



St. Sebastian Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania
Charitable
Trust

A Parish of the
Diocese of
Greensburg

Palm (Passion) Sunday—April 14, 2019



HOLY WEEK TRIDUUM

801 Broad Avenue ~ Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Parish Staff

Rev. Michael J. Crookston	Pastor
mccrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich	Business Manager
dllisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Scott Martin	Director of Faith Formation
smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mr. Dean Dellamalva	Coordinator of Liturgical Music
ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Linda Drury	Parish Secretary
ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Darleen Koury	Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary
dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org	

Parish Telephone Numbers:

Parish Center/Office:	724-929-9300
Parish Fax:	724-930-7611
Faith Formation Office	724-929-9300

Parish Website: www.saintsebastianchurch.org

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday and Friday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days, Holidays, call the Parish Office

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday 3:00—4:00 p.m.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saint Sebastian Regional School

Dr. Nina Zetty	Principal
nzetty@dioceseofgreensburg.org	
Mrs. Tiffany Miller	School Business Manager
tnmiller@sssbv.org	
School Telephone	724-929-5143
School Fax	724-929-3038
Website	www.sssbv.org

Bulletin Deadline: 9:00 a.m. on Monday. Please print or type all announcements.

Ministry to the Homebound: For the Sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick, call the Faith Formation Office.. Extraordinary Ministers are available for Communion to the Homebound on Sundays.

Catholic Charities: Counseling is available through the Diocesan Catholic Charities Office. Call 724-929-4699.

Religious Education/Formation: Please call the Faith Formation Office at 724-929-9300.

(RCIA) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, please call the Faith Formation Office.

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance. Couples must participate in Marriage Preparation sessions.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants: Please call the Faith Formation Office to schedule Baptism and to register for the Baptism Preparation session held at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Parents must attend prior to their child's Baptism.

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 worshipping 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.

Open your heart to HOPE



HOPE ABOUNDS

In our parishes, missions and ministries continue with the help of our International Priests Program. This year, more than 20 international priests, including Father Gregorio Soldevilla, will help ensure our Church is the center of prayer. He captures many prayerful moments on camera.

2019 DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL

"Being a missionary priest here in the Diocese of Greensburg has been very important to me. My photography allows me to bring the beauty of God's creation into focus for everyone."

- Father Gregorio Soldevilla

Watch the video featuring Father Gregorio Soldevilla at dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE

DONATE TODAY dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE



Decorating the Church for Easter

Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20.

Holy Thursday Pilgrimage

Epiphany of Our Lord Parish is offering a pilgrimage to neighboring churches. There will be a short prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament at the different parishes in our area. A bus will leave from Epiphany's parking lot around 8:00 p.m. If the bus is full, you may follow behind in your car. The following churches will be visited: Holy Family in West Newton, St. Anne's in Ros-traver, St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon, and end up at Epiphany. All are invited to make this prayerful pilgrimage. There will be a reception following the pilgrimage at the Epiphany church hall.


Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, April 23, at 9 am.

Gluten Free Hosts Available

If you cannot consume the wheat hosts, there are gluten free hosts available for those who need them. Please do not be embarrassed to stop by the priest's sacristy before Mass and request this special consideration so that you may receive the Eucharist. Father Mike asks that you stop in the sacristy at least 10—15 minutes before Mass begins.

Second Collection this weekend is the monthly Utilities & Maintenance collection. The **Good Friday** collection is for those in need. **Next Sunday, Easter Sunday**, the second collection is the annual Easter offering.

Join us to pray the Rosary every Sunday at 8:30 a.m.




Paschal Candle & Altar Candle Ring Flowers

During the Easter Season flowers are placed at the base of the Paschal Candle and in the Altar Candle Rings. If you would like to have flowers in memory of a deceased loved one or for a special intention, please contact the Parish Office. Flowers for the Paschal Candle are \$100, and flowers for the Altar Candle Rings are \$100 for the pair.

Due to the early transmission of this bulletin the Financial Report for April 7, and the Holy Week collections, will be in future bulletins.



Our R.C.I.A. Candidate

Please keep our candidate, **Pasquale (P.J.) Ciotti**, in your prayers as he journeys with us through Lent to the Easter Vigil.

Penance Services for the Week

This being the last week before Easter there will be two penance services. On Monday we will be at Holy Family in West Newton and on Tuesday the last service will be Epiphany of Our Lord, Monessen. Both services will start at 7:00 p.m.

