

# Saint Sebastian Catholic Church

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012  
Parish Office—724-929-9300 [saintsebastianchurch.org](http://saintsebastianchurch.org)  
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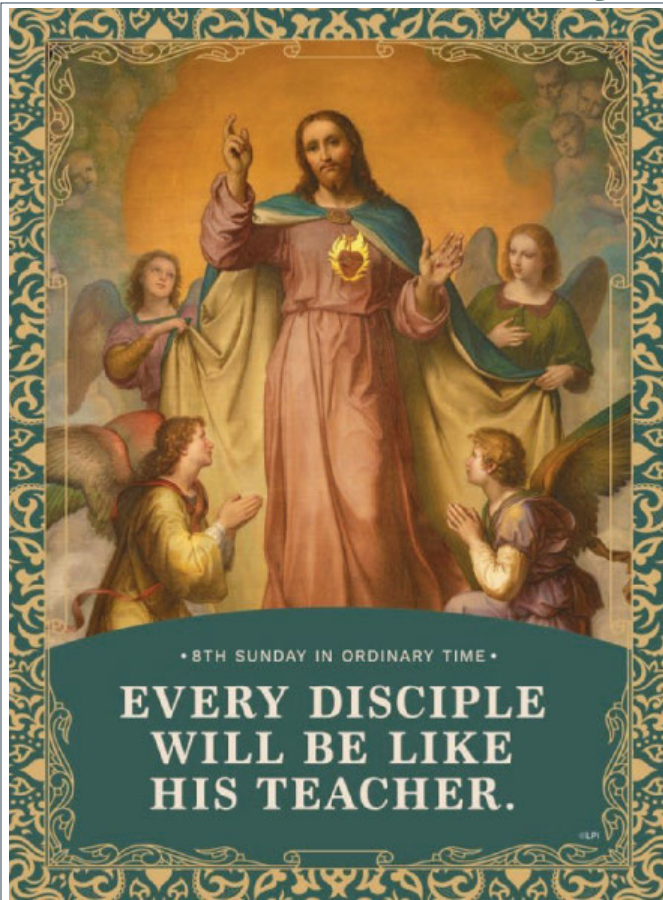
## Mass Schedule

Weekend: Saturday 4:30 PM, Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM  
Weekday: Monday, Thursday, Saturday—8:00 AM at Epiphany  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday—8:00 AM at St. Sebastian  
Friday, 10:15 AM School Mass at Saint Sebastian



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

## March 2, 2025—Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

School Website ~ [sssbv.org](http://sssbv.org)

Mrs. Carole Aiello: Principal  
[caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Ms. Tiffany Zetty: School Business Manager  
[TZetty@sssbv.org](mailto:TZetty@sssbv.org)

School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143



### Parish Staff

Rev. Vincent A. Yee Concepcion, Administrator  
[vconcepcion@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vconcepcion@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Rev. Michael Thomas, Parochial Vicar  
[mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich, Business Manager  
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Mrs. Adelle Slebodnik  
Regional Director of Faith Formation and Discipleship  
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Mrs. Julianna Baluch  
Regional Director of Children's Formation & Discipleship  
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Mr. Dean Dellamalva, Coordinator of Liturgical Music  
[ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Mrs. Linda Drury, Parish Secretary  
[ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Mrs. Darleen Koury, Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary  
[dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

Ms. Lynn Rusnak, Maintenance  
[lrusnak@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:lrusnak@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### Baptism Preparation

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

### Faith Formation

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

### (OCIA) Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

For Further information in becoming a Catholic, please call the Faith Formation Office.

### Reconciliation—Saturdays

Epiphany—11AM - 12-Noon

St. Sebastian—3:15-4:15 PM or by appointment anytime.

Consider online giving.  
Click the QR code for "myEoffering"  
to set up your account.



