

# Saint Sebastian Catholic Church

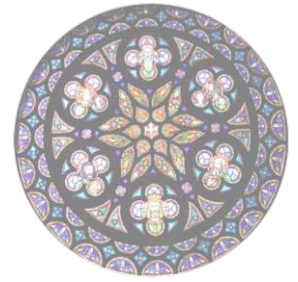


801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Parish Office—724-929-9300 [saintsebastianchurch.org](http://saintsebastianchurch.org)

[facebook.com/StSebastianChurchBelleVernon](https://facebook.com/StSebastianChurchBelleVernon)

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A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

## Mass Schedule

**Weekend: St. Sebastian:**

**Sat. 4:30 PM**

**Sun. 9 & 11 AM**

**Epiphany: Sat. 4:00 PM**

**Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 AM**

*Epiphany of Our Lord, 44 Pennsylvania Blvd. Monessen,*

**Daily Mass:**

**Mon. & Thur. 8:00 AM at Epiphany**

**Tuesday: 8:00 AM at St. Sebastian**

**Wednesday: 9:00 AM at St. John the Baptist**

*St. John the Baptist, 3332 Pittsburgh Rd, Perryopolis*

**Friday: 8:00 AM at St. Sebastian**

**10:15 AM at St. Sebastian**

**Reconciliation—Saturday**

**Epiphany—3:00 PM—3:45 PM**

**St. Sebastian—3:30 PM—4:15 PM**

**By appointment anytime.**

## **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.

**February 1, 2026**



**4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**"Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me." - Mt 5:11**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

## **Fr. Anthony's Office Hours**

If anyone wants to meet with Fr. Anthony please call to set up an appointment. He could be available at St. Sebastian on Wednesdays from 10:30 AM until 3:00 PM. He is available at Epiphany of Our Lord, (724-684-7661) Tuesdays and is at St. John the Baptist, (724-736-4442) Mondays. Please call first.

## Scripture Reflection

When Jesus says, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth,” He is not praising weakness. In the Bible, the word “meek” does not mean timid or powerless. It means someone who has strength but keeps that strength under God’s control.



A weak person gives in because they cannot stand against what is happening. A meek person can stand, but chooses patience, humility, and mercy. Weakness is surrendering to fear. Meekness is courage guided by love.

The meek are not silent about the truth. They are not passive about sin. They hunger for righteousness and remain firm in the faith. Yet they refuse to let anger rule them, pride harden them, or vengeance shape their actions. As the saints teach, it takes more strength to restrain yourself than to strike back.

Christ Himself is our model. He spoke boldly against error. He stood unshaken before His enemies. And yet He was gentle of heart, forgiving those who harmed Him.

So what does this mean for us?

Be strong in what you believe. Learn your faith. Defend the truth with clarity. But do it with patience, kindness, and humility.

This week, choose one concrete act of meekness:

- Hold your tongue instead of speaking in anger.
- Forgive someone who has wronged you.
- Speak the truth without bitterness.
- Serve someone without seeking praise.

Ask God for a heart that is both strong and gentle, so that in your life others may see not weakness, but the strength of Christ.

*Fr. Michael*

## BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

February is National Boy Scout month. Boys Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910. The 12th Point of the Scout Law reminds us that a Scout is reverent; carrying out our Duty to God is the perfect way to celebrate this anniversary of the Scouting movement in the United States.



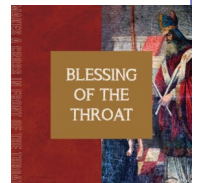
Next Sunday, **February 8**, we will celebrate our Boy Scouts during the 11:00 AM Mass. Congratulations to all our parishioners who are part of the Scouting family.

## St. Blaise Blessing of the Throat

*St. Blaise Blessing of the Throat, Explained*

Perhaps it’s an example of divine providence that the feast of St. Blaise falls on February 3 — right in the middle of cold and flu season! This fourth-century Armenian saint was a bishop and martyr and is venerated as the patron of those who suffer from illnesses of the throat.

