

Saint Sebastian Catholic Church

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012
Parish Office—724-929-9300 saintsebastianchurch.org
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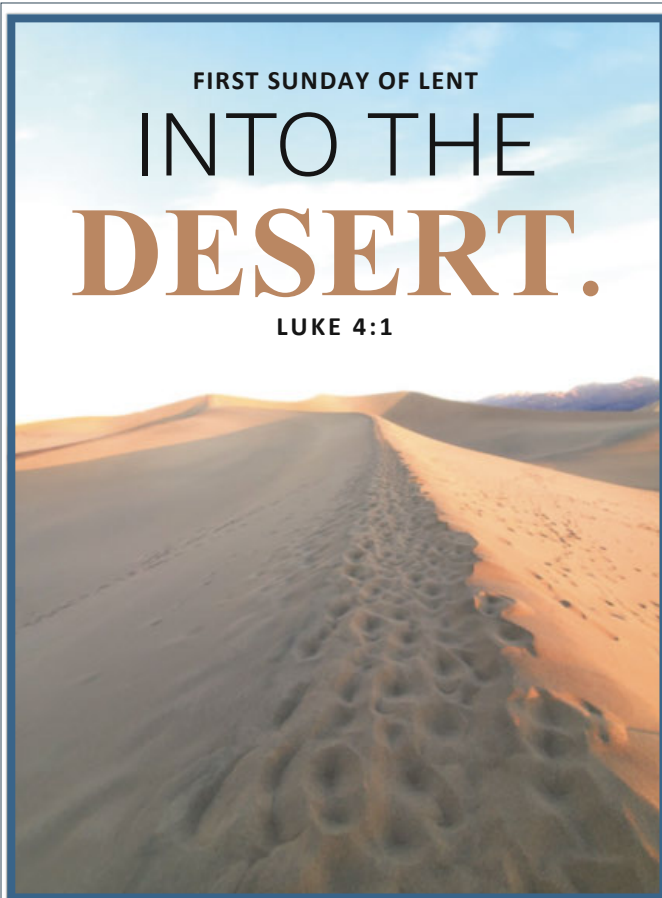
Mass Schedule

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 9, 2025—First Sunday of Lent



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



Parish Staff

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Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich, Business Manager
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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

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.
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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT—MARCH 9, 2025

Liturgies this Week

March 8—Vigil

4:30 PM Robert Nelson Jr.—Connie Garafalo

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

Monday, March 10

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

Tuesday, March 11

8:00 AM Intentions of the Christ Life Friends
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Wednesday, March 12

8:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Thursday, March 13

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

Friday, March 14

8:00 AM Deceased of the Pietrowski & Bogdanski
Families—Granddaughter
10:15 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish
3:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration/Chaplet of Divine Mercy
6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 15

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Saturday, March 15—Vigil

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

March 16—Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM (Date of Birth) Edna Patricia Garnic—Daughter,
Andrea & Family
11:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

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

Sympathy and Prayers—Please remember in your prayers those who have died: ROBERT NELSON, Jr. We extend our sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

PLEASE NOTE—It was recently brought to the attention of the Diocese of Greensburg that services are being conducted at a building that is called **Infant Jesus of Prague Chapel** at 130 Dutchman Road, New Kensington, PA, 15068, just off Route 366.

It is important to understand that this facility and its ministers are not associated, nor do they have the recognition of the Diocese of Greensburg.

As such, this facility and these ministers are not in communion with the Roman Catholic Church. This notification is to serve as a reminder that the building called **Infant Jesus of Prague Chapel** is not a Roman Catholic place of worship and has never received recognition from the Diocese of Greensburg as a chapel.

Attendance at any services does not fulfill the religious obligations required of a practicing Catholic in Communion with Rome.

Offertory for March 2, 2025

Regular Offertory:	\$ 8,765.00
Utilities/Maintenance:	\$ 192.00
Votives:	\$ 74.00
Catholic Accent:	\$ 20.00
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 244.00
Mission Co-op:	\$ 542.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$ 45.00
Cap. Project/Roof:	\$ 508.00
Lenten Season:	\$ 816.00
Catholic Home Mission:	\$ 30.00
Total Mar. 1/2	\$ 11,236.00

Thank you for supporting St. Sebastian Parish.

Scripture Reflection This Week

One way Jesus prepared for his public ministry was to go into the desert, filled with the Holy Spirit, *to be tempted by the devil*. We may have to confront a similar experience during Lent: While striving to follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit, we encounter temptations to abandon our good resolutions. Jesus' example shows us the disposition we must have if we are to triumph over the enemy.



Baptism Congratulations: To **Amicia Rose Turgeon**, daughter of Jordan and Korie (Nichols) Turgeon who was baptized in Christ last Sunday. We welcome Amicia into the Church and our parish family. God bless her & her family.

SSRCS 2n Grade Project—Throughout March, the second-grade classes from St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School will be sponsoring a service project for Little Things for Little People. They will be 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.

Fish Fry—Epiphany of Our Lord Fish Fry is from 11 am to 6 pm. 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.

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

MONTHLY OVERVIEW—Listed below is a breakdown of what our monthly expenses were as opposed to the amount of money taken in. We will be providing this to you on a monthly basis.