## Liturgies this Week

Take & Eat Faith Formation begins with 4:30 Mass



### March 1—Vigil

4:30 PM Fr. Len McAlpin & Fr. Phil Dougherty  
—A Friend

### March 2—Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
11:00 AM Larry Carr—Tim, Kim, Jordan, & Ashlyn  
Ayersman

### Monday, March 3—St. Katharine Drexel

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord  
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

### Tuesday, March 4—St. Casimir

8:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

### Ash Wednesday, March 5

8:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help  
12:00 PM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord  
1:00 PM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
4:00 PM Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes  
6:00 PM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

### Thursday, March 6

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord  
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

### Friday, March 7— Ss. Perpetua & Felicity

8:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
10:15 AM Paul & Margaret Baran—Children &  
Grandchildren  
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

### Saturday, March 8

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

### Saturday, March 8—Vigil

3:15 PM *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
4:30 PM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

### March 9—First Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
11:00 AM Bernice Yaksic—Dorothy Clayton & Family

*The Rosary is Prayed Sundays prior to Mass. Please join us!*

**Mission Coop** for the Diocese of Tagum, Davao, Philippines is this weekend. Father Roselo Melloria, the Pastor of St. Anne in Rostraver will celebrate the masses in Monessen (Saturday & Sunday). Fr. Thomas Avila, new priest in the diocese just arrived early this month, will celebrate all the masses in Saint

Sebastian (Saturday & Sunday). Both Fr. Roselo and Fr. Thomas belong to the Diocese of Tagum.

#### Offertory for February 23, 2025

Regular Offertory:	\$ 7,967.50
Utilities/Maintenance:	\$ 700.00
Votives:	\$ 541.01
Catholic Accent:	\$ 10.00
Eastern Europe:	\$ 5.00
Cap. Project/Roof:	\$ 20.00
Lenten Season:	\$ 30.00
<b>Total Feb. 22/23</b>	<b>\$ 9,273.51</b>

Thank you for supporting St. Sebastian Parish.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

There are many openings for Mass intentions on Wednesdays & Fridays. Please call Linda at the Parish Office with your requests.

## Scripture Reflection This Week

Luke 6: 39-45

*(Practicing) Catholic  
The Log in Your Eye*



If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



### SSRCS 2n Grade Project—

Throughout March, the second-grade classes from St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School is sponsoring a service project for Little Things for Little People. They are collecting diapers, baby wash & wipes, and infant/toddler socks. Look for a donation box at the school. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

**PAINT & SIP**—Ladies of Faith will host a Paint n Sip on Saturday, **March 22**, in the social hall beginning at 12-Noon with doors opening at 11:30. The \$35 ticket includes everything you need as well as light refreshments. Tickets are available in the Church office or text or call Patty at 724-288-8644.



### Epiphany of Our Lord Mardi Gras

Tuesday, **March 4** is 'Fat Tuesday' and all about desserts! Bring a dessert or side dish to Epiphany Parish Hall to share. The party begins at 6 p.m. Donations of pop and water are appreciated. Also, we are in need of volunteers to help set up the food.

**Fish Fry**—Epiphany of Our Lord Fish Fry begins **Ash Wednesday** from 11 am to 6 pm. *From 11 am until 3 pm will be take out.* When you go through the line, food will be ready for take out, however, you are welcome to sit at our tables. We ask that you clean up your table when finished eating.

**The CHOSEN**—Epiphany of Our Lord Parish will begin The Chosen Season 4 on Monday, March 10 and run for 4 Mondays. This season explores the true cost of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. It begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Epiphany Church hall.

**Shawl Crafters Ministry** will meet this Wednesday, **March 5** from 10:30—12:00 Noon in the Parish Center. Join us!

**LADIES OF FAITH** will meet this Thursday, **March 6** in the Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. All women of the Parish are most welcome to attend.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fest**—The Belle Vernon Rotary is holding their annual Pancake Fest Tuesday, **March 4**, from 11:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. in our Parish Hall. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Tickets can be purchased at the door or from a Rotary member.

## Lent Begins

Our Ash Wednesday and Lenten schedule

8:00 am Mass

1:00 pm Mass with SSRCS students

4:00 pm. Service with distribution of ashes

6:00 pm Mass

Ash Wednesday Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord will be celebrated at 8:00 am and 12-Noon.