Three Days

Throughout the world our Church will celebrate the Triduum which is the very heart of our Catholic faith, to which all leads and from which all flows; Jesus' redemptive death and resurrection; related to the Church year as Sunday is to each week. It begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and continues through Good Friday and Holy Saturday culminating with the celebration of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. We invite you and your family to be as much a part of this year's celebration as you are able.



Holy Thursday—Chrism Mass 10:00 AM at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is when the Bishop along with all of the priests of the diocese bless and consecrate the Holy Oils that will be used throughout the year. It is also the mass where the priests of the diocese re-dedicate their ministry to the people of the church as well as to the Bishop.

Mass of the Last Supper 6:30 PM. Followed by Eucharistic Adoration which will conclude with Night Prayer at 10 PM.

Good Friday: Celebration of the Lord's Passion 1:30 P.M.

Saturday: Easter Vigil 9:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday: Liturgies will be 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Blessing of Baskets

On Holy Saturday at 12 Noon, we will bless Easter Baskets. It is a nice tradition to come and have your "Easter Meal" blessed.

Liturgies of the Week

April 13—Vigil

4:30 pm Jason B. Koliscak—Bobbi Nolan

April 14—Palm (Passion) Sunday

9:00 am Martha Zaldonis—Jeannette Bury

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

Monday, April 15

No Mass Today

7:00 pm

Regional Penance Service
Holy Family Church, West Newton

Tuesday, April 16

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Nathan Campus—Children, Lynn & Nate Campus

7:00 pm

Regional Penance Service
Epiphany of Our Lord Church, Monessen

Wednesday, April 17

No Mass Today

TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, April 18

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

6:30 pm

Living & Deceased of the
Turcheck Family—Lou

Good Friday, April 19

1:30 pm Celebration of the Lord's
Passion

Saturday, April 20

12:00 pm Blessing of Baskets

No Confession or 4:30 pm Mass Scheduled Today.

Saturday, April 20—Vigil

9:00 pm Intention of the Celebrant

Sunday, April 21—Resurrection of the Lord

9:00 am Intention of the Celebrant

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



Attention—Ministers Needed

All Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers for this week, Holy Week:

Holy Thursday—6:30 p.m.

Good Friday—1:30 p.m.

and

Easter Sunday:

Saturday—9:00 p.m.

Sunday—9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Please use the sign-up sheet in the priest's sacristy so that the Parish Secretary can place you on the schedule.



Living Stations of the Cross

A presentation of the Stations of the Cross by the Saint Sebastian Regional School Students will take place on Tuesday, **April 16**, at 6:30 pm in the Church. All are invited to attend.

School News

Registration is Open for the 2019-2020 School Year, PreK-8th grade. Contact the School at: 724.929.5143.



PreK and Kindergarten Orientation is **May 3**, 2019. All of God's Children are Welcome!

First Eucharist Masses

During the Easter Season our Second Grade parishioners will be receiving their First Holy Communion. These are the two dates scheduled:



April 27 at the 4:30 pm Mass
April 28 at the 11:00 am Mass

Please keep our young parishioners in your prayers as they prepare to join us at the Lord's Table. **Rehearsal** for those making their First Communion on either April 27 & 28 will take place on **April 15** at 6:30 pm in the church.

Religious Education Class Schedule

There will be NO class for Religious Education students tomorrow, April 15 or next Monday, April 22.

Classes will resume on Monday, **April 29**, at 6:15 pm in the St. Sebastian School building.



Medical Wish-Planning

Are you prepared for letting your medical wishes be known in an instance where you are unable to communicate your medical wishes as a result of a medical illness or unexpected injury? If not please join us on **April 10** to plan ahead and to learn more about setting up your Advanced Directives. Learn about living wills, advance directives and how to make a tough topic easier to talk about. Obtain a free copy of a "Five Wishes" packet to discuss your medical wishes at end of life with your family and physician. . Any questions please call Amanda Minardi of Vitas Healthcare at 724-831-3647.

Diaconate Ordination

With joy and thanksgiving to God, the Diocese of Greensburg announces that Bishop Edward C. Malesic has called Mr. Mark R. Dunmire to the responsibility of the diaconate. The diaconate ordination will be celebrated on **Saturday, June 22, 2019** at **10:00 am** in **Blessed Sacrament Cathedral** in Greensburg.

"Prayer around the Cross" at Christ Our Shepherd Center

The Diocesan Heritage Center will host a style of Taize prayer, "Prayer around the Cross" **April 14** at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Chapel at the Christ Our Shepherd Center. The event will feature prayer through Scripture, music, icons and candlelight.

