

Saint Sebastian Catholic Church



801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Parish Office—724-929-9300 saintsebastianchurch.org

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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

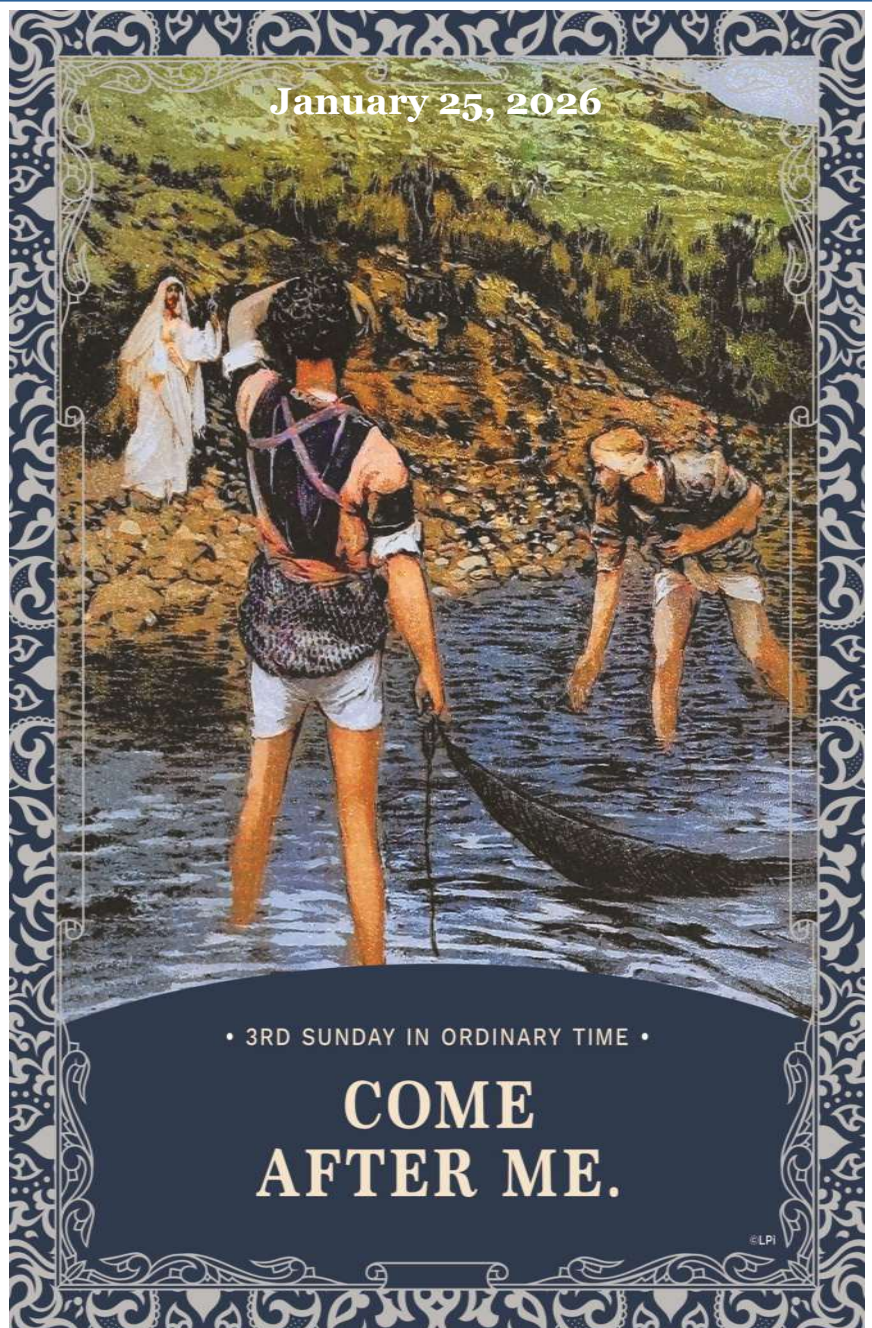
St. Sebastian—3:30 PM—4:15 PM

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.