On his feast day, Catholics traditionally receive a blessing of the throat. This blessing is administered by a priest, deacon or a lay minister who follows the rites and prayers designated for a layperson. During the blessing, the minister takes two candles that were blessed on the feast of the Presentation and makes a cross in front of the throat, saying “Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness.” A priest or deacon will then make the sign of the cross.

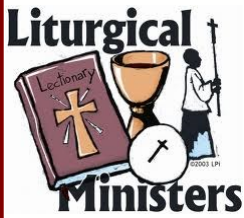


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**Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet this Wednesday, **February 4**, in the Parish Center at 11:00 AM. Any questions contact Barbara at 724-929-5499.

**LADIES OF FAITH** will meet this Thursday, **February 5** in the Parish Hall at 6:30 PM. All women of the Parish are most welcome to attend.

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED



Have you ever wondered if others are getting more out of the Mass than you are? Maybe **you need a new perspective.** **Serving at the altar** is more than just a role, it's a way to actively participate in the liturgy and experience God's presence in a profound way. Whether you're helping to proclaim His Word as a **reader**, offering the Eucharist as an **Extraordinary Minister**, leading the congregation in song as a **Cantor**, or assisting as an **Altar Server**, each role is an opportunity to serve the Lord and grow spiritually. If concern about scheduling is holding you back, know that we can work to fit it in your schedule. **If you are interested serving in any of the ministries, please call the office or talk to Fr. Anthony or Fr. Mike by Sunday, February 15** so we can schedule a training.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

THERE ARE 5 PATRON SAINTS OF NURSES! ST. AGATHA, ST. CAMILLUS, ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, ST. JOHN OF GOD, AND RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL.

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Father you call each one of us by name and ask us to follow you.

Bless your church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons, & Lay Ministers.

Inspire us as we grow to know you, and open our hearts to hear your call.

We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

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SUNDAY • FEB. 8 • 12:30 - 2PM

*Please Note the new date for Open House, Sunday, February 8.*

**Fundraising**

**JUNQUE SALE 2026**

This summer we hope to continue the **Annual Saint Sebastian Junque Sale**, BUT we need help! Volunteers are needed to continue this event.

Our Junque Sale has a following and people come from surrounding communities to enjoy the sale of resaleable items each year. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help in any way. There are many jobs to be done and many treasures to be found.

All volunteer workers will need clearances. There will be parish office access to accommodate anyone without a computer for the clearances.

### *Gift Certificates for Valentine's Day!*

Star Nail & Spa is offering \$50 gift certificates for their services: nails, pedicure, and waxing. The owners, parishioners of Saint Sebastian, are donating 100% of all proceeds to the Church. Star Nail is located at 825 Broad Avenue and can be reached at 724-810-3333. We thank them for their kind generosity. Certificates available at the Parish Office.



### **Children's Faith Formation (PreK-5th Grade)**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is back in session. CGS is a hands-on, experiential way for our youngest to meet Jesus and grow in the love and knowledge of the Good Shepherd. Sessions are held on Monday evenings at St. John the Baptist. For more information, contact Adelle Slebodnik at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

At home sessions begin **February 17** (Liturgical Season: Lent).

Hybrid sessions for in-person classroom at St. Sebastian will begin **February 24** at 6:30 PM.

For more information, contact Adelle Slebodnik at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

### **CALLED Youth Ministry (6th – 8th Grade)**

Youth Ministry is back. We gather on Sunday evenings at St. John the Baptist. For more information, contact Adelle Slebodnik at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### **IMPACT Youth Ministry (9th – 12th Grade)**

Youth are encouraged to join us on the 2nd and 4th Sunday at St. John the Baptist to continue to grow in faith and relationship with Jesus.

**Current 8th Grade youth through Seniors** are invited to join youth throughout the Diocese to **Steubenville Youth Conference "WORTHY"**. June 26-28, 2026 at Franciscan University. Questions? Contact Adelle.

