

St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

January 21, 2024

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

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 anytime for an appointment for confession.



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
- Mk 1:17**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. ©LPI)

Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal

caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Ms. Tiffany Zetty: School Business Manager

TZetty@sssbv.org

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ sssbv.org



From the Pastor

No Compromising Discipleship

The message from our readings this week is very clear and yet in spite of its simplicity, it is difficult to make a part of our lives. We are reminded of the centrality of Jesus in the mission of the church, and our call to discipleship. If we all looked at our lives as individuals and then looked at our community, we would have to admit that there are many distractions that keep us from following the demands Jesus puts on us.

St. Paul moves from his comforting prayer and support of the people of Corinth to a sharp criticism of their behavior. He is very specific in addressing the unity and the divisions that were present in the community. Paul was much saddened by the reports about these divisions in the community of Corinth. He quickly addresses the people about how they need to realign their priorities and focus on what really is important, namely the mission of Jesus.

We are all aware of the challenges posed to our Christian communities today. There is certainly a decline in church attendance in some places, shortage of priests and ministers in many places, internal problems of divisions between conservatives and progressives, loss of exposure and influence of Christian discourse and leadership, and the increasing number of religious groups and the rise of other major religions, like Islam and Buddhism. Even though there are many problems facing us today, we all need to put into perspective what our call is really all about.

To recognize the kingdom in our midst reveals our ongoing need for repentance and invites us to enter ever more fully into the kingdom by following Jesus. The good news is that the light begins shining here, among us. The way out of darkness is to hear the cry for repentance and we cannot hear it often enough, for this is the way to living in Christ's light. This is how God's kingdom is established: faithful disciples hear Jesus' call to repent, and faithfully follow!

Ultimately the question we all need to be asking ourselves is: what is the gospel in which we believe and where do we stand, for the sake of the gospel, on major issues today? Are we taking enough risks, or are we satisfied just to follow the crowd? If we are Disciples of Christ, we should have something to propose concerning vital issues for everyone: environment, equitable salary and use of resources, immigration, refugees, military disarming, peace and justice, humanitarian assistance, human rights, dialog between cultures and between religions.

The gospel has no readymade solutions for such huge problems. Yet the life of Jesus and His message make no compromise whatsoever when it comes to justice and compassion for the poor and the little ones. These are non-negotiable gospel values that could change a lot in the world of today. Instead of withdrawing into our own internal problems, we Christians should be committed to joining all men and women of good will to attend the needs of the world, so that the message and the life of Christ "might not be emptied of their meaning."

We practice following Jesus in the simple, everyday things that come our way: the friend who needs a listening ear, the elderly parent who needs a comforting phone call, the sick child who interrupts our sleep. In all of these instances, do we hear Jesus' call to repent? Jesus invites us to turn from ourselves toward those in need. Turn from darkness to light. Repentance is the condition for following Jesus to the fullness of the kingdom. It is the condition for taking up His saving work.



Stewardship of Treasure January 14, 2024

Regular Offertory:	\$	7,638.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$	708.00
Votives:	\$	184.00
Catholic Accent:	\$	59.00
Children & Family Services:	\$	23.00
End of the Year Offering:	\$	100.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$	109.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$	165.00
Christmas:	\$	110.00
Total Jan. 13/14	\$	<u>9096.00</u>

Tax Statements—It is that time of year when we need to start gathering our information to file taxes! If you would like a statement from the Church, please let us know and we will get one sent to you.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The 2024 CDA National Education Contest is now underway. Student participants may be Catholic or Non-Catholic, as well as CDA Members. Categories are Essay, Poetry, Art and Computer Art. Entry forms are available at the Epiphany Church Office. Completed entries can be returned to the Church Office by the deadline, **February 1**. For additional information, contact Pat Godla, Chairperson, at 724-684-7235.

