



Saint Sebastian Catholic Church

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

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

Reconciliation—Saturday
 Epiphany—3:00 PM—4:00 PM St. Sebastian—3:15 PM—4:15 PM
 By appointment anytime

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Baptism Preparation



Faith Formation



(OCIA) Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



August 31, 2025—Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. 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



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The Parish Staff

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Mrs. Darleen Koury, Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary
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Ms. Lynn Rusnak, Maintenance
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MISSION STATEMENT We the Parish Family of Saint Sebastian, Belle Vernon, serve people in Westmoreland and Fayette Counties. We are Roman Catholics of various ethnic backgrounds with strong family values demonstrating a variety of skills, trades and professions. The purpose of the parish is to glorify God by assisting the community on the "Journey of a Lifetime" through the Liturgy and Sacraments, teaching and preaching the Word of God, and witnessing to our faith. As a community of faith, we are committed to love of God and neighbor through worshiping together and serving others in caring for their spiritual, emotional and physical needs. Each of us is called to strengthen and reach beyond our parish through being responsible stewards of our time, talent and treasure in the spirit of our patron, St. Sebastian.

Liturgies this Week

August 30—Vigil

4:30 PM (Date of Birth) Thomas A. Sassak—Wife & Family

August 31—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM (Death Anniv) Thomas R. Hartman—Wife & Family

Monday, September 1—World Day of Prayer/ Labor Day

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord
Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday, September 2

8:00 AM (Death Anniv) John Simkanich—Family

Wednesday, September 3

9:00 AM Mass at Church of St. John the Baptist
Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, September 4

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, September 5

10:15 AM Jack & Betty Eversburg—Daughters, Leslie,
Mary Kay & Families
Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, September 6—Vigil

3:15 PM *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

4:30 PM Paul & Margaret Baran—Children & Grandchildren

September 7—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM (Date of Birth) Timothy Ambrose—Family

11:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

The Rosary is Prayed Sundays prior to 9 AM Mass. Please join us!

Baptism Congratulations:

To **Lyra Rae Moody**, daughter of Christopher and Kelsey (Sheehan) Moody, who was baptized in Christ last Sunday. We welcome Lyra into the Church and into our parish family. God bless her and her family.

Second collection—The annual collection for our Diocesan Catholic Schools and Catholic University, Washington DC, this weekend, **August 30-31**.

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, September 1, in observance of Labor Day.

Offertory for August 24, 2025

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------|
| Regular Offertory: | \$ 6,705.83 | Assumption: | \$ 35.00 |
| Utilities/Maintenance: | \$ 23.00 | Cap. Project/Roof: | \$ 45.00 |
| Votives: | \$ 53.00 | Catholic Schools: | \$ 5.00 |

Total August 23/24 \$ 6,899.83

Thank you for supporting St. Sebastian Parish.

Youth Faith Formation Religious Education



Attention Faith Formation Families.

Registration for Formation classes for children from 3 years of age through 12th grade is now available online. Registration link information is available in the bulletin, on our parish website and on our facebook page.



There are options for our younger ones up to 5th Grade. Start dates depend on site: St. Anne's **Oct.5**. St. Peter's **Oct 6**, St. Sebastian **Oct. 14**.

CALLED Youth Ministry for **Grades 6 thru 8** will meet on Sundays from 6:00-7:30pm.

IMPACT Youth Ministry for **Grades 9 thru 12** will meet on select Sunday evenings.

Both Youth Ministry sessions will begin on Sunday, **September 28**.

Sacrament Prep for 2nd and 8th Grade youth will begin on Saturday, **October 4**.

Any questions, please email Julianna or Adelle.

Picnic at Cedar Creek Pavilion #16 on **September 13**. Picnic time 1:00 til 4:00 PM. Check the Picnic Flyer in the church pamphlet racks. The day concludes with Mass at 4:00 PM. **There will be NO 4:30 PM Mass at St. Sebastian on September 13. RSVP by September 4.**

Fall Fundraiser—The Ladies of Faith offer a Mum Fundraiser: \$15 for 10" Mums. Vouchers sold after the 4:30 pm Mass on Aug. 30; and after the 9:00 am Mass on Aug.31; also all Masses the week-end of Sept. 6/7. Pickup date to be announced.

Paint & Sip—October 11, 12:00 PM the Ladies of Faith will host a Paint n Sip fundraiser. The cost is \$35/person and space is limited. Call/text Patty at 724-288-8644 for tickets.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Sept. 3 in the Parish Center at 10:30 AM. For info call 724-929-5499.

Ladies of Faith will meet Thursday, **September 4** in the Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. All women of the Parish are invited to attend.

A Word of Thanks

I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the parishioners of our three parish communities - St John the Baptist, Perryopolis; St Sebastian, Belle Vernon; and Epiphany of the Lord, Monessen, who came to support my installation on Wednesday, 20th August, 2025.

Your presence, prayers, and encouragement made the day truly special and filled me with joy. I am deeply grateful for the love and support you have shown, and I look forward to journeying together in faith as your parish priest.

Thanking all the choir members. You did an amazing job. And all those who worked behind the scenes for the success of the program. I appreciate you all.

With gratitude and prayers,

Fr. Anthony Onoko



Catholic Reverence

Does it matter which direction we genuflect? In a Catholic church, we genuflect **toward the tabernacle**—

the sacred place where the consecrated Eucharist is reserved. This gesture honors the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, which is housed within the tabernacle, often marked by a sanctuary lamp burning nearby. If the tabernacle is not in the main sanctuary or is empty (such as during Good Friday), we instead make a **profound bow toward the altar**, which represents Christ and is the focal point of the Eucharistic celebration. During Mass, genuflection is typically reserved for specific liturgical moments, while outside of Mass, it's a personal act of reverence upon entering or leaving the church. This practice helps Catholics center their hearts and minds on Christ's presence and the sacredness of the space.

DCCW Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women will hold their annual Interfaith Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, **October 18**, from 10-noon at Ferrante's Lakeview, in Greensburg. Cost is \$30 (\$15 for students). For reservations, call Kathy Imbrescia at 412-996-0775. For more info: Kathy Byron at 724-787-2415.

Scripture Reflection for Sunday

Today's Gospel challenges us to embrace humility rather than seeking honor or recognition. The Fathers of the Church teach that true greatness comes from lowering ourselves, serving others quietly, and avoiding vainglory. In the Monongahela Valley, especially for us older parishioners, this Gospel calls us to put humility into action through concrete ways of serving the poor and marginalized.



We can serve by practicing almsgiving—sharing our resources with those in need. Volunteering our time in local shelters, food banks, or community outreach helps us demonstrate Christ's love. Even simply taking the time to visit an older friend or parishioner and having coffee with someone who might otherwise have no one to talk to can be a great act of service. Prayer is also vital; praying for the needs of the vulnerable and asking God for a heart of compassion transforms us. When we serve humbly, without expectation of reward, God promises that we will be exalted in His time. Let us remember that in God's eyes, the humble are greatest, and true honor is found in gentle service rooted in love and humility.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place at Saint Sebastian Church on Monday, April 27, 2026. All 8th grade students are to attend the Sacrament Preparation Sessions at St. John the Baptist Church and one of the Retreat options in Greensburg. *The Parent & Youth Make Up Meeting will be this evening, August 31 at 6:00 pm at St. John the Baptist Church in Perryopolis.*

For information please visit the link below:

<https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/mid-mon-valley-region-faith-formation-registration-2025-2026/>



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