



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

January 29, 2023

Mass Schedule

Saturday
4:30 PM

Tuesday, 8:00 AM

Sunday
9:00 AM
11:00 AM

Friday, 8:00 AM

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Crookston Pastor
mcrookston@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

Baptism Preparation

Third Wednesday of every month. Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

Religious Education/Formation

Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

(RCIA) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, please call the Faith Formation Office.

Reconciliation

Confessions are on Saturday: Epiphany—11:30 a.m. and St. Sebastian—3:30 p.m.. You may also call at any time for an appointment for confession.



Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal
caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ sssbv.org



From the Pastor

We are called upon to be a people of humble hearts...

This week we are all being challenged to look at not only our actions in life but also and more importantly our attitudes. In the gospel we are given the Beatitudes which stand as true wisdom calling us all to live lives of justice, love and compassion in our relationships with one another as well as with God. In all of our readings for this week we can see words that were written to a specific group of people in ancient times is still just as relevant today.

Our liturgy starts off with the Old Testament reading taken from Zephaniah. This prophet speaks to a people about their arrogance. Here they were on the brink of being taken captive by a foreign power the Babylonians, and their pride and their arrogance was all they could see. He encourages them to turn back to the Lord and take refuge in Him. As we look at our own society, it is arrogance and pride once again that has turned people away from the Lord. We rely on things outside of ourselves and we forget how we have gotten all of these things. It is a lack of trust in God that brought about the downfall of the people in the day of Zephaniah, and here we are thousands of years later repeating their mistakes. Saint Paul continues this train of thought by reminding us all that we have all been chosen by God, not because of wisdom or wealth, rather we have been chosen by virtue of our Baptism in Christ. He tells the people of Corinth that human boastfulness is empty and counts for nothing.

Jesus in the Gospel gives His Sermon on the Mount which shows us what it means to be counted among the "blessed" in God's Kingdom. Along with Zephaniah, Jesus reminds us that God can only work through lowliness and humility. Each of the Beatitudes shows us an "action" or "life situation" that is rewarded by God. Through the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount we are reminded that through our actions we participate in making that Kingdom of God a reality, and they guide all of us to live lives of justice, love and compassion.

The real danger with arrogance in life is that we do not always see it; in ourselves or even in our actions. Humility allows us to be more aware not only of the blessings we have in life but also helps us see where we can make a difference in the life of someone else. When we live lives of humility and peace, the presence of God goes with us in everyone we meet and in everything we accomplish in life. This is the ultimate goal we all should strive to achieve. Whenever we



forgo selfishness for the good of others, we help bring that presence of God. Remember that in life we are all Blessed, now it is our responsibility to walk humbly before God and one another.

SCHOOL NEWS

There will be an **Open House**, for new families wishing to attend St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School, today Sunday, **January 29**, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Open registration for the 2023-2024 School year will begin on **February 1** for Pre-K through 8th grade. For more information call 724-929-5143.

Stewardship of Treasure—January 22, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	5,307.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	87.00
Votives:	\$	257.75
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	17.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	231.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$	25.00
Mission Coop:	\$	153.00
Christmas:	\$	45.00

Total January 21/22

\$ 6,122.75

Contribution statements....

Remember if you are in need of your statement from the Church regarding your contributions, please give us a call at the office.

St. Sebastian & Epiphany Purse Bash

A Purse Bash & Unique bake sale will be held on Sunday, **April 30** at Epiphany Parish Hall from 2—5 pm. Tickets are \$30 and available in the Parish Office. Only 200 tickets to be sold! Please make checks out to: Epiphany of Our Lord. We will be selling tickets before & after Masses this weekend and next.

Collection for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe

Annually, our Diocese participates in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe on the first Sunday of February. This year, the Collection will be taken next week. The proceeds from this collection will help the Church to overcome the challenges of rebuilding after decades of atheistic communist rule, bringing light to twenty-nine nations in Central and Eastern Europe, such as Croatia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, and Ukraine. The citizens of Central and Eastern Europe have been freed from the evil of communism for over thirty years, but great need still remains. Although the tyranny of communism did not snuff out the Catholic faith in these countries, the people of Central and Eastern Europe do need our assistance and financial help because they do not have the resources to "Restore the Church and Build the Future" on their own. Because of the generous response from parishioners in past years, the Bishops of the United States were able to provide aid immediately to Ukraine when Russia attacked that nation last February. Grants were made available for humanitarian aid to victims and refugees in Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, and Moldavia. Food, tents, blankets, and personal hygiene products were provided at various relief centers during the early days of the invasion. Please be generous with this most needed help. We are called upon to be a people of humble hearts.



FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

Next Tuesday, **February 7**, there will be a meeting for the parents/guardians of those students who will make their First Holy Communion this Spring. It will be held at **St. John the Baptist Church**, Perryopolis at 6:00 p.m. For those who are not able to make this meeting, there will be a repeat meeting on **February 20**, here at St. Sebastian at 6:30 p.m. in the Church.



KNOW HIM: The Last Supper and the Gift of the Eucharist set March 9 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg

Registration is now open for KNOW HIM: The Last Supper and the Gift of the Eucharist, set for Thursday, **March 9**, at 2 and 6 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. This experiential event, part of the Diocese of Greensburg Eucharistic Revival efforts, begins with a prayer service led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick followed by a keynote address regarding the gift of the Eucharist from Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle, Vicar General of the Diocese of Greensburg and Rector of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. Afterward, attendees will make their way through the rooms at Christ Our Shepherd Center for an unforgettable Eucharistic journey. One room will feature a life-sized print of The Last Supper mural created by Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci, along with an explanation of its scriptural nuances from art historian Liz Lev, a former didactic consultant for the Vatican Museums. Another room will feature Monsignor Michael J. Begolly, Pastor of Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysburg, discussing his recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land and preparing to receive the Eucharist. Father Christopher J. Pujol, Parochial Vicar of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, will lead a discussion and demonstration in another room about the significance of washing feet. Bishop Kulick himself will discuss the bread of life and the symbolism of Easter bread while guests sample paska bread. This event is free of charge as part of the Diocese of Greensburg's Eucharistic Revival efforts. Seating is limited. The public is welcome. Visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival to register.

Blessing of Throats

Each year the Church commemorates the feast of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr celebrated on February 3rd. Because St. Blaise is the patron saint for the protection against throat diseases, we will bless throats after Mass on this Friday **February 3rd**.



Ladies of Faith Group will meet this Thursday, **February 2**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

Liturgies of the Week

January 28—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Mary Louise Barger—Donna Bitonti

January 29—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Susan McPhearson—MaryAnn & Helen Zelinski

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

Monday, January 30

No Mass Today

Tuesday, January 31—St. John Bosco

8:00 am Timmy Trasatti—Sister, Tammy

Wednesday, February 1

No Mass Today

Thursday, February 2—Presentation of the Lord

No Mass Today

Friday, February 3—St. Blaise

8:00 am (Date of Birth) George Petrisin—Bonnie & Don Halinka

Saturday, February 4—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) William Mattozzi—Wife, Linda & Family & Friends

February 5—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Dennis Fonzi—Cy & Arlene Schmitt

11:00 am Marion Pawlak—Pawlak HVAC Employees

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—February 4/5

	Lector	Lit. Coord	EM	Server
4:30 pm	C. Gorski	S. Wawro	S. Wawro	R. Buretz
9:00 am	M. Shaughnessy	B. Moskovitz	B. Moskovitz	A. Frank
11:00 am	M. Patterson	S. Kroskie	S. Kroskie	B. Henderson

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

Pastoral Council

There will be a meeting of the members of the Pastoral Council on Thursday **February 2** at 6:30 in the Parish Center.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

A donation of a gift card, yarn, or money is being requested by the Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Sebastian Church. Whatever you can do will be greatly appreciated. And please consider joining us--the more hands working together, the more people we can serve. Donations can be left at the church office. The next meeting is Wednesday, **February 1**, at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Center.

BIBLE STUDY -YOU ARE INVITED!

What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith

A 10-week video study exploring our Catholic Faith filmed in Rome.

What do we believe? Why do we believe it? Discover or re-discover the riches of our faith.

Join us at the Parish Center on Tuesday, **February 28** from 6—7:30 p.m. The Study Set which consists of a workbook, book, chart, and online access is \$30. Please register by contacting the parish office at 724-929-9300, or Sherry at 724-377-9737 by February 13th.



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