### **First Communion and Confirmation Sacramental Preparation**

Please watch your email for information on upcoming sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Adelle at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**The Office of Faith Family & Discipleship** invites **married couples** in the Diocese of Greensburg to celebrate National Marriage Week at *Blessings and Bliss*, Friday, **February 13**, at **7:00 PM** at Christ Our Shepherd Center.

The evening will begin with Mass in Saint Joseph Chapel. The evening also includes a Keynote Reflection, a blessing of married couples, a champagne toast and a cookie reception. There is no charge to attend this celebration of marriage in our Diocese. Register now at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/DateNight](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/DateNight).

### **The Upper Room: A Young Adult Ministry**

We are excited to announce a monthly opportunity for young adults between 18 and 40 years of age to come together in faith, fellowship, and food. We will gather at St. Mary's Hall at the Historic Church of Saint Peter in Brownsville. Our first gathering will be Wednesday, **February 11** beginning at 6pm. Our speaker will be Mary Sampey, Director of Youth Evangelization in Greene County & Campus Minister of Waynesburg & PennWest. Come and join us and bring along a friend. So that we can plan for dinner, please register at The Upper Room - Young Adult Ministry – Fill out form Questions, please contact Adelle at [aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

### **Women's Scholarship**

The 2026 annual scholarship(\$500) of the Catholic Women's College Club will be awarded to a deserving Catholic senior girl who is a current resident of: Belle Vernon, Bentleyville, California, Charleroi, Donora, Finleyville, Fredericktown, Monessen, Monongahela or Rostraver Twp. and has a GPA of 3.50 or higher. **Applications for the award are available at the parish office or their school guidance offices.** Deadline for the application is **March 14, 2026.**

### **LADIES OF FAITH OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP**

Saint Sebastian 12th Grade parishioners are offered an opportunity to apply for a \$500 scholarship. The award is for any student who pursues a full time course of study in a post-secondary institution or technical school, and fulfill the necessary requirements for consideration. Applications have been sent to those students listed in our Parish Census. Please return the completed packets by **March 13.**





### Ministry of Care

As part of this parish Ministry, the names of those in need of prayer will be printed in the Sunday bulletin. If you or a member of your family find you are in need of prayer, please call the parish office and the name will be listed in the bulletin for at least one month. If you wish the request to continue, please call the parish office again. All parishioners are invited to be a part of this Ministry by lifting to the Lord in prayer the needs and concerns of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Lord, please remember the sick of our parish and community:**

- Rita Mandarino
- Bernadette Dayner
- George L. Cowan
- C.J. Moody

Lord, give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Would you like to join our Parish?

Has your information changed?

Simply fill out this coupon and drop it into the collection basket and a registration form will be mailed to you.

OR

You can pick up a registration form from the church pamphlet racks and mail it to the Parish Office.

Or scan the QR code for the Parish registration form.



Please check all that apply:

New Parishioner     I would like Envelopes

Change Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### PAX

### A Middle School Event

- Doors open at 9:30am.
- The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick will celebrate Mass for the Second Sunday of Lent at 4:30pm. Families are welcome to attend the Mass.
- Registration closes February 20.
- Open to all Middle School students - Bring a friend and come ready to encounter the Lord
- Cost is \$25 per student. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. Contact: [ffd@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ffd@dioceseofgreensburg.org) for more information.



### Winter Closing Schedule

This winter, if there is a 2 hour delay for school, the parish office will also have a 2 hour opening delay. If there is a school cancelation, the parish office will also be closed. If a Mass was scheduled, it will be cancelled and rescheduled. Please follow your local school district. Questions, please call the parish office.

### Mardi Gras Purse Bash

St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis is hosting our annual Purse Bash on Sunday, March 1 from 12pm to 3pm. Doors open at 11am. Drawings start at 12pm. All prizes will be awarded: Michael Kors, Coach, Louis Vuitton and more. Dress for Mardi Gras for special drawing. Must have a ticket for entry. \$30 per ticket / 3 numbers per ticket. Contact Renee at 412-691-7581 for tickets.

