



# St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

June 25, 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](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich Business Manager**

[dllisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dllisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Scott J. Martin Director of Faith Formation**

[smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Dean Dellamalva Coordinator of Liturgical Music**

[ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Linda Drury Parish Secretary**

[ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Darleen Koury Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary**

[dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### Baptism Preparation

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

### Religious Education/Formation

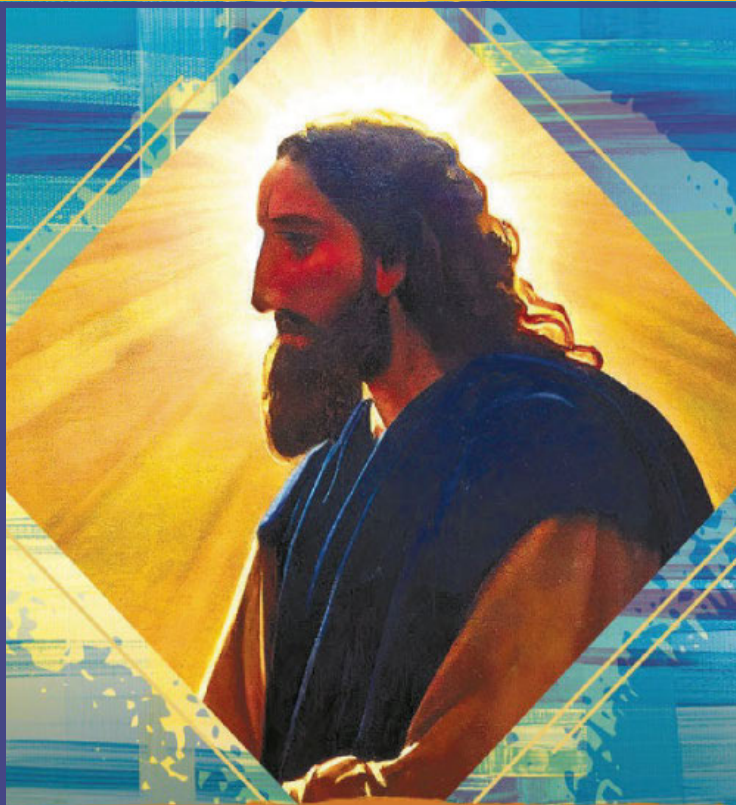
Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

### (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.



## 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father." - Mt 10:31-33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (©2001, 1986, 1979 CCD, ©LPS)

## Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

**Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal**

[caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Tiffany Miller: School Business Manager**

[tmiller@sssbv.org](mailto:tmiller@sssbv.org)

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ [sssbv.org](http://sssbv.org)



## From the Pastor Enabling can be disabling...



How many times in life have you done what is right only to have it backfire and give you grief? When this happens, it seems that we look

to see what went wrong or who is to blame. That is exactly what Jeremiah is dealing with in the first reading. He was doing what he thought was the will of God, he was doing everything right and yet he was being persecuted and blamed; Jeremiah was on the brink of despair. He cried out to God for help, something that we all can relate to.

St. Paul in the second reading tries to remedy this type of situation for us in life. He shows that through Adam, sin entered the world. With sin comes all kinds of confusion and disappointment. If everyone was on the same page in life, we would probably not find ourselves in a situation like Jeremiah's. However, life is not like that because sin broke through God's plan for us all. It was only through the gift of Christ that we are able to find some answers and redemption.

In looking for answers to our problems, many times we find that it is simply easier to "give in" and go along with whatever is happening; even if that means going against ourselves and what we know to be true. It is much harder to stand up for what is right, and it certainly is much easier to simply go along with whatever the crowd asks of us.

The Gospel message for this week encourages us basically to be true to ourselves and things will be as they should. It is when we deviate from our own feelings that we run into trouble. For example, how often have we all been guilty of allowing people to take advantage of us and we give in, all the while knowing that we shouldn't. We have all been guilty of enabling others in their behavior and attitudes because it is just easier. Sometimes we simply don't have the energy to stand up to them and call them out, and sometimes it is just easier to keep our mouth shut and allow things just to happen. Eventually though it does catch up with us.

If we enable our children and never hold them accountable for their actions or lack of actions, then they grow up to be adults who are never responsible, and when this happens we are the ones who pay! Enabling anyone with any behavior is never life giving, it will ultimately be detrimental to all involved.

Jesus is reminding us that we all need to stand up for what is right and just, we need to speak up when we feel the need to, we should all be proactive rather than sit back and do nothing. Fear and uncertainty are a part of everyone's life, but it is the fear and uncertainty that tells us what should be done. If I am afraid to stand up to someone because of how they may react, then I should do just that. If I remain silent and do nothing then everyone loses. The Disciples were afraid to speak up for fear of what might happen to them, but Jesus tells them not to be afraid, to follow what is right and do what is good. This should be our motto in life as well, to do what is right no matter the cost and never give into fear and doubts.

## Peter's Pence/Support of the Holy See

The annual collection for Peter's Pence and the Support of the Holy See will be taken up this weekend. Peter's Pence helps fund the charitable works of the Holy Father and provides emergency relief assistance for people suffering from war, oppression and natural disasters. This collection also helps the diocese meet its obligation to contribute to the support of the operational expenses of the Holy See.