Reality Tour—Getting "Real" About Drugs

Reality Tour (RT) is a national parent and child drug education and prevention program. **The next program is scheduled for April 22.** For more information, or to register, go to realitytour.org or call 724-797-0955.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This year 81 shawls/lap blankets have been given to our homebound parishioners. The ministry also makes specialty items for cancer patients and as well as baby blankets. Donations are needed to purchase yarn and other items to continue this ministry. For more information, call Darleen at 724-929-9300.

FROM THE PASTOR—Entering the Passion

All around the world, Christians are remembering the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with the celebration of Palm Sunday. It is easy for us to allow ourselves to be caught up in the drama of what Holy Week is about. The truth of what we are and what we remember this week characterizes what we believe. It is in and through the death of Jesus that we define what our faith is all about. However, everything we find throughout the scriptures leads us to this week, so it cannot be separated from the rest of our Liturgical year.

We start off this week with a celebration or parade if you will. People are welcoming the man Jesus with triumph and honor. They are celebrating the man for what he was and for what they hoped he would become. In spite of their misunderstanding of what Jesus was all about, the people were drawn in by this event of his entry into Jerusalem; as they struggled with who Jesus really was. Apostles, friends and disciples who should know who Jesus was and what he was about, they were the ones who betrayed, denied and fled. One really has to look at this triumphant celebration and ask: what went wrong? As followers of Jesus the real irony is that only by our own entry into Jesus' dying and rising can we truly discover who he is. Until we do that, we may participate in a nice parade but we haven't a clue where it leads.

It is interesting to take a closer look at the role the women play in the Passion. It has been said that they are like the "bookends" to the drama: we meet them in the beginning and at the end. Regardless of what is going on, it is the women who are always the faithful ones. The men in the story were not very nice, pay attention to the women and learn from them. They have something to tell all of us.

If we pay attention to the passion narrative, we will see that it is basically a story of life. The feelings and behavior of the people involved give us a live perspective of living. There is joy and singing. There is faith, doubt, greed, treachery, false accusations, mockery and jeering. There is the despair of Judas, the lying of Peter, the pride and arrogance of religious and political leaders, betrayal by friends, and the tenderness of the women. Yes, it is all there – life at its best and at its worst. The Passion of Jesus is everybody's story.

Christ showed us by his own way of living and by his ministry that the only way to share in his glory is to die to self by becoming servants and disciples following him to the cross. The only way to enjoy the passionate glory of risen life is to suffer the risk of dying. All of this is something that takes place more than just this once a year. It is the everyday of our ordinary human living: when we choose to respond to another instead of ignoring him or her, having patience rather than snapping, talking things through rather than staying angry. Yes, the paschal mystery unfolds in the little things in life that we turn into big ways to say yes to the Christ in others. This is how we get to know Jesus – by living as he did, by embracing the dying so we rise with him to new life.

Lord, please remember the sick, the homebound and those in nursing homes from our parish and community:

Doreen Abler, Minerva Albert, Donna Biagini, Sally Biava, Anthony Boyle, Dane Breakwell, Brennan Breakwell, Tricia Pelissero Bruenn, Adam Canigiani, Jr., Elizabeth Cannizzaro, Ron Carson, Eric Cecchetti, Josie Cekinovich, Jenna Christner, Albert Cialone, Joe Ciferno, Sr., Elaine Costello, George L. Cowan, Bernadette Dayner, Frank Delia, David Dubinsky, Darlene Engel, Jean Ferreri, Autumn Fields, Betty Fisher, John Fisher, Dolores Frazier, John Gira, Mary Gira, Wayne Granchai, Michael J. Hazy, Betty Jean Henderson, Maureen Jenkins, Avery Kazakewicz, John Kelemen, Jr., Bronson Keller, Sr., Jared Konsugar, Terry Krolik, Lilian Laird, Cole Layhue, Catherine Lennex, James Litterini, Marjorie Lopez, Marge Marek, Stephen McCulloch, Brandon Morris, David Moskovitz, Tricia Pelissero Narus, Val Novak, Paul Novakovich, Melissa O'Brien, Julia Paholski, Jim Pascoe, Shirley Patten, Jack Pesic, Joy Pozum, Barbara Riffle, Joel Rivera, Dorothy Rodgers, Mary Ann Rocco, Matthew Ross, George Rue, Betty Savarino, Patricia Senko, Betty Smereczniak, Ralph Swantek, William Tansmore, Joseph P. Trenk, Debra Vaden, Christopher Valerio, Arlene Vargo, Melvin Walkush, Sr., Jack Welshans, Helene Wozniak, John & Nina Zetty.

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

Please Note: If you know of someone who has recovered from his/her illness, or perhaps has passed away, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.