

# St Sebastian Catholic Church

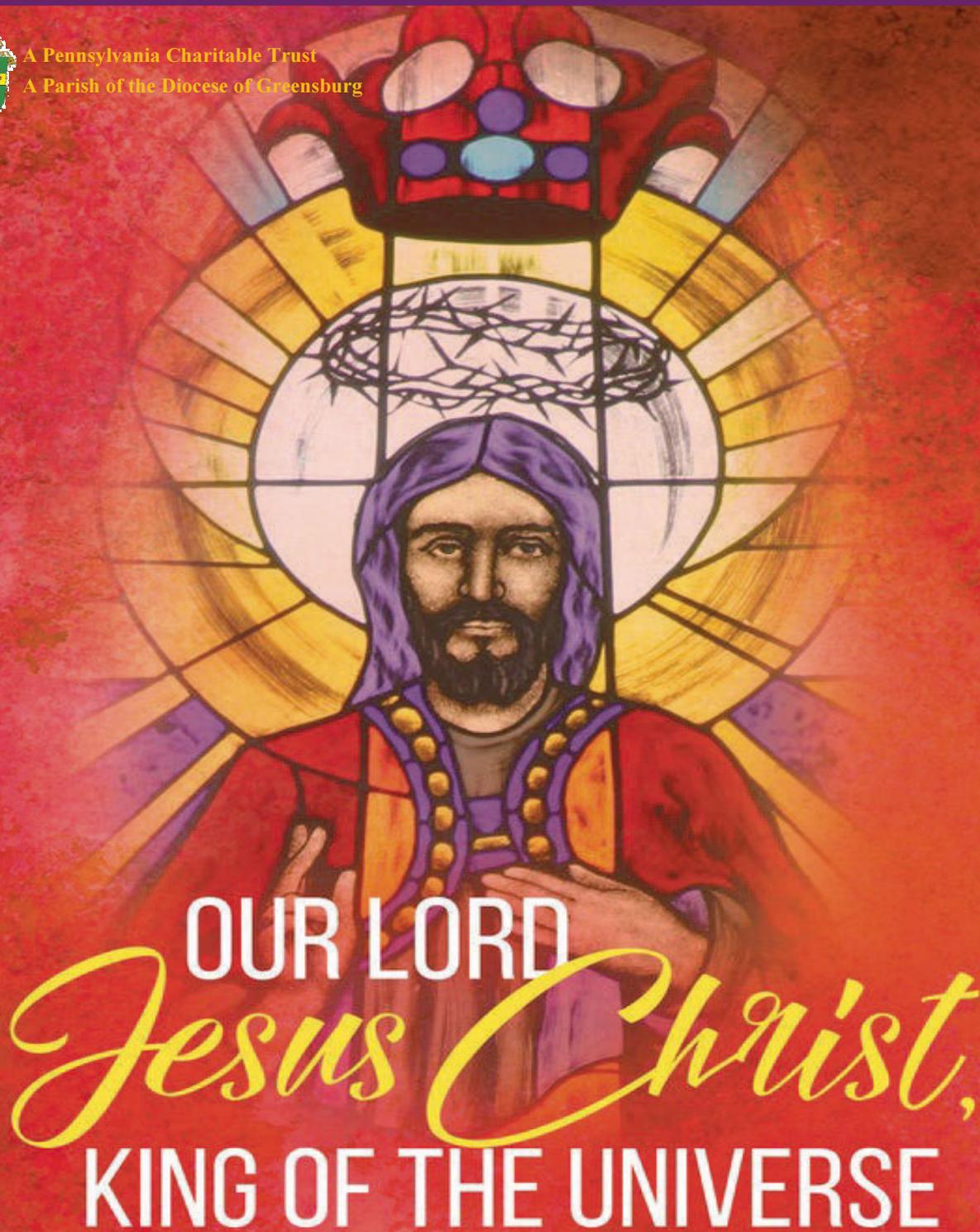


A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012



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OUR LORD

*Jesus Christ,*

KING OF THE UNIVERSE

**From the Pastor—Christ our King!**

As we finish yet another Liturgical year with the celebration of Christ the King we are once again reminded that the power of Jesus is a paradox of situations and symbols. We start off with a reading from Samuel which reminds us the importance of King David’s reign in the minds of the Jewish people. Like most public figures, David was not always a hero. He led a pretty rough life and was often caught in some political intrigue. But for our purposes on this feast, he is chosen to shepherd Israel and be their “commander-in-chief.” This reading reminds us of the importance of the origins of the Davidic dynasty and the part it played in bringing God’s covenant to the people of Israel. The elders anointed him king, but it was the people who chose him, and so complete was the acceptance of David that the people told him that “we are your bone and your flesh.” Within the context of that society the king, the ruler, the shepherd, was a man of the people, sinner and saint alike, with roots in their tribal society and responsible to the people. He held moral and spiritual authority over their lives and became the symbol of God’s presence among them. David stood in the place of the true, one, great shepherd, God, and spoke in God’s name. However, David always acknowledged during his reign that God was King and David ruled only through, and in God’s name. The second reading to the Colossians presents us with a central theme that reflects on the centrality of Christ in the new covenant. Jesus is shown to be the light of the world that scatters the darkness of sin and evil. Light is grace; darkness is sin. Light symbolizes safety and peace. The words from this particular reading probably were part of an early baptismal ritual in which thanksgiving is given for the rescue from darkness into light through the waters of baptism and entry into God’s kingdom as one born again. Christ is proclaimed as the head of the body, the church, that Christ has first place in everything created and has made “peace through the blood of the cross.” We move from an earthly king, David, to “the firstborn of all creation, kingdom of the beloved Son...”

