

St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012



October 29, 2023

30TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

“You shall love the Lord,
your God, with all your
heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind.”
- Mt 22:37

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD. ©LPI

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—Our Social Call to Love

In our gospel for today Jesus uses the word love but he does so in expansive terms. Love of God which Jesus pairs with love of neighbor is a down to earth norm that governs concrete interactions with our fellow human beings, especially the neediest among us. If we wish to love God, we must care for the vulnerable and needy neighbor.

Sometimes we compartmentalize our lives in such a way that we express our love of God only in terms of religious practices, for example, faithfully going to Sunday Mass, or saying prayers. Genuine love of God must also be expressed in care for widows, the orphan, and the poor, indeed all of our neighbors. He tells the Pharisees that they must love with their all. This is exactly what Jesus did; he loved with his all to the extent that he gave his life for us. This is the social justice Jesus demands from us.

What is our responsibility as Baptized Catholics to the call and mission of Catholic Social Teaching? Are we even aware that the Church has such teachings? The Catholic Church has a long history of thinking and writing on social issues, and scriptures such as today's passage are the source. True believers will go the extra mile to care for the marginalized and the vulnerable because we are conscious of the place of the poor at the banquet table of the Lord.

The text from Exodus in our first reading speaks of poverty in a way that not many of us can relate to. Can you even imagine being so poor that the jacket you wear during the day must be your blanket at night, or that in spite of your suffering, people are able to look through you as if you didn't even exist? This is the reality of our world, and most of us do not want to see it. We are reminded once again that God is the champion of the powerless, the defender of the defenseless. In speaking of the poor, the aliens, the widows and the orphans, God is drafting a blueprint of justice and mercy, reminding the people of Israel that it wasn't too far in their past that they suffered in the same way. Are their memories so short that they forget?

You and I may never have suffered the inhumane poverty and maltreatment that is mentioned in the scriptures, but isn't that all the more reason for us to be grateful for the life we have and the blessings that we are able to share? The community of God is one where all, regardless of their state in life, must be treated with dignity and guaranteed safety so that they can live free from fear.

Just how far are we as a community willing to go to make this call of God's justice a reality? There are many issues that we are confronted with in society. Most often we turn a deaf ear and choose to ignore, but the issues and the suffering is still there none the less. We can sit down and debate issues of illegal aliens coming to our country or the use of capital punishment as a means of solving matters of crime, but ultimately the answer will always be the same: all God's creatures great and small must be acknowledged with dignity, compassion, respect and love. This is not something that can be done in a week or a year; it is a lifetime of work and awareness.

Today we are encouraged to ask ourselves; what neighbors do we find it easy to love, and who are the difficult neighbors and why is it so challenging to love them? We need always remember that to love the unseen God through service to neighbor is the true essence of religion.

Retirement Fund for Religious/Diocesan Priests

Please join with me in prayerful and vocal support of the upcoming appeal for the Retired Religious and Diocesan Priests and all of our brothers and sisters in Christ, present and past, who have dedicated their lives to prayer, ministry, and service. The great spirit of religious communities enabled them to build schools, hospitals, and much of the social service infrastructure of this country. Religious helped establish the institutions that enabled millions of Catholics to engage in the mainstream of our country's industry and economy. When their numbers were considerable and their congregations young, religious institutes invested not in pension plans but in ministry, in people, and in the future of the Church they served. Today, 75% of women and men religious are over age 70. Many institutions simply do not have the resources to meet the dramatically escalating costs of care for their growing populations of elderly. During the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious, please recall the role of religious in your life, the ways that they have nourished your faith and defined and strengthened your values. The collection for Retired Religious and Diocesan Priests will be conducted in our Diocese on the weekend of **November 4-5, 2023**. There are two groups here in the Diocese of Greensburg that directly receive these funds: Carmel of the Assumption and the Benedictine Sisters of Saint Emma Monastery.

Stewardship of Treasure—October 22, 2023

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| Regular Offertory: | \$ | 5,266.00 |
| Utilities & Maintenance: | \$ | 101.00 |
| Votives: | \$ | 46.00 |
| Catholic Accent: | \$ | 50.00 |
| All Souls: | \$ | 61.00 |
| All Saints: | \$ | 3.00 |
| Cap. Project/Roof Fund: | \$ | 92.00 |
| Sanctuary Flowers: | \$ | 1.00 |
| World Mission: | \$ | 398.00 |
| Retired Priests: | \$ | 1.00 |
| Thanksgiving: | \$ | 1.00 |
| Poverty Relief: | \$ | 1.00 |
| Total Oct. 21/22 | \$ | <u>6,021.00</u> |

Are you a Trivia or Jeopardy Fan?