January 25, 2026



• 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**COME
AFTER ME.**

©LPI



Fr. Anthony's Reflection

ATTITUDE TO THE UNDERPRIVILEGED; MONDAY, 12TH JANUARY 2026, WEEK I, YEAR I.
I SAMUEL 1:1-8; PSALM 116; MARK 1:14-20

Yesterday, I reflected on trusting God even when life does not make sense. (The feast of the Baptism of the Lord) I said that there are situations that confuse us, wound us, or leave us questioning God. Yet, when we walk through them with trust, clarity eventually comes. God always makes sense in the end.

Today's First Reading gives us a concrete example. Hannah was faithful, prayerful, and God fearing. Yet her devotion seemed unrewarded. Peninnah, the second wife of her husband, had many children, while Hannah had none. Peninnah practiced a form of religiosity that did not transform her character. It was spirituality without charity.

This kind of situation can make people feel that God is unfair. But we know how the story ends. God was never unjust. He was simply working in His own time. Today, the world remembers Hannah through her son, Samuel. Very little, if anything, is remembered of the many sons and daughters of Peninnah.

However, I want us to focus not on Hannah's pain, but on Peninnah's attitude. She mocked, taunted, and humiliated Hannah because she lacked what she herself possessed.

This raises an important question for us.

What is our attitude towards those we consider less privileged than ourselves?

Towards those who do not have what we have, know what we know, or are blessed in the way we are?

How do we treat those who struggle, who carry visible weaknesses, or who are different from us?

Do we treat them like Peninnah treated Hannah, or do we respond with love, patience, kindness, tolerance, and gentleness?

Jesus shows us the right attitude. In today's Gospel, when He begins His mission, He does not go first to the powerful, the learned, or the wealthy. He goes to the seaside; He calls fishermen. He walks into ordinary places where simple people gather. He chooses the lowly and the overlooked. This was His way throughout His earthly life.

Beloved in the Lord, mocking others for who they are or what they lack is not strength. It is a sign of spiritual ignorance, lack of charity, and hidden arrogance. Scripture reminds us clearly that God has no favorites; He loves us all equally (Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11).

I end with the words of Proverbs 17:5: "Those who mock the poor insult their Maker; those who rejoice at the misfortune of others will be punished."

May the Lord give us hearts that reflect His own.

Amen

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK



Jeremiah 29:12 says on the day you prayed God listened.
Philippians 1:6 says God didn't bring you this far to leave you.
This shall be fulfilled in your lives week and beyond in Jesus Name.

Amen

New week blessings to all of you. Fr. Anthony Onoko



SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH, BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA



LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED
Have you ever wondered if others are others getting more out of the Mass that 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.

Bible Study: FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

*A Journey through the
Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Start Date: **February 3**, Tuesdays 6:00-7:30 pm
St. Sebastian Parish Center, 801 Broad Ave. Belle Vernon—9 Weeks (20 weeks total -TBD)
Ascension Press DVD Bible Study Workbook/
Sessions \$35 (discounted)
Optional: Online Access \$6.95
To register: Please contact the parish office
724-929-9300 or Email Sherry at:
sam626@zoominternet.net
Please register by January 27th.
We hope you can join us!

Bible Study at Epiphany

Women were essential to the ministry of Jesus and growth of the early church. For this Bible study we will focus on **Women in the New Testament**; women who were healed and transformed by him, followed him as disciples, and proclaimed the good news of his resurrection. We will meet on Thursdays for 6 weeks at 6:30 PM in the Epiphany Church hall, Monessen, from **February 12—March 19**. Cost for the books is \$15. Please register by January 22 by calling 724-684-7661.



