflect the political scene of the time that they were written. In that first reading from Acts there is a lot being said that the casual reader would miss. That is why it is so important for interpreters of scripture to pay close attention to the human writer's time and culture in the attempt to explain scripture's meaning.

In today's first reading we find Peter charging the Jewish authorities with killing Jesus by hanging him on a tree. However, Peter is silent about some others who certainly followed their lead. He makes no mention of Roman authority in his accusations. From other scripture references it is clear that the cross and the nails were Rome's doing. It is clear that Peter wants to protect the early church from attack from the big guys, Rome. He wants to be very clear in his desire to show that, although Jesus was executed as an enemy of the Roman Empire, neither Jesus nor his followers constitute a problem for Rome or have any reason to bear a grudge. This is because the author's cultural context was that he lived under Roman Power. He knew both its benefits and its dangers. When we look at the charges of Peter against Jewish leaders, we cannot discount Luke's cultural context and its likely influence upon whom he blames, and whom he exonerates, for killing Jesus. He and his followers were dragged into court and they wanted to be sure that they didn't add any fuel to the fire; therefore he was careful whom he blamed for Jesus' death. Through this entire political and social clamor it is clear that the strength of the disciples came from faith in Jesus, and this gave them the power and courage to face, with courage, their smarter opponents.

The Book of Revelation this week gives us a glimpse of what the heavenly realm is like. It describes God's throne room almost like a control tower. The passage moves us from an earthly stage to the throne of Jesus where we meet saints and angels praising God. Jesus is the Lamb who was sacrificed and whose blood is the source of our salvation. The entire vision is intended to instill hope in the persecuted believers who have been promised eternal happiness and joy.

The gospel from John which we hear from this week is the last of the appearances of Jesus. The scene is once again one of tension, confusion and disbelief, and it is in this that Jesus appears. He provides a miraculous catch of fish and once again feeds the disciples. The mood of the disciples before they saw Jesus was certainly not very good. They were going through that mode where nothing seemed to be right in life. They had lost their friend; they worked hard all night and caught nothing. But, Jesus comes and helps them in spite of their discouragement. These disciples mirror the anxiety and discouragement of the earth Church. It is only through the persistent and gentle presence of Jesus that they are comforted and fortified to carry on.

What is most interesting in all of the post resurrection appearances of Jesus is that he appears in the “ordinary” parts of life. Everything is always so meager and sparse. But that is the secret of God's grace. Jesus appears in the unexpected and ordinary places of our lives. Not in thunderbolts or in majesty and power, not in great pronouncements, but in a simple meal. Jesus reached out to the disciples in their need as he does with us, in the normal, natural things of life. When we put ourselves in touch with the bounty of God's blessing we will recognize Jesus in food, in bread, in fish, in wine – in all of the ordinary things in life.

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, David Dubinsky, Darlene Engel, Betty Eversburg, Jean Ferreri, Autumn Fields, Betty Fisher, John Fisher, Dolores Frazier, John Gira, Mary Gira, Wayne Granchai, Michael J. Hazy, Betty Jean Henderson, Maureen Jenkins, 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, David Moskovitz, Tricia Pelissero Narus, Val Novak, Paul Novakovich, Melissa O'Brien, Julia Paholski, Jim Pascoe, Shirley Patten, Jack Pesic, Joy Pozum, Barbara Riffle, Joel Rivera, Dorothy Rodgers, Mary Ann Rocco, Matthew Ross, George Rue, Betty Savarino, Patricia Senko, Betty Smereczniak, Ralph Swantek, William Tansmore, Joseph P. Trenk, Debra Vaden, Christopher Valerio, Arlene Vargo, Melvin Walkush, Sr., Jack Welshans, Helene Wozniak. 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.