

# St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

July 9, 2023

## Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:30 PM

Sunday

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

Tuesday, 8:00 AM

Friday, 8:00 AM

I WILL  
GIVE  
YOU

*rest*

## 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.

## 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)



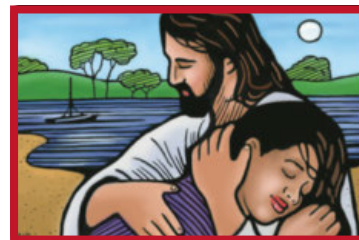
## From the Pastor—Our God is Meek and Humble

Life being what it is can become so hectic at times that it seems all we do is run from one thing to another. We forget how to stop and just enjoy the life that is before us. It sounds strange but I think we all need to learn what it means to just relax!

Our readings for this Sunday give us a refreshing look at not only God but also of our relationship with God. It reminds us that sometimes we take life and the tasks of life way too seriously. We all do need to just relax sometimes and enjoy the bounty of God's presence and goodness. Zechariah in the first reading gives us a wonderful expression of looking at God. For the ancients of Israel, God was that valiant leader who would sometimes join them in battle against their enemies. God was the triumphant ruler who watched from the heavens with power and might. However today we are presented with the paradox of a messiah-king who does not come as a mighty and triumphant warrior but as a meek servant of justice and peace, and they make for perfect anticipation of Jesus' own understanding of his own vocation.

The gospel today is a breath of fresh air for it reminds us of the importance of rest. We live in such a fast paced life that it is sometimes difficult for us to take the time to just sit back and do nothing. Jesus reminds us that such rest is essential for continuing the work of discipleship. Jesus in the gospel pours out his "meek and humble" heart in love for both God and for his disciples. He praises God for graciously willing "little ones" to be the recipients of revelation. He calls disciples to himself that he might offer them deserved rest from their burdens. Jesus so readily identifies with the weaknesses and burdens of the human condition. He offers us rest if we just surrender to doing God's "gracious will" and come to him. He reminds us that he will always be there for us giving us rest and refreshment.

We have much to learn from both Zechariah as well as Jesus in the gospel. For the prophets, their understanding of God was that of an overwhelmingly real and shattering present creator. The God revealed in Scripture is indeed one that shows feelings and emotions, who rejoices, grieves, and gets angry, who is moved with compassion and mercy, ultimately a God who cares dearly and loves passionately. Unfortunately, though, our vision of God has often moved away from such an understanding. We have often thought of God in philosophical terms, as the Supreme Being, eternal, immutable and impassive. Moreover we pray to God as the Almighty and the Most High which the scriptures testify too. Yet, today's readings make clear for us the biblical understanding of God. What a joy it is to hear Zechariah speaking of a God who is not triumphant but humble. In a like manner, Jesus reveals himself and by the same token the God who sent him as "meek and humble of heart." The God of Jesus is a God of compassion who does not seek to impress with might but to win us over through love.



### Stewardship of Treasure—July 2, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	7,444.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	79.00
Votives:	\$	141.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	110.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	459.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$	5.00
Peter's Pence:	\$	99.00

**Total July 1/2**      **\$ 8,337.00**

**Family Reunion Musical Comedy**— Thursday July 20 at 7:00 pm will be performed at **Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Mack Hall (200 Leger Rd, North Huntingdon)** by Alabaster Performing Arts. This heartwarming story reunites eccentric aunts, uncles and cousins, featuring songs *Hooked On A Feeling*, *Celebrate Good Times*, *Humble & Kind*, *Born To Be Wild*, *I Speak Jesus* and *Children of the Light*. Family Reunion will also be performed Saturday, July 22 at St. Bruno Church, Greensburg. For tickets, call (724) 516-5189 or purchase online at [AlabasterPerformingArts.org](http://AlabasterPerformingArts.org).

**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.

June Expenses		Amount	Week	Collection
Maintenance	\$	210.99	June 4	\$ 7,191.00
Phone	\$	168.92	June 11	\$ 10,087.00
Electric	\$	1,058.03	June 18	\$ 6,222.00
Other Utilities	\$	666.60	June 25	\$ 7,857.00
Misc. Office	\$	2,337.77	<i>June Electronic Offerings</i>	
Liturgical	\$	4,170.95		\$ 3,570.41
Payroll	\$	22,021.81	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 34,927.41</b>
Diocesan Expenses	\$	15,018.00		
(Breakdown)				
Accent	\$	771.80		
Ed. Assessment	\$	6,959.06		
Dio. Assessment	\$	4,032.08		
Insurance	\$	3,220.06		
Data Processing	\$	35.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>45,653.07</b>		



Consider online giving, click the

"my Offering" button on our parish website.



**St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store**

Last week I put an article in the bulletin requesting help for the store. I cannot emphasize enough what a need there is. Our St. Vincent Thrift Store certainly helps many people throughout the Valley, they do need your help. If you can give a couple hours of your time to help at the store, please know how grateful they will be. If you think you can help, please give Kathy Steffy a call at the store: 724-684-5147.

**Annual St. Sebastian Junque Sale**

This year's Junque Sale will be held **July 28 & 29. Until July 21 we are collecting donations Monday thru Friday from 9 am—3 pm and ALSO continue to collect on Tuesday & Thursday from 6 pm—8 pm in 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.



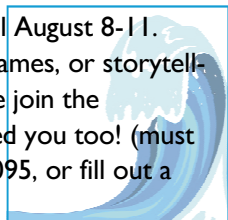
**Sight & Sound Theater**—St. John the Baptist Parish is sponsoring a trip to see “**MOSES,**” in Lancaster, Pa and the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes in Maryland. **August 2-3,** Cost: \$379 per person. For more information, call 412-691-6083.

**Vacation Bible School—Make A Splash!**

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.

**Help Us Make a Splash!**

Helpers needed For Vacation Bible School **August 8-11.** Could you assist us with crafts, Snacks, Games, or storytelling. Youth helpers in grades 5 – 12, Come join the fun! Adult helpers ages 18 and up we need you too! (must have clearances). Call Scott at 724-469-1095, or fill out a form from church.



*Liturgies of the Week*

**July 8—Vigil**

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

**Monday, July 10**

No Mass Today

**Tuesday, July 11—St. Benedict**

8:00 am (Date of Birth) David Sands—Barb & Ted Gera

**Wednesday, July 12**

No Mass Today

**Thursday, July 13—St. Henry**

No Mass Today

**Friday, July 14—St. Kateri Tekakwitha**

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Stephen Rudinec—Daughter, Terri Gardner

**Saturday, July 15—Vigil**

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Dr. David Brougher—+Wife, Carole

**July 16—Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

11:00 am (Death Anniv) Neil Cope—Frank Pendo and Donna & Brook Timko

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

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE—July 15/16**

	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Lit. Coord/EM</b>	<b>Servers</b>
4:30 pm	C. Gorski	S. Wawro	R. Buretz
9:00 am	E. Bagay	R. Smereczniak	C. Frank
11:00 am	A. Hoffman	R. Hoffman	C. Hoffman

**Sympathy and Prayers**

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to unforeseen circumstances, the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** had to cancel on July 5 and will meet Wednesday, **July 19,** at 11 am in the Parish Center.

**Readings for the week of July 9, 2023**

**Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 (see 1)/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30  
**Monday:** Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26  
**Tuesday:** Gn 32:23-33/ Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, and 15/Mt 9:32-38  
**Wednesday:** Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7  
**Thursday:** Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 10:7-15  
**Friday:** Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23  
**Saturday:** Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33  
**Next Sunday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:1, 11, 12-13, 14 (Luke 8:8)/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9





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