



# St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

September 10, 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**

[dlisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dlisovich@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

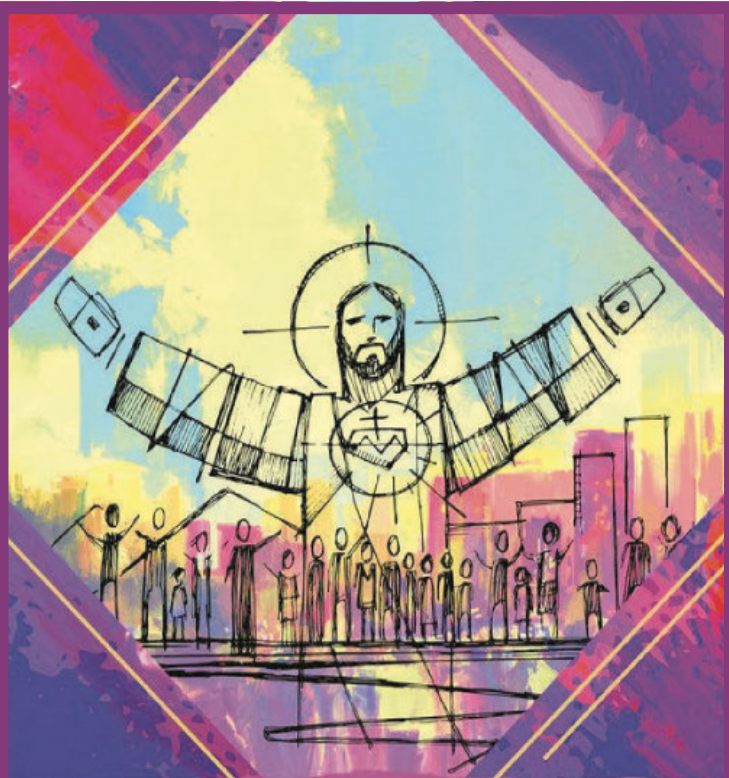
Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

## (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.



## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For where two or three are gathered together  
in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

- Mt 18:19-20

Illustration from the 1979 edition of the Mass (1991, 1995, 1970, 1990, 21, 22)

## 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—Where Two or more are gathered...

Sometimes it is good to get back to the basics of what we are about as people. Today, our liturgy reminds us that it is the simple things, the way we relate to others that is important. Once again, we are reminded that it is not about “us” in life, it is about how we relate to one another. Ezekiel in the first reading makes one of the most significant contributions to the theology of ancient Israel by letting the people know that everyone is accountable for his or her own faults and not for those of the past generations. Paul in the second reading makes it clear that love, and love only, “is the fulfillment of the law.” Paul remains convinced that mutual love within the community should be solidly anchored in the love of God: I am convinced that neither death, nor life, not angels, nor principalities, not present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Although, Paul speaks of the “law” in not so positive terms, the real question is do we keep the commandments for the right motivation: love. It is easy to follow any law simply because it is law and we can easily lose sight of the love that should be behind our actions.



In our gospel for this week, we are shown just how the church is to live within this law of love in and through reconciliation. The gospel of Matthew has often been noted as the “church gospel,” and this week we can clearly see the author’s strong concern about the life of the community. Matthew tells us that the church should not be a place for complacency and self-satisfaction but for seeking greater commitment to the gospel of Christ.

None of us likes to be “called on the carpet.” It may mean that we must submit our will to another. It also may mean that we have to face up to the fact that we aren’t perfect in spite of the fact that we tend to see the wrong in another before we recognize wrong in ourselves. Today, Jesus speaks to us about being called on the carpet. Giving and receiving corrections is one of the hardest things we can do. The last line of the gospel gives us a clue as to what underlying motivation is really the strongest: “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” We must always remember that it is not us that are the reconcilers; it is the power of Christ acting through us that brings about peace. It is always about keeping harmony within the Body of Christ. As Christ’s church we are all responsible for one another even when that responsibility calls us to help others with their faults and weaknesses. It is our task in life to bring the calming peace of Christ to all of our brothers and sisters no matter what the cost may be. As we pray this weekend it would be good just to look around and see who is a part of our worshipping family. Each of us is connected to one another and we are all responsible for the welfare of each other.

## This Weekend Mission Co-Op

Sr. Maureen O’Brian, SC will be introducing the Sisters of Charity newest Mission in Pedro Carbo, Guayaquil, Ecuador. These sisters can do the work only if you can help them with your prayers and donations! Your prayers and donations will bring blessings of hope and healing! God Bless you for your generosity!