### Stewardship of Treasure—June 18, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	5,624.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	95.00
Votives:	\$	146.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	112.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	245.00

**Total June 17/18**      **\$ 6,222.00**

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

Saint John the Baptist, Perryopolis Annual Parish Festival will be on Sunday, **July 16**, 11 am to 7 pm.

Foods include BBQ Chicken, Homemade Halupki, Haluski, Pierogi and much more. There will be a Kid's Area, a Basket Raffle, 50/50 Drawing, and live entertainment by ATM Productions and Tim Litvin and the Nature Boy Band (1pm-3pm). You're invited to come and join the fun!

**Sight & Sound Theater**—St. John's is also inviting you to join their journey to see "**MOSES**," a production at Sights and Sounds Theater in Lancaster, Pa and to the National Shrine of Grotto of Lourdes / National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg, Md. **August 2-3**, — **Cost: \$379 per person double room**. For more information, please contact Pat Filak at 412-691-6083.

## Catholic Charities Golf Outing Set for August 11

Only four openings for foursomes remain for Catholic Charities' 21st annual Paul R. Smiy Memorial Golf Outing, set for Friday, **August 11**, at Ligonier Country Club, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. To register or for more information, visit [CCharitiesGreensburg.org](http://CCharitiesGreensburg.org) or call 724-837-1840, ext. 1504.

## Mon Valley Catholic High School will

be celebrating their 50th anniversary reunion. The event will be held on **Saturday, August 26** at the Mon Valley Country Club and an informal meet and greet social will be held on **Friday, August 25**. Contact information on any classmate is appreciated. Please call Kathy Gales Costantino (724-258-7508 or 412-916-6900) or Susan Brandemart Pankiewicz (724-797-1712). All former faculty are cordially invited to attend. Those wishing to attend can email Dominic Pantoni at [Dome-nic.pantoni31@gmail.com](mailto:Dome-nic.pantoni31@gmail.com).



Consider online giving, click the "my Offering" button on our parish website.

**Organ Recital**

Even though we have had our new organ for a while now, we will have a recital to “show it off” on **September 17** at 3:00 P.M. At this point, I just ask that you put it on your calendars. There will be more information on this as the date gets closer.



**Church / Kitchen Cleaning**

One of the facts of life that we can never avoid is the simple notion that everything needs cleaned every once in a while.

Over the past two weeks we had a group of people clean the Church as well as the Kitchen at the school. Please know how grateful we are to you for your service and you certainly gave a “gift” to the entire parish.

**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 and anyone needing community service hours.

**Summer Priesthood Vocation Camp QVD**

Attention all Catholic young men entering grades 9-12! Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for you! You are invited to attend the *Quo Vadis Days* Camp to spend time with other young men your age who are open to God’s call in their life. QVD will be led by the seminarians of the Dioceses of Greensburg and is supported by the Office for Priestly Vocations. This camp will be held **July 23 to 26** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. If you are interested, please visit

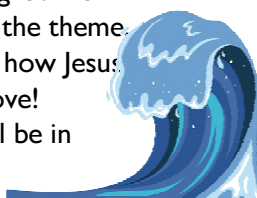


[greensburgpriest.org](http://greensburgpriest.org) for more information and registration.

**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 a.m.—11:00 a.m. Water is the theme. prepare to get splashed while hearing how Jesus uses water to teach us about God’s love!

More information and registration will be in future bulletins.



*Liturgies of the Week*

**June 24—Vigil**

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Judith Moody—St. Sebastian Class of 2009

**June 25—Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am Hazel Costella—Pam, Patti, Tom & Families  
11:00 am (Date of Birth) Marion Pawlak—Pawlak HVAC Employees

**Monday, June 26**

No Mass Today

**Tuesday, June 27—St. Cyril of Alexandria**

8:00 am Paul Joseph Grata—Robert Niccolai & Family

**Wednesday, June 28—St. Irenaeus**

No Mass Today

**Thursday, June 29—Ss. Peter and Paul**

No Mass Today

**Friday, June 30—First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church**

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Leonard Stringhill—Judy Stringhill



**Saturday, July 1—Vigil**

3:30 pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
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

<b>MINISTRY SCHEDULE—July 1/2</b>			
	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Lit. Coord/EM</b>	<b>Servers</b>
4:30 pm	J. Wasicek	K. Molesky	M. Wasicek
9:00 am	L. Nallo	R. Smereczniak	A. Frank
11:00 am	A. Hoffman	R. Hoffman	C. Hoffman

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

**Baptism Congratulations**

To **Pike Charles Flower**, son of Greg and Jill (Hildenbrand) Flower who was baptized in Christ last Sunday. We welcome Pike into the Church and into our parish family. God bless him and his family.



**Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week**

*Christ promises to acknowledge us before his Father if we will acknowledge him. In what ways are we called to acknowledge Christ today? In what ways are we tempted to deny him, to distance ourselves from him?*



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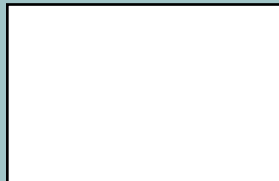
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