

Saint Sebastian Parish Festival

September 18, 2022

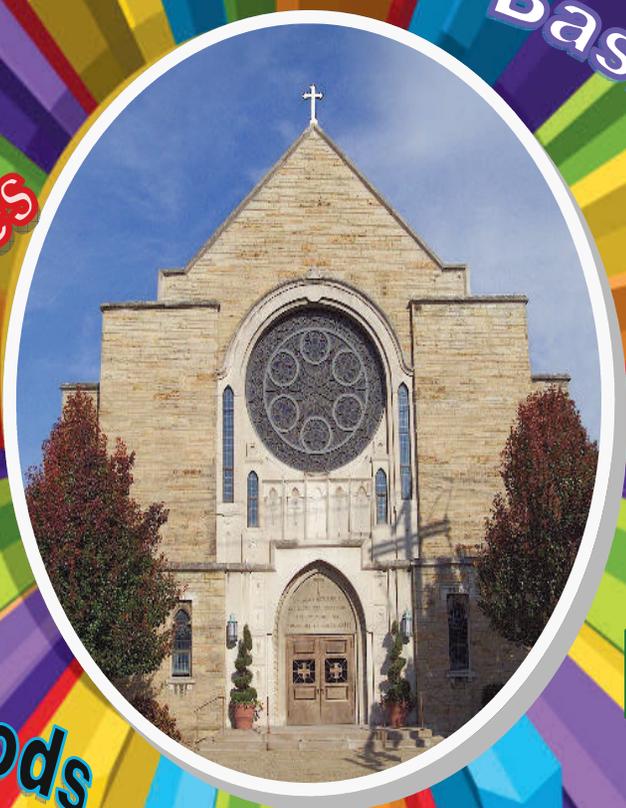
12 Noon - 7:00 PM

Ethnic Dinners

Basket Raffle

Children's Games

Bake Sale



Outside Foods

Raffle

Games of Chance

DJ "Jeep"

The Johnny Vann Trio

4:00 - 7:00 pm

12 Noon - 4:00 pm



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

Lottery Tree

From the Pastor Our Social Sins...and awareness



If we take a good long look at what our readings speak to us about today we can all relate in such a way that it makes us a little uncomfortable, for they deal with social responsibility. In the first reading the prophet Amos speaks to us about two serious sins which plague our world today: greed along with hypocrisy. The threat that is found in the opening lines speaks to merchants whose greed has caused devastation to the poor and needy. Amos was speaking at a time when the rich were growing richer and the poor were just getting poorer. He is addressing a system of living that was permeating society with hypocrisy, and it was growing rampant throughout the community. Amos goes so far as to call these people predators. His words were meant to shock the guilty into reforming their lives and repent for the wrong they were doing.

St. Paul goes right to the top of the ladder in reminding us that we all need to pray for the political system at work in society. He reminds us that a firm and stable social order is the basis for living that leads to equality for all people. Every day we read the newspapers or watch the news and we are aware of the stability of global as well as local political situations and wide ranging influence of decisions made by political leaders. We really don't need St. Paul to remind us that we need to pray for our political leaders. Their influence impacts every aspect of life and every individual living within the system.

Our Gospel today leaves us a little confused. It seems as though Jesus is praising someone for his dishonesty, but in reality what Jesus is saying is that we should pursue the Kingdom with as much enthusiasm as the man did for his own interest. The master was simply out-conned by his servant.

Jesus is not so much criticizing us for wealth. Rather, he is reminding us that that we must use our wealth wisely, ever mindful of our responsibility to the less fortunate. That is how we win heavenly favor. So, we are once again encouraged to look at how we are living and what adjustments need to be made. It is true that in our world today there are many con artists who prey on the weak and less fortunate. There are many people who amass great wealth at the expense of others with no thought whatsoever. These people are leaders and role models, and it is clear how people would follow their example. Daily we read about how executives in high positions simply rob their employees of their benefits simply to acquire wealth and power for themselves. At the same time we can look at many of our politicians who fall from their ivory towers because of some scandal or scheme that they get caught up in. But like so many of Jesus' examples we are not to point our finger at others. Rather we are to look at our own lives and see just how we can change and improve our actions and relationships with others. We are all guilty of greed and hypocrisy to some extent. We are just being cautioned to look and rethink just where our allegiances are in life.

Gourmet Chocolate Apples

We are going to try and sell Chocolate Covered Apples for Christmas this year. We are getting the Apples from Applelicious Gourmet Apples in Carnegie. I have flyers in the back of the church with the apples and pretzels that are available. You may place your orders anytime and delivery will be sometime in December. I hope that this is just another way that we can help to make your Holiday Entertaining just a little bit easier!



