



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

August 27, 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

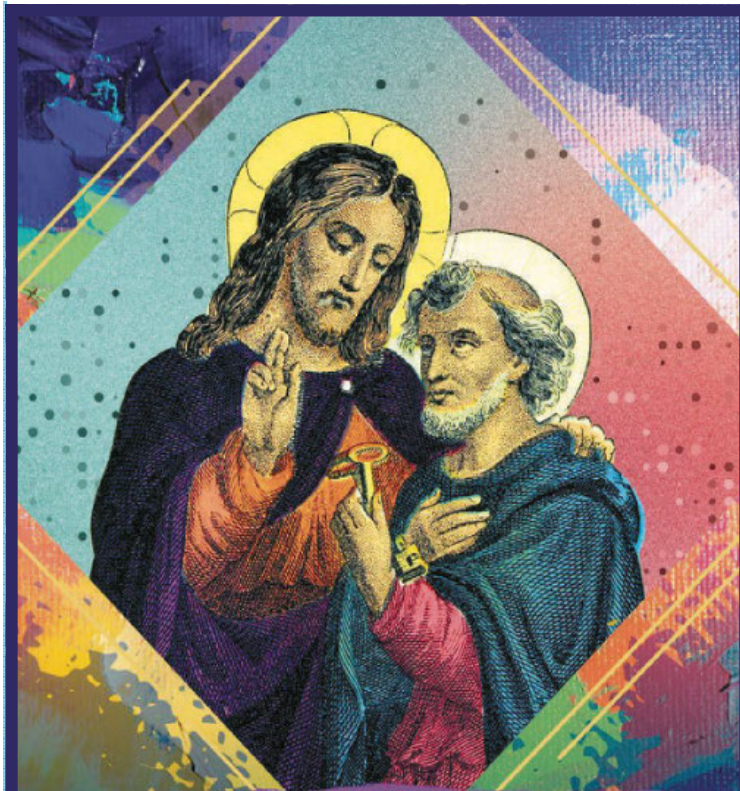
ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Linda Drury Parish Secretary

ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Darleen Koury Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary

dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

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



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.

From the Pastor

God reveals only Goodness

Sometimes it is a good thing for us to sit back and think about God's revelations to us. Our world constantly pushes us to become more independent and not have to look to others for help. We strive to become self-sustaining as individuals as well as a country. Today our liturgy speaks to us about the overwhelming presence of God in our midst. We are reminded that God is the one who sustains us and helps us deal with life and the problems life throws at us. It is this understanding that will ultimately bring us peace in life; we are never alone no matter how "independent" we feel we are. God is always the one who initiates and we respond.

God's generosity encompasses absolutely everything that this world is about. No matter where we live, work or play it is the generosity of God that constantly surrounds us. We are undoubtedly a people blessed beyond words; and yet for a people who have been given so very much, how can we be so negligent in our appreciation or even awareness of God's goodness? Too often in life we pride ourselves in our own accomplishments and even though we admit to having God's help, we still take a lot of the credit. Today's liturgy speaks to us about God's dominion over all the earth. In the first reading Isaiah reminds the people that it is not the power of kings or leaders that matters, it is God's power allowing them to rule and share their gifts. When they forget this and start operating out of their own agendas, God will step in. He gives us a message of hope; letting us know how all powerful and loving God is in life.

In the second reading we find the great thinker Paul reciting a prayer reminding us of the ever presence of God through the gift of Jesus in and among our world. He reminds us of the transcendence and the unpredictability of God's ways. In the gospel for this week, Matthew reminds us just how God reveals the mysteries of life to us. These are things that we cannot learn by ourselves, it is always the power and presence of God revealing divine goodness to us.

When Jesus asks the disciples who people say he was, it was Peter who confesses exactly what was revealed to him by God: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." God is constantly revealing to all of us goodness in life. In fact our own discipleship is a revelation. Only by God's gift is Peter able to make his profession of faith and receive his role of leadership.

Just as it was with Peter, we ourselves can recognize Jesus because God has revealed him to us. The good news of the church is that Christ trusts us to proclaim throughout the ages that his identity has been revealed by God. Jesus did not choose only great thinkers or saintly people to steer his church on a right course and make his name known. He chose ordinary humans who simply open themselves to the capacity to be great believers because they are first great hearers of the revelation. We all need to be more attentive to life and recognize the revelation that is being given to us!



