



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

November 19, 2023



"WELL DONE, MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT." - MT 25:21

33"" SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Tiffany Miller: School Business Manager tnmiller@sssbv.org

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ sssbv.org

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 dlisovich@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

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

724-929-9300/emergency sick call 724-684-7661 saintsebastianchurch.org facebook.com/StSebastianChurchBelleVernon

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PAGE I

From the Pastor We are all stewards of God's gifts

Once again this week, we are given an illustration of what it means to be a strong

individual and the model presented is a woman. Proverbs is a book about human living and human relations. It shows how we are to direct our lives. Today's passage deals with the role of woman as wife and mother. It also shows how we should not be entrapped by external appearances, "charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting." It is what is in a person's heart that really matters and creates strength. Although this was written at a time when women did not have many rights it certainly depicts a woman's role as being one of power, prudence, wisdom and generosity to those who might be in need, virtues we all should strive to make a part of our lives.

St. Paul picks up on the same notion when he refers to the last days. The image of a woman in labor reminds us that once things are in motion we cannot stop them. We are reminded that we are "children of the day" and "children of the light." This is in reference to the many gifts we have been entrusted with. It becomes our task if you will, to boldly share those gifts and proudly proclaim the good news that the gospels bring to life.

Our Gospel reading further explains just how we should make use of our strength of character by recognizing and developing the gifts and talents we have been given in life. In order to do so, we genuinely need to be secure in our strengths and abilities. The story tells us of a man who entrusted his stewards with talents before he begins a journey. A talent is a Greek word for money. Two of the stewards were not afraid to make an investment and were rewarded by increasing their initial amount. The third steward was fearful of what his master might do if he would lose the money entrusted to him, so he simply buried it and returned it to his master when he arrived home.

In this parable Jesus reminds us that all of life is a risk, and if we are afraid of taking a risk, then often we are the losers. The "talents" in the story represent the gifts and talents God gave to us. We all need to be aware of our abilities to be the presence of Christ in our world and use what we were given for the good of others. If we hide behind our talents, then we may as well just bury them like the man in the story. However, if we take the risk and use what we have to help others, then our gifts just multiply. Our task is to open ourselves up in risk and hope to be co-creators with God in building a stronger Kingdom of God here and how. By remembering that the needs of the community are great, and those needs will not be met if we bury our talents, we will be the wise stewards God created us to become. Due to the early transmission of this bulletin, the financial report for November 12, 2023, will be in next Sunday's bulletin.

Can You Help

Little Things for Little People is

looking for some new toys for our Santa to give out. We have some left over from last year but need mostly I year and under



toys, that will work for either girl or boy. We are also looking for some toys for little boys age 2-4. There are enough girl toys at this time for the older girls. If you have a toy donation please call Laura at 724-797-3959.

Special Events Coming Up.....

Don't stop, because I have a feeling that it will be



Christmas before we know it! There are a few events I want to remind you about so that you will not miss out. On the Second Sunday of Advent, **December**

10, we will present Lessons and Carols

in Church. A nice way to prepare for the celebration of

Christmas. Then the following week, December 17, we will have our Country Christmas on Broad. Please mark these events down so that you won't miss out on them.



Country Christmas on Broad...

We are only a few weeks away from our Country Christmas on **December 17**. There are many ways that you can help make this a successful event. I am very grateful to all of the people who came to the planning meeting, but we will need all the help we can get to make it happen. First of all, there are some things that you can donate if you feel so moved:

-Pine Cones (to make ornaments for Birds outside)

- -Ingredients to make SMORES:
- (Chocolate Bars, Marshmallows & Graham Crackers)
- -Assorted candies for treat bags
- -Hot Chocolate Mix
- -Packages of Hand Wipes -Bales of Hay

As we get closer to the event, I will let you know if we are in need of anything else. Please know that anything you are able to do to help will be greatly appreciated!

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

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH

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This week we celebrate another Thanksgiving and in looking back over the year, we all have an awful lot to be thankful for. I hope that as you gather with your

families and friends that you all just take a moment to reflect on the blessings God has shared with you. As a Parish Family we will celebrate mass at 10:00 on Thanksgiving Day.

Feast of Christ the King

Next week we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus, King of the Universe! It is the last Sunday of the Church year, and it commemorates the supremacy of Christ as King of the Universe. This year the Church has focused on the importance of the Eucharist and it's centrality in all of our lives. In commemoration of this great



day, we will have **Eucharistic Adoration after the I 1:00 Mass until 3:30** at which time we will have Benediction and the Closing. I do hope that you will be able to stop in Church during this adoration and spend a few minutes in prayer.

Christmas Fruit Baskets

Christmas is just around the corner. Are you looking for a gift for that person who has everything or just yourself? We will once again be selling fruit boxes for Christmas (as before they will be from DeCarlos Market in Elizabeth). The cost is \$25 per box. The **deadline** to order is **December 10. Pick up dates are Friday, December 22, 3—5 pm or Saturday, December 23,**

Noon—2 pm in the Parish Hall. Please complete the order form and drop in the collection or return to the Parish Office with your payment.

CHRISTMAS FRUIT BASKET ORDER				
NAME				
PHONE				
# FRUIT BOXES				
PAYMENT IS ENCLOSED				
PICK-UP: DEC. 22-3:00-5:00 PM or DEC. 23-N00N-2:00 PM				

Liturgies of the Week

November	l 8—Vigil			
4:30 pm	(Date of Birth) Sarah Bednarczyk—Children			
November 19—33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time				
9:00 am	For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish			
11:00 am	(Death Anniv) Michael McGinley—Pete & Karen			
	Vesely			
Monday, November 20				
8:00 am	Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord			
Tuesday, November 21				
8:00 am	(Date of Birth) Leonard Stringhill—Judy Stringhill &			
	Family			
Wednesday, November 22				
	No Mass Today			
Thursday, November 23—Thanksgiving Day				
10:00 am	Deceased of the Turcheck Family—Family			
Friday, November 24				
8:00 am	James Salvino—Daughter, Nancy & Family			
Saturday, November 25—Vigil				
3:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation			
4:30 pm	(Date of Birth) Bill Wilson—Michael &			
	MaryMartha Becher & Children			
November 26—Solemnity of Christ the King				
9:00 am	ath Anniv) Sam Suppa, Jr.—Wife, Annette &			
	Children, & Grandchildren			
11:00 am	Felix & Juanita Lisovich—Daughter, Lynette			
	Carpenter			

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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—November 24/25				
	Lectors	Lit. Coord/EM	Servers	
4:30 pm	S. Wawro	C. Farrier	A. Peden	
9:00 am	G. Klamerus	M. Shaughnessy	N. Jodon	
l I:00 am	M. Patterson	R. Messick	B. Henderson	

Readings for the week of November 19, 2023

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

