



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

AUGUST 7, 2022—19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*“For at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.”* Luke 12:40

Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

Mass Schedule

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal
caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Tiffany Miller: School Business Manager
tnmiller@ssbv.org

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ ssbv.org



Saturday
4:30 PM

Tuesday, 8:00 AM
Friday, 8:00 AM

Sunday
9:00 AM
11:00 AM

Rev. Michael J. Crookston Pastor
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

From the Pastor

It's all about the final Victory!

How many of us feel that we have been “called” through our Baptismal promises. How often do we as people stop and think about the commitment we have agreed to? Today, our readings speak to us about how much faith dominates our lives. It causes us to pause for just a moment and think about how we are living. Remembering that life is not about us, rather it is all about the final victory, is sometimes far from our thoughts. Our liturgy today is telling us that if we have faith, there is no room for fear.

“Faithful readiness” seems to be the theme which we are to carry with us this week. Our first reading is from the book of Wisdom. Wisdom literature was written to build up the faith of the Jewish people, amidst the troubles of life. As the people of Israel became associated with other peoples and their cultures, many of them left their faith and were enticed to embrace other beliefs. It was the responsibility of the writers of the scriptures to help them find their way back. Readings, such as what we hear today, are to give the people hope, in the midst of temptations, to stay loyal to the promise of Yahweh.

Why is it so difficult to be true to what we profess? It is so easy for people today to say one thing and in reality mean something completely different. There are literally millions of Christians out there in our world (and in our midst) who were baptized in the faith but are now no longer associated with any church. We all know people like this, many of them are within our own families. Yet, whenever they want the church for their own purposes, they feel entitled! This is as frustrating today as it was in the day that Wisdom was written. It is for that reason that we constantly hear about the virtue of faith and how important it is in life, not just when we decide we need it.

In the second reading, a letter to the Hebrews, Abraham is presented as that man of faith who, not knowing the future and what it will bring, nonetheless goes out into a foreign country, to establish a new people, with his descendants Isaac and Jacob. All the ingredients necessary for a strong faith are there: perseverance, trust in God, confidence, and hope. Abraham never saw the fulfillment of his promise, but remained steadfast in his pursuit. The author of Hebrews puts us Christians into the world of Abraham to help us to try to emulate the trust and faith of Abraham, our father in faith.

Jesus speaks to us about living the faith that we profess. If we live by what we say we are, then we will always be prepared for life or death. Jesus never meant for his parables to put fear into our hearts, rather he calls us to live out of the motive of faith and vigilance for the day of his return. Being a disciple is not something that we schedule into our lives once a week, rather being a disciple is simply that—*being a disciple!* The way we live, witnesses to where our treasure is. Our lives should challenge others to prioritize their own treasures. Clearly, God must have priority in our lives.

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.

July Expenses	Amount
Maintenance	\$ 328.79
Phone	\$ 167.01
Electric	\$ 1,735.11
Gas	\$ 98.44
Other Utilities	\$ 621.65
Misc. Office	\$ 3,585.92
Church/Liturgy	\$ 2,514.94
Loan Payment	\$ 5,000.00
Payroll	\$ 21,619.85
Diocesan Expenses	\$ 12,337.99
(Breakdown)	
Accent	\$ 314.94
Ed. Assessment	\$ 5,824.57
Dio. Assessment	\$ 3,387.05
Insurance	\$ 2,642.43
Data Processing	\$ 169.00
Total	\$ 48,009.70

Week	Collection
July 3	\$ 7,831.00
July 10	\$ 6,825.00
July 17	\$ 7,605.00
July 24	\$ 8,057.65
Total	\$ 30,318.65



Consider online giving, click the “my Eoffering” button on our parish website.

Stewardship of Treasure—July 31, 2022

Regular Offertory:	\$ 6,231.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$ 70.00
Votives:	\$ 77.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$ 23.00
Catholic Accent:	\$ 52.00
Assumption:	\$ 20.00

Total July 30/31 **\$ 6,473.00**

Looking to September...

It certainly won't be long until the children start back to school and the schedules for fall kick in. I guess it is a good thing that we cannot stop time; it constantly challenges us to move forward. In looking forward to the coming months, many organizations resume their monthly meetings and new activities are planned.

In looking at our busy lives, sometimes we need to assess how we spend our time and energy. Sometimes we find that we are busy running all of the time and get nothing done. This is the time of year when we look at the various ministries in our Church, and try to see what we are able to do. It is not always taking something more on, as much as, it is just utilizing our time more wisely.

If we are already at mass, why not share some of your time by assisting at the liturgy? There are many ways that your help will benefit the entire community. Throughout this month, I will be talking about the various ways you will be able to help and explain the different ministries that are part of the liturgy. For now, just look at your life and see just how you might be able to manage things, so that you are not driving yourself crazy!

