



St. Sebastian Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania
Charitable
Trust

A Parish of the
Diocese of
Greensburg

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 10, 2019



801 Broad Avenue ~ Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Parish Staff

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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 & Friday at 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 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.

Stewardship

The command that we live as stewards was first given to us in the Book of Genesis, where we are told God made every good thing for us and then entrusted it to us so we would care for it. None of us is exempt from this command, for all of us have been given great gifts from our heavenly Father.

With the new year upon us, and Lent quickly approaching, this is an ideal time to reflect on your personal stewardship efforts. Have you been using the gifts entrusted to you wisely and sharing them generously? Does your faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ?

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.

Mandated Reporter Session

All diocesan volunteers need a specific set of clearances. This includes all of those who volunteer at a church function or Catholic school. One of the clearances needed is the **PA Mandated Reporter**. Epiphany of Our Lord Parish is planning a workshop in their church hall on Sunday, **February, 17** from 1 p.m.—4 p.m. You may call 724-684-7661 to register. The class can also be completed on line. To do so, follow the link on www.eolparish.weebly.com. It can be found under the links tab, then clearances. If you have any questions, feel free to call the Epiphany Parish office at the number listed above.

Spring Vendor Show

St. Sebastian Parish will hold a Vendor Show on Saturday, **April 6**. We are looking for anyone interested in participating as a Vendor for this show. For more information, call Kathy Rygiel at 724-326-0129.

Travel Group

There are 12 seats left for the **May 21-22** trip to Baltimore for "From Sea to Shining Stars". Call Sandy for more information, 724-938-0865.

Additional 2019 Trips

- ★ In Jennerstown: Mid Life 2—Aug. 8: Million Dollar Quartet—Oct. 10
- ★ Sweet Treats & Fancy Eats in York—July 31-Aug 1.
- ★ Ark Adventure in Kentucky—Oct. 16-17.

Stewardship of Treasure February 3, 2019

Regular Offertory:	\$6,572.00	(290 envelopes out of 1292 families)
Youth:	\$ 19.00	
Loose:	\$ 799.10	
Total Offertory:	\$ 7,390.10	
Amount budgeted for weekly regular offertory	\$7,986.31	
Over/(under) budget:	\$ (1,414.31)	
Average adult donation this weekend	\$10.00 per envelope	
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$ 60.00	
Votive Candles:	\$ 242.00	
Capital Project/Roof Fund:	\$ 452.00	
Solemnity of Mary:	\$ 8.00	
Catholic Accent:	\$ 303.01	
Eastern Europe	\$ 483.30	
Ash Wednesday	\$ 5.00	
Lenten Donations:	\$ 45.00	
Total February 2/3 collection:	<u>\$ 8,988.41</u>	



From the Pastor

It seems just when we think that things are going to settle down, something happens and we are no further ahead! Fr. Jerome has decided not to take the assignment with us at

Belle Vernon and Monessen. We will have weekend help so I will maintain the rotation between the two parishes every other weekend. Until we are able to get another priest, we will have Masses at Epiphany on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00. Mass will be celebrated at St. Sebastian's on Tuesdays and Fridays also at 8:00.

For now I will be in the office at Epiphany on Monday and Thursday and can be reached at: 724-684-7661, and I will be in Belle Vernon on Tuesday and Friday: 724-929-9300.

Confirmation Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting for the parents of 7th grade students who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on November 7.

The meeting will take place **tomorrow, Monday, February 11** at St. John the Baptist Hall at 6:30 p.m.

For your convenience, this event will also take place on **Monday, February 25** at St. Sebastian Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m. **You may attend either workshop.**



First Eucharist Parent/Child Workshop

A workshop for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist will be held on, **Saturday, February 16**, from 9—11 a.m. in our Parish Hall. For your convenience, this workshop will also take place at St. John the Baptist Church in Perryopolis, on **Saturday, February 23** from 9—11 a.m. **You may go to either workshop.** All parents and students who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist are to attend this workshop.