February Expenses	Amount	Week	Collection
Maintenance	\$ 1,070.78	Feb. 2	\$ 10,590.00
Gas	...\$ 2,057.00	Feb. 9	\$ 7,810.00
Snow Removal	\$ 5,515.00	Feb 16	\$ 6,822.00
Other Utilities	\$ 265.23	Feb. 23	\$ 9,273.51
Electric	\$ 790.88	EOfferings	
Misc. Office	\$ 1,403.99		\$ 4,004.47
Church/Liturgy	\$ 592.00		
Payroll	\$ 25,996.13	Total	\$ 38,499.98
Diocesan Expenses	\$ 17,342.05		
(Breakdown)			
Accent	\$ 602.65		
Ed. Assessment	\$ 6,702.95		
Dio. Assessment	\$ 3,885.77		
Insurance	\$ 3,541.33		
Data Processing	\$ 30.00		
Inces'd Offer.Campaign	\$ 2,579.35		
Total	\$ 55,033.06		



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Lent

Daily Mass is celebrated Mon., Thurs. and Saturday 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 of the Cross together beginning at 6:00 pm.



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.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK

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.

PENANCE/RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

We know that only God forgives sins. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states this in #1441. It also states that “by virtue of his divine authority he (Jesus) gives this power to men to exercise in his name.” And in #1442 “He entrusted the exercise of the power of absolution to the apostolic ministry which he charged with the ‘ministry of reconciliation.’”

The priest is acting in *persona Christi*, Latin for “in the person of Christ.” So Christ is present in the sacrament. The penitent should prepare for the sacrament with “an *examination of conscience* made in the light of the Word of God.” (CCC 1454) The penitent then begins with “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (amount of time) since my last confession.” Then the penitent confess their sins.

After hearing the confession, the priest will give a penance. The Catechism says, “The *penance* the confessor imposes must take into account the penitent’s personal situation and must seek his spiritual good. It must correspond as far as possible with the gravity and nature of the sins committed. It can consist of prayer, an offering, works of mercy, service of neighbor, voluntary self-denial, sacrifices, and above all the patient acceptance of the cross we must bear. (CCC1460)

Contrition, or sorrow for one’s sins, is essential. The penitent then says an act of contrition, vowing to do better, to sin no more. The priest then offers the words of absolution. Finally, the Catechism says “...the faithful is bound...to confess serious sins least once a year.” (CCC 1457).

If you’ve been away from the sacrament for a long time, go back. God desires this sacrament of healing to reconcile you to God and the church.

From A Minute in the Church ,Back to Basics by Gus Lloyd

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 those who would like to receive Confirmation and Eucharist. For questions, or start this journey, please contact Adelle, aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org or speak with Father following Mass.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

BELOVED gathering for women March 13

Join women from around the Diocese of Greensburg for **BELOVED: An Evening of Reflection for Women** Thursday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe. Along with Adoration, reconciliation and faith sharing, the evening will feature speaker Mary Beth Yount, Ph.D., on “God’s Love, Our Love: Grace and Family Prayer.” The evening is presented by the Diocesan Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship and is open to all women. There is no charge, and registration is not required.

TRANSFORMED gathering for men March 27

Join men from around the Diocese of Greensburg for **TRANSFORMED: Finding the Will of God in the Domestic Church**, an evening of reflection, Thursday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe. The topic will be “Praying with the Family.” Along with Adoration, reconciliation and faith sharing, the evening will feature speaker Lucas Briola, a Pittsburgh native, author and noted speaker. The evening is presented by the Men’s Ministry Group in the Diocese of Greensburg and is open to all men. There is no charge, and registration is not required.

Jubilee Year walking pilgrimage April 12

Walking as Pilgrims of Hope, a Jubilee Year walking pilgrimage, is set for Saturday, April 12, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at St. Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree, and ending at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, with Mass at noon. Pilgrims will be given a Walking With Jesus bag, water and a Jubilee 2025 shirt. To register, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org or contact Elizabeth Haberstroh at ehaberstroh@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

Kerygma Discipleship Retreat May 16-18

Mark your calendar for the next Kerygma Discipleship Retreat, set for the weekend of May 16-18, 2025, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The retreat is an opportunity to hear God’s call and experience a way to live our faith in the modern world through prayer and the Church community. It is open to all adults who desire to know Jesus in a deeper way. For information, visit www.DioceseofGreensburg.org/kerygma-discipleship-retreat/.

Homeschool Program

Greensburg PA Catholic Schoolhouse, Inc., a local homeschool program, is currently registering pre-grammar through high school students for the 2025-2026 academic year. More than an academic co-op, Catholic Schoolhouse is a structured, classical Catholic liberal arts program meeting weekly for homeschool families with many additional opportunities for community activities. Early registration discount available. For more info or to schedule a visit, please email:

greensburgpa@catholicsschoolhouse.com



March 29th | 10 am-4:30 pm

\$25 Per student | 6th-8th grade

Doors open at 9:30 am | Mass at 5 pm

Christ our Shepherd Center

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Haberstroh at ehaberstroh@dioceseofgreensburg.org





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