Since there is NO Steeler game on **November 5th**, plan to join us for pizza and Catholic Trivia from 2-5 PM, in St. Sebastian Parish Hall. Please register for this FREE event by contacting Elaine at 724-930-8053, so we can provide sufficient quantities of pizza. **Don't wait! There is limited seating!! Be sure to sign up by November 1st.** This event is hosted by the Ladies of Faith, and is presented by Bill Kersting, who is approved by the Office of Evangelization of the Diocese of Greensburg. Come join us for an afternoon of Catholic Trivia guaranteed to provide fun for young and old with a unique element of Eucharistic Catechesis. All are welcome!

Ladies of Faith will meet this **Thursday, November 2**, in the Parish Hall. All women of the Parish are welcome and encouraged to come and be a part of the group.

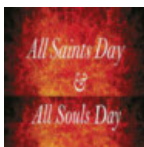
Prayer Shawl Group will meet on **Wednesday, November 8** at 11:00 am and again at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. Any question call Joannie at 412-657-7880 or email **liberati17@yahoo.com**.

Senior Dinner

Last week we celebrated our Annual Senior Dinner, and it was a great success! I am so grateful to everyone who came and shared the evening. The ladies who prepared and served the meal did an excellent job! We were entertained throughout the evening by Ken Santoro as he played the clarinet and saxophone all evening. All in all it was a very nice evening, and I am looking forward to next year's celebration.

All Saints and All Souls

This week we celebrate two great feast days honoring all of those who have died. We recognize the countless people who have attained the honor of eternal glory through the Sainthood of Jesus Christ. On Wednesday **November 1** we celebrate the feast of All Saints, which is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. We will celebrate Mass at **6:30 pm** here at Sebastian's on **Tuesday, October 31**, and at **9:00 am** at Epiphany on **Wednesday, November 1**. Thursday, **November 2nd**, we recognize those souls who have not yet attained the glory of Sainthood with the celebration of All Souls. There will be a Mass in memory of all those who have died on at **9:00 AM at Epiphany** and at **6:30 PM at St. Sebastian's**. I encourage everyone to come and pray for all of their loved ones who have died.



Enjoy Book School Fundraiser



St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School is selling Enjoy books for \$30. You may purchase one during the school office hours. Please call 724-929-5143 to reserve your copy.

WEDDING SOUP SALE—NOVEMBER 4!!

Pre-order only—Wedding Soup at \$9 per quart. You may mail your order and payment to the Parish Office or drop in collection by **Wednesday, November 1**.

Pick up on November 4 between 4:00 pm–6:00 pm from the Parish Hall.

WEDDING SOUP ORDER

NAME _____

PHONE _____

QUARTS _____

PAYMENT IS ENCLOSED _____

PICK-UP ON NOVEMBER 4 BETWEEN 4–6 P.M.

Liturgies of the Week

October 28—Vigil

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) James "Mac" McKeivitt—John Imbrogno Family

October 29—30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am John "Pete" Biggins—Brother, Mike Biggins
 11:00 am Charlotte Roche—Sister, Mary Ann

Monday, October 30

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany Of Our Lord

Tuesday, October 31

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Vivian Bernardo—The Red Hat Ladies
 6:30 pm (Vigil) All Saints Day Mass

Wednesday, November 1—All Saints Day

9:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Thursday, November 2—All Souls Day

9:00 am All Souls Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord
 6:30 pm All Souls Mass

Friday, November 3

8:00 am Thomas Jones—Mother, Alexia Jones

Saturday, November 4—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 4:30 pm Carlo Borriello—Rosetta Borriello & Family

November 5—31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
 11:00 am Dolores Frazier—Husband, Fritz Frazier
 Sacrament of Baptism

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

| MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Nov. 4/5 | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Lectors | Lit. Coord/EM | Servers |
| 4:30 pm J. Wasicek | C. Farrier | M. Wasicek |
| 9:00 am G. Klamerus | R. Smereczniak | A. Frank |
| 11:00 am T. Sebetich | R. Messick | Volunteer Needed |

Baptism Congratulations—To Palmer

Katherine Davis, daughter of Jeremy and Natalie (Bashada) Davis who was baptized in Christ last Sunday. We welcome Palmer into the Church and into our parish family. God bless her and her family.