Liturgies of the Week

February 9—Vigil

4:30 pm (Death Anniv) Nell Amprim—Family

February 10—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Scott Hoffman—Charlotte Orsline

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

Monday, February 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

No Mass Today

Tuesday, February 12

8:00 am Chad Angelo—Grandmother, Mary Hufford

Wednesday, February 13

No Mass Today

Thursday, February 14—Ss. Cyril & Methodius

No Mass Today

Friday, February 15

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Robert Paholsky—Mom, Crista & George

Saturday, February 16

3:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, February 16—Vigil

4:30 pm Nathan & Mary Tisot—David & Mary Free

Sunday, February 17—6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

9:00 am Special Intention—George & Sabra Clark & Family

11:00 am Thomas & Virginia Abbott—Daughter, Carol Wassilchalk & Family

Liturgical Ministers—Servers

Saturday, Feb. 16 4:30 pm A. Peden, M. Hamed

Sunday, Feb. 17 9:00 am Volunteers Needed

11:00 am T. Breckenridge, M. Wasicek

Lectors Lit. Coordinators Ministers

Saturday, Feb 16

4:30 C. Gorski S. Wawro T. Rodriguez, K. Rygiel, M. Free

L. Santori, J. Stringhill, J. Wiggins, S. Wawro

Sunday, Feb 17

9:00 M. Shaughnessy B. Moskovitz L. Turcheck, L. Kibler
M. & R. Smereczniak, J. Russell, M.A. McMillen, B. Moskovitz

11:00 L. Nallo E. Breckenridge J. Cannizzaro, M. Iacoboni
G. Klamerus, G. Rush, M. Strickland, E. Studnicki, E. Breckenridge
Choir—M. Druciak

Sympathy and Prayers

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

Support Group— “Deciding when Hospice is Needed”

If you are or a loved one are impacted with a terminal illness; join us to discuss what hospice is, dispel myths about hospice and discuss at what time hospice may be appropriate. Hospice is a way to manage symptoms of advanced lung disease, congestive heart failure and cancer near the end of life. All conversations are confidential and in a judgement free environment. All are welcome to come this **Wednesday, February 13** at 5:30 p.m. to our Parish Center. Any further questions please contact Amanda Minardi at Vitas Healthcare (724-831-3647).

Melchizedek Project vocation discernment

for young men in **grades 9-12** at Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School from 6:30-8 p.m. **February 17**. To register, email vocations@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Evening for Home-school Families with Bishop Malesic

The Office of Faith, Family, and Discipleship invites homeschool families to an evening of prayer, faith, spirituality and fellowship with Bishop Malesic **February 20** at St. Bruno Parish from 6-9 p.m. Mass is at 6 p.m. followed by a potluck reception. Register www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/EFHF.

Adult Ed

Epiphany is offering a bible study for six weeks starting on the **18th of this month**. The sessions will take place in the Epiphany Parish Hall, 44 Pennsylvania Blvd. We will take a closer look at the Gospel of Luke during our time together. There is a \$10 program fee to cover the workbook. The Gospel of Luke is proclaimed during Liturgical Year C (our current year). Taking a closer look at some of St. Luke's writings will enrich our understanding through this year. There will be a sign up sheet in the back of St. Sebastian church. To register, you can call Epiphany Parish Office at 724-684-7661, or you may sign-up on their website: www.eolparish.com. Consider signing up even if you cannot attend all of the sessions as you will have access to the videos online.

When Lent starts we celebrate Taizé prayer at 6:00 and then will go down to the Epiphany's Parish Hall for the study. Please know that all are welcome!



School News

Registration is now open at St. Sebastian Regional Catholic School. Disney Trip Tickets are on sale now; \$10 ea. Please stop at the School to pick one up. Also, please send the name of anyone you would like the children to pray for to: nzetty@sssbv.org. We will add them to our prayer list.

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, Lori, Marjorie, Lopez, Marge Marek, Stephen McCulloch, Brandon Morris, David Moskovitz, Tricia Pelissero Narus, Val Novak, Paul Novakovich, Melissa O'Brien, