



St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012



June 2, 2024

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST

While they were eating,
he took bread, said the
blessing, broke it, gave it
to them, and said,
"Take it; this is my body."
- Mk 14:22

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (©2001, 1998, 1970 OCD, GILP)

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
caielo@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Ms. Tiffany Zetty: School Business Manager
TZetty@sssbv.org

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

School Website ~ sssbv.org



Baptism Preparation

3rd Monday of every month. Call 724-929-9300.

Religious Education/Formation

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

(OCIA) Order 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 Body and Blood of Christ

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is the very heart of what our Church is about. Everything we are, all that we do and everything that we are to become as a people of God is focused in the gift of the Eucharist. The Eucharist becomes the very heart of what we are as a sacramental church. This is the greatest gift that God has given us as people to share in. Sometimes we don't appreciate what a gift the Eucharist is.

Today our liturgy connects the sacrifices of the Hebrew Scriptures to his very self. The Hebrews believed that blood is life; the sprinkled blood joins them to the blood splashed on the altar which symbolizes God. Thus a holy union or covenant is created with God. The author of our second reading makes the connection from the sacrifices of the Old Testament to the blood shed by Jesus for our eternal redemption. Jesus was a pure, unblemished sacrifice. While Old Testament sacrifices required the yearly sprinkling of blood on the people by a priest, Jesus, now the high priest, offers himself a sacrifice only once and for all as a sin offering for all peoples.

In our gospel, Jesus connects the bread and wine of the final meal he shared with his friends and disciples with his impending death and interprets them in light of the Old Testament tradition of sacrificial blood described in the first reading.

The honor that Catholics show to the sacrament of Christ's body and blood is not a narrow expression of shallow piety. It is, rather, an expression of our recognition of the presence of God in all that is created, especially as God appears to the little ones whom the world does not recognize. The Eucharist is at the core of social justice. As we share in his Body and Blood, we surrender ourselves to be like Christ – a Passover lamb for our world today. For the most part we don't need to look for opportunities for total self-giving; the circumstances of daily life generously present them to us. The difference is that followers of Christ see self-sacrifice not simply in terms of an inconvenience that cannot be avoided but the means to fullness of life. This gift becomes a sign and symbol of a new covenant of God's love which is taken up by the disciples as a pledge of the fullness of life God offers to us all.

As members of the Body of Christ who share in this miraculous event, we are given the strength and courage to go into our world and become the martyrs for faith and human dignity. Taking the strength we receive from the Body and Blood of Jesus to work for peace and justice for all of God's creation.



Due to the early transmission of this bulletin, the financial report for May 26, will be in next Sunday's bulletin.

Peter's Pence Collection

Our Diocese will take up the annual combined collection of Peter's Pence and the Support of the Holy See on **June 29-30, 2024**. Please encourage your parishioners to prayerfully consider supporting the collection this year. By promoting this collection, you are helping provide essential support for the Holy See's activities and help Pope Francis assist the victims of wars, oppression, and natural disasters around the world. There will be more information on this in the coming weeks before the collection.

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

"Which holiday is a cardiologist's favorite?"



"The Feast of the Sacred Heart."



The Feast of the Sacred Heart remembers Jesus' love for us. In art, Jesus' Heart is sometimes shown surrounded by a crown of thorns and enflamed with love (for us!).

GLP



Faith Formation

This will be the last reminder for our meeting regarding Formation in our parish. It is easy for us to forget that formation touches absolutely every aspect in our life of faith. I hope that we get a good turnout for this meeting. This is your parish and we all need to be responsible for the formation not only of our children but also of one another. There are many ways that you can be a part of the formation in the parish. I do hope to see many of you at the meeting. **We will gather at Epiphany of Our Lord Parish Hall at 6:30 pm this Monday, June 3.**

There are so many things that we take for granted in life, and sad to say our Faith is one of those things. We do not always appreciate how vital and important our belief in God can be. Almost every aspect of life can be linked back to our Church and belief in God. As with everything else in life we need to constantly feed that belief so that it remains that constant source of strength.

Our belief in God and our faith in the Church does not happen on its own, it needs constant nurturing and growth. We will be talking about important issues which touch all of our lives.

2024 Vacation Bible School—SCUBA

We have the help...now we need the children! Our VBS this year will be **June 26 – 27 – 28** from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. VBS will be held on Epiphany parish grounds, and you can register by filling out the forms in church or you may go online and register at: <https://vbs2024registration.weebly.com/>

I do think that Vacation Bible School is a nice opportunity to help our children learn and grow in their faith. The days will be full of many activities and lots of fun. We do hope that your children or grandchildren are able to come and learn about God's goodness in their lives!



Register Online

Annual St. Sebastian Junque Sale

This year's Junque Sale will be held **July 26 & 27**. We are collecting donations at the Parish Garages on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 am—12 pm and 6 pm—8 pm.

We are in need of volunteers and anyone needing community service hours.

We are not accepting clothing, televisions, computers, stereo systems or large furniture. If anyone needs an appointment to donate items, please call Bonnie Halinka at 724-322-0355.

Liturgies of the Week

June 1—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Joseph Rygiel—Brother, Stan & Kathleen & Family
Sacrament of Baptism

June 2—Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ

9:00 am (Death Anniv) Jim Clark—Family
11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
Sacrament of Baptism

Monday, June 3—St. Charles Lwanga & Companions

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany Of Our Lord

Tuesday, June 4

8:00 am (Date of Birth) Robert Staley—Sandy Gallo

Wednesday, June 5—St. Boniface

No Mass Today

Thursday, June 6—St. Norbert

8:00 am Mass at Epiphany Of Our Lord

Friday, June 7—Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:00 am Joan Picchiarini—Bill & Dawn Trilli

Saturday, June 8—Vigil

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) John J. Barnot—Son, John

June 9—Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
11:00 am Edwin "Iggy" & Mary Popelas—Pam & Bill Podany



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

Altar Candle Flowers

The flowers this weekend are in memory of the Joseph R. Rygiel, Jr. by Jamie, Stan, Kathleen, Christie & Family.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet this Wednesday, **June 5**, in the Parish Center at 11:00 a.m. and again at 6:30 pm.. For information call Joannie Brown at 412-657-7880.

Prayer Requests

Our Ladies of Faith have started a prayer chain and they invite you to join them. If you would like to be a prayer warrior, or have a prayer request, please call the office and notify our parish secretary, Linda, who can initiate your prayer chain request.

Ladies of Faith will meet this Thursday, **June 6** in the Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m. All women of the Parish are invited to attend.

Sympathy and Prayers—Please remember in your prayers those who have died: EVELYN TALLERICO, ELIZABETH PETROS, and ADELIN WALKUSH. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.



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