Sometimes language is somewhat problematic when we speak of titles applied to Jesus. In our world and more specifically in our society the idea of “King” or “royalty” is so foreign that it is hard to relate to it, let alone make it a part of our belief system. However Messianic expectations were alive and strong during the time of Jesus, and the psalm for today echoes the return of the King of David’s line. The word messiah is a translation of the Hebrew word meaning the “anointed one.” The people living around the Mediterranean basin during the time of Jesus lived in a world that was filled with spirits and invisible powers. The idea that one’s enemy could invoke dangerous and angry spirits and force them to attack was a frightening prospect. Jesus offered safety and protection in a newly ordered universe for the people. Jesus was indeed very good news to a people who lived in a world clogged with spirits. Jesus had no kingly pretensions. He ruled over the heart and minds of people with love and forgiveness. He carried no scepter. His kingdom was different from the one which condemned Him. To a dying king, the criminal on His left said “remember me.” He wasn’t the fairy tale king who “lived happily ever after.” But He promises us the kind of love and forgiveness which will guarantee that we will live happily ever after!

**Rev. Michael J. Crookston, Pastor**

**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.

Oct. Expenses	Amount	Week	Collection
Maintenance	\$ 300.00	Oct. 2	\$ 9,139.00
Phone	\$ 170.50	Oct. 9	\$ 9,694.00
Electric	\$ 1,179.70	Oct. 16	\$ 9,067.00
Festival Expense	\$ 5,296.70	Oct. 23	\$ 6,395.00
Gas	\$ 266.66	Oct. 30	\$ 7,790.96
Other Utilities	\$ 134.99		
Misc. Office	\$ 902.12		
Church/Liturgy	\$ 4,472.92		
Loan Payment	\$ 5,000.00		
Payroll	\$ 21,954.60		
Diocesan Expenses	\$ 15,209.60		
(Breakdown)			
Accent	\$ 775.20		
Ed. Assessment	\$ 6,947.50		
Dio. Assessment	\$ 4,031.84		
Insurance	\$ 3,220.06		
Data Processing	\$ 235.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 54,887.34</b>		



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

**Advent Day of Recollection**

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will join in an Advent Day of Recollection at St. Emma’s Monastery in Greensburg on Saturday, December 3rd. The cost is \$35 by November 28th. For more information call Kathy Byron (724-787-2415).

**Remembering our Beloved Dead**

Throughout the month of November we remember our deceased relatives and friends in our prayers and at Mass. There is a book in the front of the church where you can list the names of all of the deceased members of your families and friends.

**Little Things for Little People**

We are collecting new baby/toddler blankets and toys for pre-school age and under valued at 15 or less for Santa to pass out when he visit our program in December. They can drop them off at the parish office.

**Christmas Fruit Baskets**

Once again we will offer boxes of fruit for Christmas. We will get the fruit from DeCarlo’s Fruit Market, the cost is \$23 per box. The deadline is **December 12**. Pick up **December 22, 4—6 pm or December 23, Noon—2 pm**. Please fill out the form below and return with your payment.