Mission Co-Op Sunday—September 9/10

Sr. Maureen O'Brian, SC will be introducing the Sisters of Charity newest Mission Work in Pedro Carbo, Guayaquil, Ecuador.

The Mission: In 2010 the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill Korean Province celebrated 50 years in Korea. In gratitude for the Lord's blessings in South Korea and their mission in Yanji, China (1996) started a new mission in a poor area of Ecuador which consists of taking over a clinic, a school for children with disabilities and assisting with parish work. There is so much to do and so much help needed! These sisters can do the work only if you can help them with your prayers and donations! It is a joy and a blessing to be able to share what we have with others in need! . Your prayers and donations will bring blessings of hope and healing! God Bless you for your generosity!

Stewardship of Treasure—August 20, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	7,170.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	323.00
Votives:	\$	305.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	388.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	125.00
Catholic University:	\$	20.00
Assumption:	\$	664.00

Total Aug. 19/20 **\$ 8,995.00**

Special Collection

Diocesan Catholic Schools and Catholic University collection is this weekend, **August 26/27**. Please be as generous as possible.

Fall Fundraiser

The Ladies of Faith have paired up with McShane's Florist for a Fall Mum Fundraiser. All Mums are \$15 for 10" Mums in a variety of beautiful colors. Vouchers will be sold **this weekend, August 26/27**.

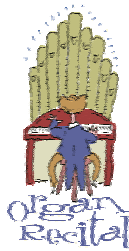


Mums can be picked up at McShane Florist, 1066 Rosstraver Road, Belle Vernon. Date to be announced. All proceeds benefit St. Sebastian Church.

The Lighter Side



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



Organ Recital

On **September 17** at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we are going to have a recital with our new organ. Even though it is not so new...we need to showcase it and let you know what it is capable of doing. We are so blessed that we have such

an instrument to add to our Liturgies, we just need to show it off! Amanda Nicholson who currently plays at the churches of St. Andrew the Apostle will be our presenter. We are looking forward to her recital. Mark your calendars for the 17th we will have more information in the coming weeks.

Formation for Our Children

Although we learn about God's goodness and His Church all of our lives, it is important to help our children to understand the presence of God's love through the Church and it's sacraments. A letter along with this year's calendar has been sent via e-mail to all of our families who are a part of our Formation Program. If you did not receive one, please let us know. We are asking that children register for formation, and these forms can be found in the back of the church, in the church office or on the website. Classes begin on Monday, **September 18** from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. If you have any questions, call Scott Martin at 724-929-9300.



Shoe Box Gift Project

Empty shoe boxes are needed for the St. Vincent de Paul Shoe Box Gift Project for Adults and Disabled Persons. You may bring the adult size boxes to the Parish Office. The boxes will be filled and wrapped in October and given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution. **A list of items needed** to fill the boxes are included in this bulletin. These items may also be brought to the Parish Office. Thank you and God bless you for your kindness.

Salt and Light Award Nominations

Do you know an individual or organization worthy of recognition for their time, treasure and talent? If so, we want to hear from you! Catholic Charities is seeking nominees in the categories of Humanitarianism, Philanthropy and Outstanding Human Service Organization. **Nominations** are being **accepted through October 31** for the 24th annual Communities of Salt & Light Awards Dinner. The dinner is scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2024, at Stratigos Banquet Centre, North Huntingdon. Nomination forms and criteria can be found at ccharitiesgreensburg.org under "Fundraisers."

Liturgies of the Week

August 26—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Peter J. Bednarczyk—Sons & Daughter, Kathleen
Sacrament of Baptism

August 27—Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
11:00 am Judith Moody—Cerella Coda

Monday, August 28—St. Augustine

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Tuesday, August 29—Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Thomas R. Hartman—Wife & Family

Wednesday, August 30

No Mass Today

Thursday, August 31

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, September 1

8:00 am Don Ondulick—Sue Ann Edwards

Saturday, September 2—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm Linda Rodriguez—Lynette Carpenter

September 3—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Nathan Terrence Dzimiera—Maher Family

11:00 am (Date of Birth) Rose McFall—Sons, Ronnie, Mike & Family

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—September 2/3

	Lectors	Lit. Coord/EM	Servers
4:30 pm	J. Wasicek	K. Molesky	M. Wasicek
9:00 am	G. Klamerus	M. Shaughnessy	N. Jodon
11:00 am	C. Rhodes	R. Messick	H. Miller

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: GENEVIEVE WARD and JOAN PICCHIARINI We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

Readings for the week of August 27, 2023

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30



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