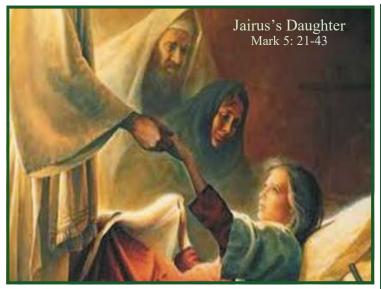


# June 30, 2024 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



# **Parish Staff**

Msgr. James T. Gaston, Administrator jgaston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich, Business Manager dlisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. Scott J. Martin, Regional Director of Faith, Family & Discipleship 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

Ms. Lynn Rusnak, Maintenance lrusnak@dioceseofgreensburg.org

## **Baptism Preparation**

Third Monday of every month. Please call the Faith Formation Office, 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 anytime for an appointment for confession.

## Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

School Website ~ sssbv.org

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143

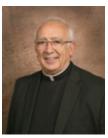
#### Matters of Sexual Misconduct Information

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA ChildLine immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the ChildLine number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, ext. 1221.

#### JUNE 30, 2024

# From Monsignor Gaston

Thank you for welcoming me to St. Sebastian and Epiphany Parishes this past week. I am happy to share in the pastoral and spiritual life of our parishes. I have always "preached" about the parish being a welcoming community to newcomers -- and I am ex-



periencing what that means on the receiving end now. I look forward to getting to know you and to work together with you in the time ahead.

For the record, let me assure everyone that while my title is "Temporary Administrator" I am actually serving as your pastor for this interim period. Eventually, Bishop Kulick will appoint a pastor for both parishes and nothing else will change. Whenever that decision is made, you will all be the first to know. In the meantime, let's not waste precious time and emotional energy speculating about things that are nonsense and sometimes wild! I am not a fan of gossip -- it always seeks to undermine the good and it feeds on peoples' anxieties. Instead, let's put our best energies forward looking at ways to deepen our love for Jesus Christ, and to expand the quality of parish life, our ministries and the presence of the Church in the Monessen and Belle Vernon communities.

Blessings this week. Msgr. Gaston

# **Catholic Kennywood Day July 15**

The Diocese of Greensburg Catholic Kennywood Day is set for Monday, July 15, from 11 AM until park closing. Tickets are \$31.99 for general admission . Tickets can be picked up at the main gate beginning at 10:30 AM The day will include kids' activities at 1:00 PM, confessions and Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 PM, a Festival of Praise Music at 4:00 PM, Mass at 4:30 PM, and confessions from 5:45-6:30 PM.

2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage to National Shrine

Mark your calendar and plan to join in a Diocese of Greensburg pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., Saturday, September 21, led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. This will be the first Diocesan pilgrimage to our magnificent National Shrine since 2006, and is sure to be a very holy and special experience. Further information on the itinerary, transportation options and cost will be announced soon.

#### Are you seeking God? Do you know someone who wants to know more about the Catholic faith? Maybe it's time for Inquiry!

If you or someone you know is searching for God, Inquiry can help. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is an infor-



mal gathering of those who are curious about the Catholic church and are discerning whether they feel God's presence here. It is a time for questions, concerns, and seeking. There are no commitments or requirements. If you would like to learn more, call Scott Martin, 724-469-1095.

# Annual St. Sebastian Junque Sale



The Junque Sale is July 26 & 27. Donations collected in the Parish Hall (under the school), Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10 AM—12 PM & 6—8 PM. *We are in need of volunteers (clearances are needed for all volunteers over 18).* We are not accepting clothing, televisions, comput-

ers, stereo systems or large furniture. If you need an appointment to donate items, please call 724-322-0355.

# Students invited to register for "Faith and Reason" at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe

"Faith and Reason," is a summer program for high school students/first-year college students, July 7-13. "Faith and Reason" offers an opportunity to explore a richer, deeper understanding of the Catholic faith. For information or to register, visit <u>www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason</u>.

# **Quo Vadis Days**

Catholic young men entering grades 9-12, you are invited to attend the *Quo Vadis Days* vocation camp with other young men who are open to God's call in life. This event will be held July 21 to 24 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Please visit greensburgpriest.org for more information and registration.

#### **Stewardship of Treasure** June 23, 2024 **Regular Offertory:** 5,636.00 \$ Utilities & Maintenance: \$ 75.42 Votives: \$ 109.00 Catholic Accent: \$ 14.00\$ Sanctuary Flowers: 118.00 \$ Cap. Project/Roof Fund: 48.00 Peter's Pence: \$ 133.00 Total June 22/23 \$<u>6.133.42</u>

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

#### SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH

#### PAGE 2

# "Jairus is Us"

Today Jesus encounters Jairus, whose daughter has died. If you have watched the series <u>The</u> <u>Chosen</u> one moving episode features this story.

Over my years as a priest, I

have celebrated tons of funerals with grieving families. The saddest have been the funerals of children (at whatever age). We assume that we will bury the older generation, but never our children. There are no words that take away the sting of parental pain. This is never supposed to happen, right? It is so easy to give up spiritually at such times. We believe that Jesus is truly God's Son, but this kind of loss challenges our trust in God. Why would God let this happen? This is not fair! Why was this child taken from us when others lived on?

Unfortunately, I have heard bad answers from people trying to explain this, sometimes heard in funeral home visitations. Don't go there! There are no adequate answers to questions about untimely death. We are never in a position to explain human suffering. It is Good Friday for the family. If you have experienced this kind of a tragedy, you know what I am getting at.

Faith is often tested throughout life; that is, our trust and surrender to God will always need to go deeper. Our model for this kind of faith is Christ's own mother, who also lost her child! We must eventually re-echo her words at the Annunciation which frame her whole life: "I do not understand what you are asking of me, Lord, but I will trust you..." Jairus received a grace that we pray for in this life, but it was temporary. Ultimately the true miracle is what happened to Jesus in the Resurrection -- and our hope of sharing it together with Him when it is time.

## **Bulletin OnLine**

You can receive our weekly bulletin emailed automatically free by signing up. Instructions for signing up are on the back of the bulletin by using this link: www.parishesonline.com.



## Parish Picnic

We are starting the annual Parish Picnic again at Cedar Creek! Come to a gathering on Wednesday, July 17 at 6:30 PM in the Church. See how you can help!

# Liturgies this Week

June 29—Vigil

4:30 PM (Death Anniv) Joseph Rygiel-Lou & Pat Toth June 30—Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00 AM For the People of Saint Sebastian Parish 11:00 AM Heidi Frederick-Father, Joe Valent Monday, July 1 8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord **Tuesday**, July 2 8:00 AM George Petrisin—Petrisin Family Wednesday, July 3 No Mass Today Thursday, July 4 9:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord Friday, July 5 8:00 AM (Date of Birth) James Salvino-Lidia Salvino Saturday, July 6-Vigil 3:30 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation (Date of Birth) George Petricin—Family 4:30 PM July 7—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00 AM John Trozzo—Family 11:00 AM Janet Baron—Jim & Gail Witenske

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. The Office will reopen on Friday, July 5.