Daily Mass is celebrated Mon., Thurs. and Sat. at Epiphany, and Tues., Wed. and Fri. here at St. Sebastian.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy/Eucharistic Adoration is prayed at 3:00 pm, Monday thru Friday at St. Sebastian.

On Fridays of Lent we will pray the stations together beginning at 6:00 pm.

Remember, Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence and that all of the Fridays during Lent are days of fast.

*When attending devotions at St Sebastian, please refrain from parking in the Auto or Clinic's lots. Be considerate of our neighbors and their patrons.*



## Fasting

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are required days of fasting for Catholics between the ages 18 to 59 — meaning one main meal and two other light meals as needed to maintain health. Abstinence from meat is also required on those two days as well as on the Fridays of Lent.

“Giving up something” is a standard form of penance today during the penitential season of Lent. Renouncing chocolate, alcohol, television, coffee or some specific favorite food are all standard penances. Money saved should go to charity as Lenten alms.

At one time it was standard for all Christians to renounce all meat and dairy products during Lent, which included no cheese, eggs or milk.

Part of the Catholic tradition of fasting is that you are not meant to brag about it: no showing off about how pious you are, or how much you are suffering through your self-imposed penances! In fact, the best way to experience Lent is to see it as a time of genuine spiritual renewal — it’s a time for small but specific acts of love. Picking up some litter in the street and putting it in a bin? Making one random act of kindness every day? (It can actually be quite fun working out how to do that: a seat offered to a stranger on the bus, an angry remark left unsaid, a pleasant greeting to a colleague at work, and/or a decision to do something that you have been meaning to do for ages, such as visiting that home for the elderly and getting a group of friends to go and sing there, etc.).

But it does have to be said that Lent’s 40 days can still seem horribly long! Which is why the Church gives us a mid-Lent Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Its traditional name is Laetare Sunday, from the Latin word for “rejoice.” Look up the Mass prayers for that day and you will find them full of messages about hope and joy. It is sometimes called “let up” Sunday — you let up on your fasting and penance for the day.

From: Simply Catholic

## ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

One of the "big" events in a life of a priest is his priestly ordination. For some, they would even celebrate their ordination anniversary rather than their birthday. We cannot of course discount the great significance of a birthday since everything starts when we are born. It is also an opportunity for the parishioners to remember their priest in their prayers, which is very important. It is also a good occasion to promote vocation to the religious life

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of March will be my 23rd Sacerdotal Anniversary (March 11, 2002). Let it be in the bulletin and I would love that even the school kids start to learn how to do or offer a Spiritual Bouquet. It is good that we teach them while they are young. I would encourage also that we remember the ordination anniversary of our priests, those who have served as our administrators or pastors or parochial vicars so we can remember them in our prayers as well as our bishop.

God bless, Fr. Vincent



## WHAT IS A SPIRITUAL BOUQUET?

Put quite simply, spiritual bouquets are devotional acts and prayers said on behalf of someone and their intentions. These spiritual gifts are usually noted on a card of some sort.

### Why Bouquet?

Each individual act is like a spiritual flower that when gathered with other acts and prayers becomes a bouquet. Isn't that such a beautiful idea? Who wouldn't want to receive such a gift!

### What Devotional Acts and Prayers to Include?

- Receiving Communion
- Time in Adoration
- Making 1st Friday or 1st Saturdays
- Act of Charity
- Act of Self-Denial
- Hearing Mass
- Litanies
- Chaplets
- Rosaries
- Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
- Memorare
- Novena
- Acts of Faith, Hope and/or Love

These Spiritual Bouquets (just like a real floral bouquet) are appropriate to give to any one at any time. Who doesn't want prayers and acts of devotion said on their behalf?

From: Elizabeth Clare Blog

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The OCIA process involves a journey of faith and conversion. A person is introduced to the beliefs, life, liturgy, and apostolic work of the Catholic Church. OCIA is for the unbaptized, the baptized who would like to receive Confirmation and Eucharist, those who just have questions. If you would like to ask questions or start this journey, please contact Adelle Slebodnik at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or speak with Father following Mass.

**The Little Black Book for Lent 2025** can be found at the entrances of the church. Please use these Meditations on the Passion according to St. John during your prayer time this Lent.



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