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: **BARBARA A. MATTHEWS**. We extend our sympathy to her family. May she rest in peace.



Last weekend, **Weston Klamerus**, a 12 year old member of our Parish, sponsored a Wild West's Drink & Snack Shack to raise money for our community food bank. He sold Hot Chocolate and Cookies and raised over \$600! We are thankful to Weston for taking the time to help such a worthy cause. I am thankful also to those who made this possible. Our Parish is very proud of Weston and what he has done for the food bank!



Parzynski Funeral Home & Cremations LLC
Serving Our Parish Family with Integrity, Honesty and Dignity Since 1976
 626 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon • 724-929-6183 • www.parzynskifuneralhome.com
 Michael J. Parzynski-FD, Leonard J. Parzynski-FD, Supervisor. Perryopolis
 Rachael L. Parzynski-FD



Vintage & Vines
Antique Gifts & Flower Shop
 623 Broad Avenue, Belle Vernon
724-929-3536

CENTURY 21
 Frontier Realty
 800-422-8680
Local Experts with 30+ Years' Experience
Catholic Parishioners

Donna Ferguson Yurko, Realtor*
 call / text 724-554-2149

Bonnie Halinka, Realtor*
 call / text 724-322-0355

NAPA AUTO PARTS
 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED | AUTHORIZED CARL DELLA PENNA
 FAYETTE PARTS SERVICE | 25 AREA STORES TO SERVE YOU
 FOR A FAYETTE PARTS SERVICE NAPA STORE NEAR YOU VISIT US AT
FAYETTEPARTS.COM OR NAPAONLINE.COM

Mon Valley Care Center
724-310-1111
 A Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC)
 Offering Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation & Personal Care Services
www.monvalleycare.com
 200 Stoops Dr, Monongahela, PA 15063

cfsbank
 Making smiles happen in the Mon Valley since 1936!
cfsbank.bank

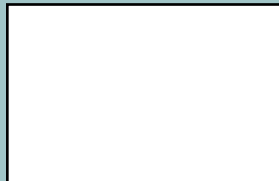
MARK E. RAMSIER
 Attorney at Law
 823 Broad Avenue
 North Belle Vernon, PA 15012
 Telephone (724) 929-0144

Duritzza's
 735 Henry Street
Your Hometown Supermarket

Quality Meats
Fresh Sliced Deli Meats
Gift Certificates
PA Lottery
Money Orders - Stamps
 Daily: 8:30a-9p
 Sunday: 8:30a-5p

MARIE SLAGUS Realtor
 724-797-3681 cell | 724-929-9699 office
Superior Service Since 2000
 Hard Working, Dedicated, Passionate to help you with the biggest sell or purchase you will make!

Howard Hanna
 Real Estate Services
 Top 1% of Realtors | Multi-Million Dollar Producer
 5-Star Real Estate Agent | Champions Club Member



RYGIEL EXCAVATING
 Stanley A. Rygiel
 Joseph R Rygiel
724-326-0129
 Fayette City, Pennsylvania

Jeff Sorick
 Heating & Cooling Inc.
412-384-7585
www.jeffsorickhv.com
 8914 ROBERTS HOLLOW ROAD, ELIZABETH, PA 15037

bryant
 Heating & Cooling Systems
WHATEVER IT TAKES:
 WE ARE A FACTORY AUTHORIZED BRYANT DEALER
We Service All Brands
FREE ESTIMATES

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Sue Novosel

snovosel@4LPi.com
 (800) 477-4574 x6318

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | **SafeStreets**
833-287-3502

WE'RE HIRING!
 AD SALES EXECUTIVES
 BE YOURSELF.
 BRING YOUR PASSION.
 WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com or www.4lpi.com/careers

FREE AD DESIGN
 with purchase of this space

CALL
 800-477-4574

Russ' Tavern
 Est. 1964
 1019 Broad Ave.
 N. Belle Vernon

Jake's
 - Established 1975 -
 North Belle Vernon
 428 Broad Avenue
724-929-9897

We're Here to Guide You Through Life's Difficult Moments

Ferguson FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.

724-929-5300
 700 Broad Avenue
 Belle Vernon
www.FergusonFHC.com

Funeral Directors
 Shelby D. Ferguson II, Karlee R. Ferguson, & Adam S. Ferguson

