



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

July 2, 2023

Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:30 PM

Sunday

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

Tuesday, 8:00 AM

Friday, 8:00 AM

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Crookston Pastor

mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich Business Manager

dllisovich@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

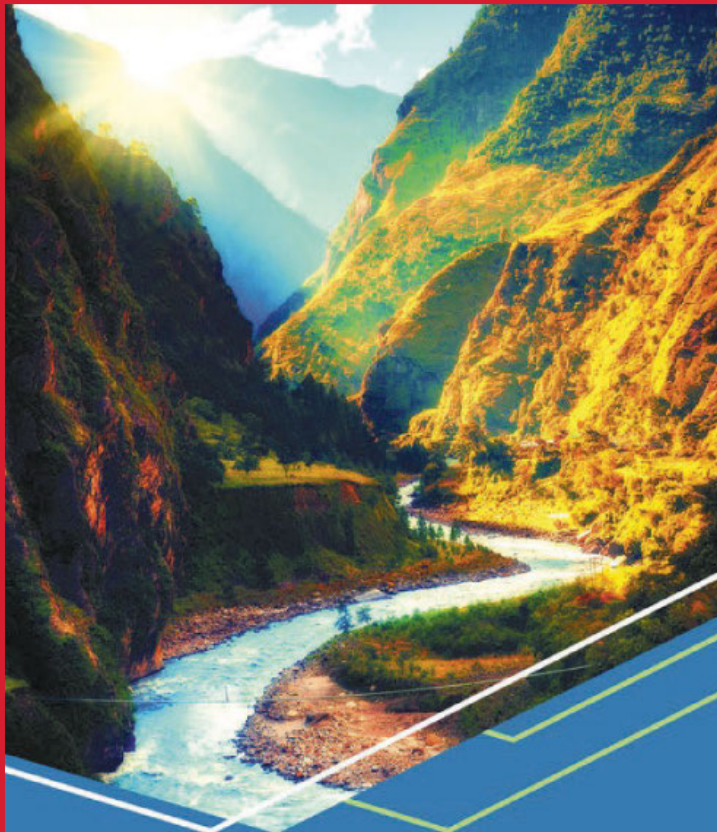
Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

(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.



13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple--amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." - Mt 10:42

Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal

caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Tiffany Miller: School Business Manager

tmiller@sssbv.org

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ sssbv.org



From the Pastor—Being Hospitable in life...

It is certainly true that in life we all take many things for granted, this goes with material things as well as relationships we have with one another. It isn't that we do not appreciate the blessings we have received, it is just that they become commonplace and we expect them to be there. It becomes a matter of trying to become more aware of people and things outside of ourselves. This is what our liturgy deals with today, simply becoming aware of the good things that people do for us and being grateful. It is easy for us to become so involved with our lives and the tasks that are always before us that we allow ourselves to be blind to what is around us. Once this happens we start taking one another for granted and show absolutely no appreciation for the goodness that we receive.



In the first reading we find that Elisha who was known as “a man of God” was not taken for granted or overlooked by a woman who rewards him for his goodness. It was through her generous hospitality that Elisha is given a place to stay, and for her kindness Elisha does not overlook her generosity rather he rewards her. It is interesting that he is rewarding her not for her faith rather for her generosity, something that we can all learn from.

In the letter to the Romans St. Paul reminds us that by virtue of our Baptism we all belong to Christ. This is not something that can be taken lightly. Paul is telling us that because we do belong to Jesus that our behavior and our attitudes in life should follow accordingly. It is not just the fact that we share in the resurrection of Jesus, but we also are to be a part of his ministry as well. By our actions and attitudes we give glory to what our Baptism is all about and how it calls us to live.

In our Gospel from Matthew this week Jesus goes even further in reminding us how we all need to be hospitable to one another and sometimes just forget about our own agendas in life. The world in which Jesus lived was one that was riddled with many social rules. These pertained to simple etiquette as well as to how one lived their life from day to day. Being born into a family brought with it many obligations and responsibilities. Depending on the order of birth and the gender, there was much that was demanded. Jesus was not overlooking these responsibilities, he was simply reminding people that there was more to life, and there were obligations outside of the family in which you were born. The love of God and the simple hospitality to others must never be overlooked. We must never use our responsibilities, even to our families as an excuse not to be loving and welcoming to others. If we want to be a follower we must daily carry the cross of what it means to follow. That cross calls each of us to be aware of the goodness that is around us, the kindness that people offer and the generosity that we share, and in turn be grateful for that. If we start to overlook the simple things in life because we feel our responsibilities are more important, then we need to re-think what it means to call ourselves followers of Christ.

