



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. - Mt 17:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:30 PM	Tuesday, 8:00 AM
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Friday, 8:00 AM

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

3rd Wednesday of every month. Call 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.

Rev. Michael J. Crookston Pastor
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

From the Pastor-The Transfiguration of Jesus

This week we step out of Ordinary Time as we celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus. This feast represents a new awareness for the disciples of Jesus, but it also brings to all of us a new awareness as well. First of all, this miraculous event takes place on a mountain, which for the ancients meant that it was the site of divine revelation. Jesus is revealed to his disciples as being the true Son of God, even though those disciples had no idea what that could mean let alone what it was asking of them. Matthew in his gospel understands this event as a moment of new awareness. The disciples were led to see Jesus in the same way that God sees him.



As for the disciples, they left that mountain “transformed” because of what they experienced. Now, we look at what this miraculous event has to do with us in our lives. First of all, we have all had those experiences where we felt God present to us in a special way. It may have been a fleeting moment, but we have all had them. When we feel that closeness to God or that God is with us in a special way, we want to hold onto it and we don’t want that moment to leave. This is exactly what the disciples felt. When they saw Jesus turning “white as light” they did not want that moment to leave, they wanted to hold onto it. That is why Peter wanted to build three tents: “one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” The tents for the Jewish people represented home, because of the years they wandered through the desert. Those disciples wanted that moment to last.

When Jesus was transfigured in front of his friends, it was at that moment that things suddenly became clear to them. It was at that moment when they understood who Jesus was and why he came among them. As much as they wanted to stay on that mountain, Jesus quickly assures them that they have to descend the mountain and return to their lives. They were to take what they learned and use it in their own mission of life. Again, we can relate to that scenario. When we experience God’s presence and don’t want it to go, we want to stay and hold onto it in the same way. And, as Jesus told his disciples, he tells us also that we must take what we learn and use it in life.

St. Peter in the second reading reminds all of us that such insight can be ours as well. When we believe and pay attention to life we too can find the risen Christ transfigured. It is in the everyday simple things of life that we can truly find that presence of Christ. This will happen only if we are looking for it. When those friends of Jesus left that mountain they were changed people because of what they saw. You and I are to do the same. We are to share those moments of awareness by our actions and attitudes towards one another

Brown Bag Sunday

Our Brown Bag Sunday is next weekend, August 12 - 13. So...if you see any back packs or school supplies on sale pick them up now for the collection. Many students from our area have benefited from this collection in years past, know that you will be helping needy children with your generosity. As always I am grateful for your generous spirits and the many ways you share your goodness with others.



Stewardship of Treasure

July 30, 2023

Regular Offertory:	\$	7,883.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	124.00
Votives:	\$	302.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	32.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	157.00
Assumption:	\$	7.00

Total July 29/30 \$ 8,505.00

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

This Week
Vacation Bible School
Make A Splash!

August 8 – 11 from 9 – 11 AM



Epiphany of Our Lord Parish
44 Pennsylvania Boulevard, Monessen

Questions? Call Scott Martin at 724-469-1095

“JUNQUE” Sale

Last week we sponsored our annual JUNQUE sale and it was a tremendous success! I want to thank all of the workers who tirelessly worked throughout the month of July setting things up for the sale. It is their dedication and service that we as a parish family are grateful for! We thank all of our parishioners who donated their unwanted treasures to the sale, again without that we couldn't even have a sale. Last but certainly not least, I want to thank Bonnie Halinka for managing the entire event. Her guidance and dedication made it all come together. It was a wonderful event for the community at large to come out and just be with one another. For our parishioners who came and “shopped” we thank you! All in all it was another successful event. The sale brought in **\$14,000!**

Eucharistic Revival in Our Diocese

Outdoor Masses provide a relaxing, prayerful respite. Bishop Kulick's August Faithful Challenge is to attend an outdoor Mass this summer. Receiving the Eucharist nourishes the soul. The popularity of outdoor Masses soared during the pandemic, but many parishes still celebrate Mass outdoors during the summer months. You can find a list of outdoor Masses happening this summer at www.theaccentonline.org.

Attending an outdoor Mass or outdoor Eucharistic procession is an opportunity to get involved in the National Eucharistic Revival. So is attending *KNOW HIM: Stunned Disciples*, Thursday, **September 21**, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Imagine their shock of Jesus' closest friends when they experienced his miracles, witnessed his crucifixion, and saw him alive again, resurrected from the dead. You will be transported back to Jesus' time and become a stunned disciple: experience Jesus' miracles, see the tools of the crucifixion, taste food from the Holy Land, and learn about other disciples like Blessed Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old Italian website designer on the path to Saint-hood. Register for this one-of-a-kind immersive experience at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/eucharisticrevival.



Liturgies of the Week

August 5—Vigil

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) Chuck Buzalka—Wife, Louise & Family

August 6—Transfiguration of the Lord

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Donna Ambrose—Family

11:00 am (Date of Birth) LeRoy Nicolaus—Wife, Marlene & Family

Monday, August 7

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Tuesday, August 8

8:00 am Thomas & Julia Volek—Children

Wednesday, August 9

No Mass Today

Thursday, August 10

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, August 11

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Jean Silvestro—Rita & Don Dustolfo

Saturday, August 12—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm Catherine Diederich—Sepesky Family

August 13—Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Date of Birth) Clare A Chatlak—Andrew & Kim Garnic & Family

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—August 12/13

	Lector	Lit. Coord/EM	Server
4:30 pm	S. Wawro	C. Farrier	R. Buretz
9:00 am	E. Bagay	R. Smereczniak	N. Jodon
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!

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: Diane Kay Novisel, Mary Heilman, and Elizabeth Rose “Bea” Cannizzaro. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

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.



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