### 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.

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—FEBRUARY 1, 2026

### The Parish Staff

**Pastor**—Rev. Anthony Onoko  
aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Parochial Vicar**—Rev. Michael Thomas  
mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Office Manager**—Mrs. Amy Legeza  
alegeza@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Regional Business manager** (off site)—Ms. Christine Coletti  
ccoletti@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Regional Director of Faith Formation and Discipleship**  
Mrs. Adelle Slebodnik  
aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Coordinator of Liturgical Music**—Mr. Dean Dellamalva  
ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Parish Secretary**—Mrs. Linda Drury  
ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary**—Mrs. Darleen Koury  
dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Maintenance/Housekeeping**—Ms. Lynn Rusnak  
lrusnak@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Maintenance**—Mr. Patrick Frederick  
pfrederick@dioceseofgreensburg.org

### St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School

**Principal**—Mrs. Carole Aiello  
caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**School Business Manager**—  
Ms. Tiffany Zetty—TZetty@sssbv.org  
School Telephone | 724-929-5143  
Website | sssbv.org



**End of the Year Statements**—PLEASE NOTE: This year all parishioners will be mailed a copy of their 2025 contributions.

The **Second Collection** this weekend is the Annual support for the Churches in Central and Eastern Europe.

#### Offertory for January 18, 2026

Regular Offertory	\$6138.29
Loose Collection:	\$985.00
Utilities/Maintenance:	\$135.00
Votives:	\$331.00
Family Services:	\$10.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$30.00
Capital Projects:	\$74.00
Christmas:	\$30.00
Sanctuary Flowers	\$10.00
Catholic Accent:	\$634.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$26.00
Poverty Collection:	\$10.00
Retired Religious:	\$10.00
All Saints:	\$10.00
Thanksgiving:	\$10.00
Oplatki:	\$23.00
End of Year:	\$225.00

Offertory for  
January 25  
Will be in next Sunday's bulletin.



**Total Jan. 17/18**    \$8,691.29

Consider online giving.  
Scan the QR code for to set up  
your account.



### Liturgies this Week

#### January 31—Vigil

4:30 PM    In Honor of Lidia Salvino's 102nd Birthday—  
Daughter, Nancy & Family

#### February 1—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM    For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
11:00 AM    † (Death Anniv) Samuel Stringhill—Daughter,  
Melanie & Family

#### Monday, February 2—Presentation of the Lord

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

#### Tuesday, February 3—Ss. Blaise & Ansgar

8:00 AM    † (Date of Birth) George Galiotto—Daughter,  
Regina

#### Wednesday, February 4

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

#### Thursday, February 5—St. Agatha

8:00 AM    Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

#### Friday, February 6—St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:00 AM    † (Death Anniv) Frances Sobek—Homer & Barbara Zucconi  
*Eucharistic Adoration*

10:15 AM    For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

#### February 7—Vigil

4:30 PM    † Clara & Dominic Tonarelli—Daughters

#### February 8—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM    For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish  
11:00 AM    † Warner Wisyanski—Wife, Pat & Family

### Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: JOSEPH VESELY. We extend our sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

### Altar Candle Flowers

The candle flowers this weekend are in loving memory of **Bill Mattozzi** by his Wife, Linda.

**Sacrament of Baptism**—Please call the Faith Formation Office to register for the baptism of your child.

Please scan the QR code for:

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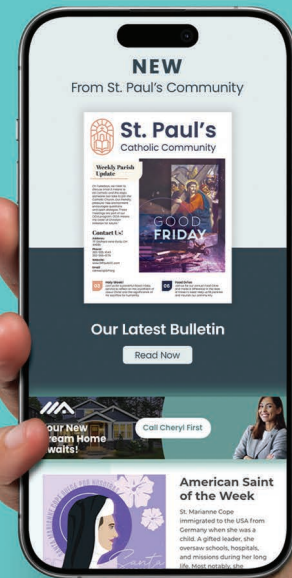
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