**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.

August Expenses	Amount	Week	Collection
Maintenance	\$ 200.00	Aug. 6	\$ 10,393.80
Phone	\$ 168.79	Aug. 13	\$ 9,116.00
Electric	\$ 1,485.25	Aug. 20	\$ 8,995.00
Garage Repairs	\$ 850.00	Aug. 27	\$ 7,031.00
Other Utilities	\$ 320.96	Electronic Adjustment	\$ 4,271.51
Misc. Office	\$ 587.24	Total	\$ 39,807.31
Payroll	\$ 23,247.37		
Diocesan Expenses	\$ 14,396.87		
(Breakdown)			
Accent	\$ 659.60		
Ed. Assessment	\$ 6,495.76		
Dio. Assessment	\$ 3,729.27		
Insurance	\$ 3,477.24		
Data Processing	\$ 35.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 41,256.48</b>		



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“my Eoffering” button  
on our parish website.

**Due to the early transmission of this bulletin, the financial report for September 3, 2023, will be in next week’s bulletin.**

## 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 boxes to the Parish Office. **A list of items needed** to fill the boxes can be found in the church pamphlet racks. Thank you and God bless you.

**The Knights of Columbus** and the **Epiphany Ladies** will hold a Spaghetti Dinner on **Sunday, September 17** from 11 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1925 Grand Blvd., Monessen. Tickets are \$13 for adults and \$9 for children under 12. You can purchase tickets at the door, or from the Knights or the Ladies. For more information or to purchase tickets, you can call Dan Harkins at 412-855-0022.

## Cafeteria Help Needed!

Our Catholic School at St. Sebastian’s is in need of help with serving lunch to the students. There is no cooking involved, it is merely serving lunch. If you think you might want to help with this, please let us know. This is just one more way you can share your talents.

## ORGAN RECITAL



Remember that we will be showcasing our new organ on the 17th of September at 3:00 p.m. There will be a reception immediately following in the hall. Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors, it will be a delightful afternoon. Our Ladies of Faith will be providing the refreshments at the reception. If you have any questions, please feel free to let us know. I do hope that we will see you on the 17th!

## Religious Education Classes

Classes for children who attend public school begin next Monday, **September 18** from 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Children who are at the age to receive **Reconciliation** and **First Communion**, will need two years of formation.



For **Confirmation**, children need two years of preparation prior to being confirmed. Registration forms are on our Parish website, or can be found in our Church pamphlet racks.

**Volunteers are Needed:** If you would like to be a part of the formation process in our parish, or if you have any questions you may contact Scott Martin our director (724-469-1095), or call the office (724-929-9300).

## BIBLE STUDY

You know prayer is important but may still find it challenging. Many of the saints also struggled in prayer. What God did in the lives of countless saints, he can also do in people like us! We are pleased to offer Ascension Press 7-Week DVD Bible Study filmed in Italy by Dr. Sri.

### When You Pray:

**A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God Tuesdays, beginning September 26, 6:00—7:30 p.m.** The Study Set cost is \$25 which includes: 7 sessions, book, workbook and online access. For more information or to register, please contact the Parish Office at 724-929-9300 or email Sherry at: sam626@zoominternet.net. We hope you can join us.

## Sympathy and Prayers

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

## Liturgies of the Week

### September 9—Vigil

4:30 pm Catherine Diederich—Dan & Mary Ann

### September 10—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Intention of the Ladies of Faith

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

### Monday, September 11

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

### Tuesday, September 12

8:00 am Tonarelli & Paglia Families—Gerry, Tina & Elaine

### Wednesday, September 13

No Mass Today

### Thursday, September 14

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

### Friday, September 15

8:00 am George Petrisin—Son, Scott

### Saturday, September 16—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm James & Elizabeth Savarino & Tom Savarino—  
Carolyn Farrier & Family

### September 17—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Steven Rudinec—Daughter, Terri Gardner

11:00 am Joseph Jerry Chunkala—Joseph Chunkala & Family

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

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE—September 16/17

	Lectors	Lit. Coord/EM	Servers
4:30 pm	C. Gorski	S. Wawro	R. Buretz
9:00 am	M. Shaughnessy	B. Mallonee	N. Jodon
11:00 am	M. Patterson	S. Kroskie	H. Miller

### Readings for the week of September 10, 2023

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Monday: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35



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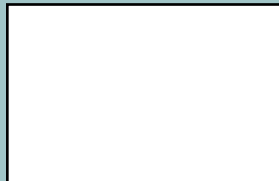
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