Eastern Europe Collection

Annually, our Diocese participates in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe on the first Sunday of February. This year, the Collection should be taken at all parish Saturday evening Masses and Sunday Masses on **February 3 and 4, 2024**. The proceeds from this collection will help the Church to overcome the challenges of rebuilding after decades of atheistic communist rule, bringing light to twenty-nine nations in Central and Eastern Europe, such as Lithuania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Macedonia, and Ukraine. The Bishops of the United States continue to supply aid to Ukraine, but also desire to help other nations in Central and Eastern Europe. Our participation and our parishioners' participation in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe express our care and support for the people in Central and Eastern Europe, especially in times of crisis and disruption. We are called to continue to offer hope to our fellow Catholics in Central and Eastern Europe by providing both material and spiritual assistance as they face enormous challenges. I ask that you be generous to the collection because their support helps foster nurturing communities in which Catholics can share and grow in faith. For more information about the collection and whom it supports, visit www.usccb.org/cc

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

Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Communion

We are still in need of people to help with the distribution of the cup which we hope to start up beginning with the first Sunday of Lent. If you are interested, give us a call and we will help you with the clearances that are needed.



Lenten Season



During Lent we celebrate the Stations of the Cross on Friday. If anyone would like to help in leading the stations, please give us a call at the office.

Bishop to Speak at Events for Men/Women

Bishop Larry J. Kulick is inviting men and women in the Diocese of Greensburg to attend gatherings this month at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.

“Transformed,” a gathering for men, will be held Monday, **January 22**, and “Beloved,” a gathering for women, will be held Monday, **January 29**. Both begin at 6:30 p.m. and will feature the Bishop speaking on “Created in God’s Image.” The gatherings will include prayer, reflection, small group discussion, Eucharistic Adoration and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation with multiple confessors. **There is no cost, and no reservations are required.**

Part Time Positions at SSRCS

St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School is in great need of substitute teachers. Please contact the school principal at caiello@sssbv.org.

Also, SSRCS is looking to fill an immediate position for part-time Maintenance/Janitorial Personnel. The qualified applicant should have general knowledge/skills in the following areas: electrical, plumbing, painting, lifting, carpentry, cleaning, etc. Competitive pay and flexible hours (5 hours/day) with the potential for full-time employment if desired. Clearances necessary. If interested, please email caiello@sssbv.org.



Boy Scout Sunday



We will celebrate Scout Sunday at Saint Sebastian Church on Sunday, **February 11** during the 11:00 a.m. Mass. The Scouts will have reserved seats on the Tabernacle side of the church.

Special Congratulations to the following members of BSA Troop 1543 for earning their Eagle Scout rank this past year: Joe Kudla, Anthony Petaccia and Tim Reda. Congratulations and God bless you.

Liturgies of the Week

January 20—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Jacob T. Hewitt—Sissy & Dayna

January 21—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Genevieve Ward—Wojdak Government Relations

11:00 am (Death Anniv) Alberta M. White—Nephew, Ted Harhai

Monday, January 22

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Tuesday, January 23

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Pedro Blas Romero—Family

Wednesday, January 24

No Mass Today

Thursday, January 25

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, January 26

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Norma Jean Morris—Jeannette Bury

Saturday, January 27—Vigil

3:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

4:30 pm Joann Bradica—Sons, Jason & Joel

January 28—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

11:00 am Elizabeth Rose Cannizzaro—Arlene Schmitt

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: . STEPHANIE SLAVIK and SARA M. WORRY. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

Readings for the week of January 21, 2024

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28



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
 Call for a tour today!
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

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTE
 OCTOBER EDITION

Scan to contact us!

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

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

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

Jeff Sorick
 Heating & Cooling Inc.
 412-384-7585
www.jeffsorickvac.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

CREATIVE ELEGANCE
 Parishioner Owned and Operated
 FLORAL DECOR GIFTS
 Mon-Sat 10am-5pm
 724-972-6346 Shop • 724-963-3685 After hours
www.creativeelegancefloraldecorandgifts.com

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

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.

Visit www.parishesonline.com

FREE AD DESIGN
 with purchase of this space

CALL
 800-477-4574

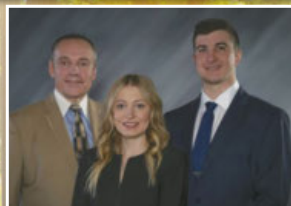
Russ' Tavern
 Est. 1964
 1019 Broad Ave.
 N. Belle Vernon

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



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

14-1696