*St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School
Open House*
Today, Sunday, January 25, 2026
12:30-2:00 PM
RSVP to EFouch@sssbv.org

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 St. Sebastian, are donating 100% of all proceeds to the Church. Star Nail is located at 825 Broad Ave and can be reached at 724-810-3333. We thank them for their kind generosity. Certificates available at the Parish Office.



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.

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.

At home sessions begin **February 17** (Liturgical Season: Lent). Families are encouraged to continue with the Bible Reading Challenge while on break ...if you haven't started yet, it is always a good time to start.

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.

CALLED Youth Ministry (6th – 8th Grade)

Youth Ministry is back. We gather on Sunday evenings at St. John the Baptist. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend. For more information, contact Adelle Slebodnik at 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. This registration is currently ONLY for students due to limited tickets. If adults are interested in attending the conference as a chaperone, please contact Adelle. A \$50 deposit is due at registration. The remaining cost per participant is \$325, which fundraising is available. This price includes room, board, transportation, and 3 t-shirts. 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

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.

Renew and Restore: Adult Faith Experience

The Fay-West Catholic Churches of the Diocese of Greensburg presents: Renew and Restore: "Patching and Healing the Cracks in our Foundation". All adults are invited on **January 30**, to join us at St. Joseph Parish in Uniontown for dinner, fellowship, games, dynamic speaker, Adoration and prayer. Child Care is Available. Cost is \$35 per person or \$50 per couple. Register at: <https://www.osvhub.com/st-joseph-uniontown/forms/refresh-and-renew>. Please contact Adelle for more information 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.**

SAINT SEBASTIAN CHURCH, BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA



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 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.

"Man and Woman He Created Them: Together with Purpose"

BLESSINGS & BLISS

A CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

Fri, Feb 13 - 7PM
Christ Our Shepherd Center
2900 Seminary Dr, Greensburg

FREE! REGISTER NOW - OPEN TO ALL MARRIED COUPLES

Mass · Keynote Reflection · Blessing · Champagne Toast · Cookie Reception

The Office of Faith Family and Discipleship invites married couples in the Diocese of Greensburg to celebrate National Marriage Week at *Blessings and Bliss*, Friday, **February 13, 2026** 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.

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
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Coordinator of Liturgical Music—Mr. Dean Dellamalva
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Parish Secretary—Mrs. Linda Drury
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Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary—Mrs. Darleen Koury
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Maintenance/Housekeeping—Ms. Lynn Rusnak
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Maintenance—Mr. Patrick Frederick
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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. There will be no emails sent with this information.

PLEASE NOTE: If you plan to invite any guest speaker to a church event, please first contact Adelle Slebodnik at 724-244-9434 or aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org. The Diocese requires all guest speakers to be vetted and have the required clearances. Thank you for your cooperation.

Due to the early transmission of this bulletin, the financial report for January 18 will be in next week's bulletin.

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



Liturgies this Week

January 24—Vigil

4:30 PM † Francis & Betty Maguire—Daughter

January 25—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM † Neil Belan—Annette Suppa & Family
11:00 AM For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

Monday, January 26—Ss. Timothy & Titus

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

Tuesday, January 27—St. Angela Merici

8:00 AM † Fr. Len McAlpin & Fr. Francis Gallagher—
Donor

Wednesday, January 28—St. Thomas Aquinas

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

Thursday, January 29

8:00 AM Mass at Epiphany of Our Lord

Friday, January 30

8:00 AM † Fr. Jerry Doody & Fr. Phil Dougherty—
Donor
Eucharistic Adoration

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

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

The Rosary is Prayed Sundays at 830 AM. Please join us!

Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died:
ELIZABETH CHORBA. We extend our sympathy to
her family. May she rest in peace.

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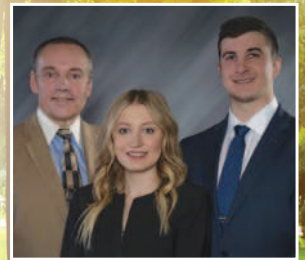
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2026 Catholic Calendar

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