“Junque” Sale Thanks!

Last week we sponsored our annual “Junque” sale and it was met with overwhelming success! This never could have happened without the guidance and leadership of Bonnie Halinka! As a parish family, we all are grateful for her work... and speaking of work...she certainly did not do it alone! She had tremendous help, throughout the month and during the sale. For all of those women and men who helped from setting up to tearing down, we thank you!

I certainly hope that a lot of you were able to come and shop at the sale...and I do hope you got a few little “treasures” to remember the sale! The proceeds from the Junque Sale totaled \$10,490 for the benefit of our parish. Until next year, please know how grateful I am to all of you!

Festival News

The St. Sebastian Parish **Festival** is Sunday, **September 18**, from 12 p.m. until 7 p.m. **“Many hands make light work.”**

We are still in great need of volunteers in many areas for the festival. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Maggie Kelly directly at 954-850-0849.

Raffle Baskets: Please consider donating a **Theme Basket** or items for our basket raffle. We are looking for the following basket themes: Car Care, Penguins/Pirates, kids’ games, Pets, Spa, movie night & Wine/Alcohol. Hey, what about lottery tickets? Can you drop a few off as a contribution to our lottery basket? Please drop your theme basket, lottery tickets or items at the Parish Office during regular business hours.

Parish Raffle: Every year as part of our Festival, we send out to all of our parishioners a packet of tickets which will be pulled at the Festival. If you have not yet turned yours in, won’t you please consider doing so? The money raised from the tickets certainly does help to assure we have a successful festival.

Festival Food Prep

The Festival Food Committee Volunteers will be meeting at 10:00 a.m., in the Parish Hall Kitchen, on August 12, 13 & 18, to begin the process of making the cabbage rolls & other festival foods. All are welcome & encouraged to attend.

Scheduling Funerals

Because I am at both St. Sebastian and Epiphany, there are often conflicts when scheduling a funeral, especially when they are scheduled more than 3 days out. I am going to have to put into effect a policy for scheduling. If a funeral is more than 3 days out, the time for the funeral will be: 9:00 a.m. for the blessing service at the funeral home and 9:30 a.m. in Church. This way, the second funeral (if one comes in) will be at 11:30 a.m. for the blessing at the funeral home, with the mass at noon.

Are You Married To A Stranger?

Do you feel alone? Do you argue - or have you just stopped talking to each other? Do you dread the drive home? Does talking about it only make it worse? This program has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on September 30, 2022, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434.

E-mail 3041R@helpourmarriage.org.

More information is available at helpourmarriage.org.

Liturgies of the Week

August 6—Vigil

4:30 pm John Kerestan—M/M Lou Toth

August 7—Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Lorraine Nelson—Rene Moncini

11:00 am William Whiteko—Sue Ann Edwards

Monday, August 8—St. Dominic

No Mass Today

Tuesday, August 9—St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Marjorie Lopez—Dwight & Cecilia

Williams

Wednesday, August 10—St. Lawrence

No Mass Today

Thursday, August 11—St. Clare

No Mass Today

Friday, August 12—St. Jane Frances de Chantal

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Kim Davis—Ted & Peggy Sebetich Sr.

Saturday, August 13—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Conrad Lama—Bruce & Kathy

Solomon

August 14—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Date of Birth) Veronica Horvath—Rosemarie & Leonard Krolik & Son, Leonard

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—August 13/14

	Lector	Lit. Coord	EM	Server
4:30 pm	J. Wasicek	K. Molesky	K. Molesky	M. Wasicek
9:00 am	M. Shaughnessy	B. Moskovitz	B. Moskovitz	N. Jodon
11:00 am	C. Rhodes	S. Kroskie	S. Kroskie	Volunteer

Altar Candle Ring Flowers

The Altar Candle flowers this week are in memory of **Margie Lopez**, by Larry & Janet Mandarin.

Religious Education

The 2022-2023 School Year for Faith Formation will begin Monday, **September 19**. Classes run from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. and are held in the St. Sebastian School building.

Faith Formation is a requirement for all students who do not attend a parochial school, in order for them to understand and receive their sacraments.

Registration forms have been emailed to previously registered students. Forms are also in the church pamphlet racks or can be found on the St. Sebastian Parish webpage.

We are in need of a volunteer to teach the 6th grade Religious Education students, as well as, additional teachers and aides. Please call Scott at the Faith Formation Office, if you feel called to this ministry.

Festival Time!

This week we celebrate our festival at Epiphany...

I hope that you have time to stop by and enjoy the festivities!



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