Stewardship of Treasure—September 4, 2022

Regular Offertory:	\$	7,310.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	67.00
Votives:	\$	130.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	399.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	88.00
Assumption:	\$	30.00
Catholic University:	\$	235.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	85.00

Total September 3/4 \$ 8,385.00

Stewardship of Treasure—September 11, 2022

Regular Offertory:	\$	6,350.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	970.00
Votives:	\$	236.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	80.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	126.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	26.00

Total September 10/11 \$ 7,788.00

Special collection next weekend, September 24/25 is for *Seminarian and Clergy Formation.*

REALITY TOUR—Getting “Real” About Drugs

Reality Tour is a national parent and child drug education and prevention program held at the Belle Vernon High School. The next scheduled program is on **October 17** from 6-8:30 pm, arrive at 5:30 pm, at Belle Vernon Area High School, 425 Crest Avenue. For more information, go to realitytour.org or call 724-797-0955.

MURDER MYSTERY THEATRE AND DINNER

St. Edward Parish, Herminie is sponsoring a Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre. "The Death of Dr. Frankenstein" presented on Friday, **October 7th**. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$35 each - For tickets please call 724-446-5197.



Join in praying the Novena
to defend our churches and pregnancy centers.

September 20—29

<https://catholicvote.org/novena/>

“St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.”

Rev. Michael J. Crookston, Pastor

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



PARISH FESTIVAL TODAY!
COME & JOIN IN THE FUN!

RELIGIOUS ED BEGINS

Tomorrow, **Monday, September 19**, the first gathering of Religious Education families will take place. Students in Grade 1 through Grade 8 will meet in the Church at 6:30 p.m. with their parents. Books and schedules will be distributed. Also, registration forms will be collected for the 2022-2023 school year.

SHOE BOX PROJECT

Remember we are going to collect "shoe boxes" and various personal things to put in them so that we can send them off to Appalachia to be distributed to needy families. I have a list of things you can purchase in the back of the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office. I am asking that you bring your things in over the weekend of **September 24-25**. As always, I thank you for your generous hearts in helping so many people!

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

The scheduling process has begun. Each Sunday you can schedule your family for their portrait time. We will have volunteers eager to help you before and after Mass. Remember, this is a terrific opportunity for a professional portrait in the comfort of our own church. To register on line visit: ucdir.com (code: pa921, password: photo) Schedule your family soon!



Prayer for Religious Vocations

Heavenly Father, your loving providence accompanies us on our life's journey. Thank you for the many gifts you have given us. We ask that you continue to call sons and daughters from our families and parishes to serve as priests, deacons and consecrated men and women in the Diocese of Greensburg. Send your Spirit upon us so that many will respond with great love to your call to service and leadership in your Church. Give to those you have chosen the faith of the apostle, the vision of the prophet, and the courage of the martyr. Through the intercession of our Diocesan patroness, Our Lady of the Assumption, help us to be faithful disciples of your Son by following the example of Mary. Make us generous in sharing ourselves and our talents for the sake of your Kingdom on earth. We ask this through Christ the Risen Lord.

PLEASE NOTE:

The "City Mission" has placed a blue clothing donation box in our lower parking lot on Henry Street. Your recycled clothing donations are greatly appreciated.

Liturgies of the Week

September 17—Vigil

4:30 pm James & Elizabeth Savarino & Thomas Savarino—Family

September 18—25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Date of Birth) Bill Picchiarini—Wife, Joan & Family

11:00 am Jerry Chunkala—Family

Monday, September 19—St. Januarius

No Mass Today

Tuesday, September 20—Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul chong Ha-sang & Companions

8:00 am Ralph T. Greco—Donna Bitonti

Wednesday, September 21—St. Matthew

No Mass Today

Thursday, September 22

No Mass Today

Friday, September 23—St. Pius of Pietrelcina

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Steve Rudinec—Daughter, Terri Gardner

Saturday, September 24—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm Merry K. Hewitt—Dayna & Sissy

September 25—26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Scott Hoffman—Parents, Jim & Joanne Hoffman

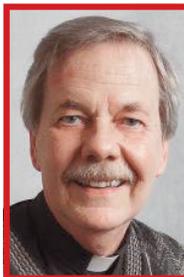
11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—September 24/25

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	C. Frank
11:00 am M. Patterson	R. Messick	R. Messick	M. Ceccarelli

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: **PATRICIA J. BARRON**. We extend our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.



FR. MIKE APPRECIATION

Next Sunday, **September 25**, all are invited to come to the Parish Hall following the 9:00 a.m. Mass for coffee and doughnuts and especially to show Fr. Mike how much we appreciate all that he has done for our Parish.

The Ladies of Faith will be in attendance as a group during the 9:00 a.m. Mass, and will sponsor the appreciation gathering for Fr. Mike.



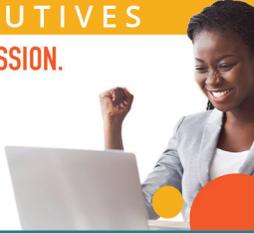
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