If we are good and kind even to the stranger then God will reward us for our kindness. The opposite is also true. As we gather this weekend we all need to look around and be grateful for the people in our lives and for the many blessings that we share, and in that gratitude we need to let other people know just how grateful we are.

A Festival & An Outing at St. John's in Perry!

St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis Parish Festival will be on Sunday, **July 16**, 11 am to 7 pm. Come join the fun!

Sight & Sound Theater—Join with St. John's to see “**MOSES**,” in Lancaster, Pa and to the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes/National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, in Maryland. **August 2-3**, Cost: \$379 per person. For more information call 412-691-6083.

Matters of Sexual Misconduct Information

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.

Stewardship of Treasure

June 25, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	6,383.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	215.00
Votives:	\$	156.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	100.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	88.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	83.00
Peter's Pence:	\$	832.00

Total June 24/25

\$ 7,857.00

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

Embracing the challenges of freedom

This 4th of July Weekend should be celebrated with as much enthusiasm and gratitude that we can offer. Our Freedom is something that we should never take for granted and should always celebrate.

Too often in life we don't appreciate the blessings we have tending to take things for granted. Our freedom is one of those things. Our prayers need to focus on just what it is that makes our country such a blessing. Freedom is never "free" it comes with such a cost, and as a nation we look with grateful hearts to the countless men and women who have made our freedom possible. This 4th of July, just be grateful for the people you have in your life, be grateful for the families you have been blessed with and above all else, be grateful for this great nation that we call "home."

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, July 4, in observation of *Independence Day*. The office will reopen Wednesday, July 5.



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

The St. Vincent store certainly has become a mainstay in Monessen, as well as throughout the Mon Valley. People come from all around and it is good to know that so many people are being helped. Please know that all of your donations have been greatly appreciated!

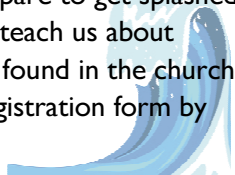
If we are to continue to be of service to our area, we do need some help. The Gospel calls all of us to help the poor and the needy whenever we can. The store can certainly use your help! If you are able to volunteer a few hours a week, please know that it would be greatly appreciated. They are also in need of some men to help moving things around in the store. If anyone is interested please call the store at 724-684-5147 and speak with Kathy Steffy.

Annual St. Sebastian Junque Sale

This year's Junque Sale will be held **July 28 & 29**. We are collecting donations on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 am—12 pm and 6 pm—8 pm at the Parish Hall. We are **not accepting** clothing, televisions, exercise equipment, dictionaries or encyclopedia's or large furniture. If anyone needs an appointment to donate items, please call Bonnie Halinka at 724-322-0355. We are in need of volunteers as well as anyone needing community service hours.

Vacation Bible School—Make A Splash!

This year VBS will take place **August 8 –11** at Epiphany of Our Lord Parish hall and grounds from 9:00—11:00 a.m. Water is the theme, so prepare to get splashed while hearing how Jesus uses water to teach us about God's love! Registration forms can be found in the church pamphlet racks. Please return your registration form by Tuesday, August 1.



Liturgies of the Week

July 1—Vigil

4:30 pm John Monack—Parents, Frank & Deanna Monack

July 2—Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Isabella Rhea Herron—Dennis & Jeanne Faieta

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

Monday, July 3—St. Thomas

No Mass Today

Tuesday, July 4—Independence Day

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Edna Patricia Garnic—Andrea Garnic & Family

Wednesday, July 5—St. Anthony Zaccaria/

St. Elizabeth of Portugal

No Mass Today

Thursday, July 6—St. Maria Goretti

No Mass Today

Friday, July 7

8:00 am Alex & Mary Delopitro—Daughter, Alexia Jones

Saturday, July 8—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm George Petrisin—Family

July 9—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Chris Williams—Mom & Dad

11:00 am George Galiotto—Wife, Faith

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—July 8/9

	Lectors	Lit. Coord/EM	Servers
4:30 pm	S. Wawro	C. Farrier	A. Peden
9:00 am	G. Klamerus	M. Shaughnessy	N. Jodon
11:00 am	C. Rhodes	S. Kroskie	H. Miller

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

2024 Mass Book

Intentions may now be requested for the 2024 Masses. Please fill out a Mass intention form which can be found in the church pamphlet racks or at the parish office. Forms should be turned in to the parish secretary.

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: JOSEPH RYGIEL. We extend our sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

Prayer Shawl Ministry—Knit or Crochet?

Join us on Wednesday, **July 5**, in the Parish Center at 11:00 a.m. Any questions call Joannie Brown (412-657-7880).



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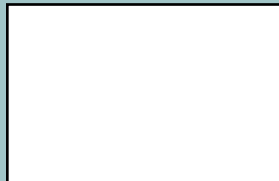
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