**CHRISTMAS FRUIT BASKET ORDER**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**# FRUIT BOXES** \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT IS ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_

**PICK-UP: DEC. 22—4:00-6:00 PM or DEC. 23—NOON-2:00 PM**

**The Feast of Christ the King!**

This Sunday we recognize Jesus and Christ the King of all things. It is the last Sunday of our Church calendar. Last year we celebrated a Year of Mercy where we focused on the Mercy of God in our lives and how much we do rely on the Mercy of God. This year has been designated as "The Year of Grace." We will talk about the Grace of God and how that Grace enables each of us to be the best we can be in life. As we begin this new Church Year, we pray that our hearts will be open to the Grace of God!

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

This Tuesday, **November 22** at 7:00 p.m.

Rehearsal is tomorrow, Monday, **November 21** at 7:00 pm.

Sponsors or their proxy should be in attendance also.

**Cookies are needed for the reception. If you are able, you may bring them to the Parish Office on Nov. 21 or 22.**

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WILL BE BRINGING COOKIES. Thank you and God bless you.**

**Christmas Angel Tree**



I would just like to remind you that next week starts the Advent Season, and you will all have the opportunity to take a name from our "Giving Tree." The tree will have names of local people who need our help to celebrate Christmas this year. I know that you will be as generous this year as you were last year. If you have any questions about this year's Angel Tree you can contact the office.

**Looking Ahead...**

It is amazing how quickly time flies once November hit us, and it won't be long before the Christmas Season is upon us. As our schedules fill up quickly, there are a number of dates I want you to be aware of.

Advent is the time to prepare for the greatest gift God has given us, the forgiving love we find through His Son. In celebrating this forgiveness we will offer the sacrament of Reconciliation throughout our region. The dates and times for our Penance Services are listed below.

- December 6 Epiphany (6:30 pm)
- December 7 West Newton (6:30)
- December 12 Yukon (6:30 pm)
- December 13 Rostraver (6:30)
- December 15 Perryopolis
- December 16 Herminie (6:30 pm)
- December 17 Belle Vernon (Saturday, 12:00 Noon)



Throughout December the Saturday confessions will be canceled in lieu of the services.

I hope that you mark these dates down and make an effort to come and bring your family to this life-giving sacrament.

**Sympathy and Prayers**

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

**THE ROSARY IS PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 8:30 AM, PRIOR TO THE 9:00 AM MASS. PLEASE JOIN US!**

*Liturgies of the Week*

**November 19—Vigil**

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Ralph Mandarino—Niece, Maria Mandarino

**November 20—Solemnity of Christ the King**

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
11:00 am (Date of Birth) Michael Capco—Linda & Raymond Rathway

**Monday, November 21—Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

No Mass Today

**Tuesday, November 22—St. Cecilia**

8:00 am Jean Ferreri—Cliff & Kim Gorski & Josie Ondulick  
7:00 pm Sacrament of Confirmation

**Wednesday, November 23—Ss. Pope Clement I/ Columban/Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro**

No Mass Today

**Thursday, November 24—Thanksgiving Day**

10:00 am (Date of Birth) Sarah Bednarzyk—Daughter, Kathleen

**Friday, November 25**

8:00 am Sam & Phil Iacovangelo—Tammy & Tim

**Saturday, November 26—Vigil**

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
4:30 pm Domenico & Antonia (Santori) Vagnoni—Gloria Vagnoni Beck & Daughter, Karen

**November 27—First Sunday of Advent**

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Sam Suppa, Jr.—Wife, Annette & Children, Sam, Angela & Barbara  
11:00 am Romaine Kerestes—Joan & John Ciccarelli

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE—November 26/27**

	Lector	Lit. Coord	EM	Server
4:30 pm	C. Gorski	S. Wawro	S. Wawro	A. Peden
9:00 am	E. Bagay	B. Mallonee	B. Mallonee	N. Jodon
11:00 am	L. Nallo	S. Kroskie	S. Kroskie	M. Ceccarelli

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS ON BROAD**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH**

**Parade on Broad at 2:00 pm**

**Festivities on Church grounds 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm**

**ORDER FORMS FOR MEMORIAL LUMINARIA'S ARE IN THE PAMPHLET RACKS.**



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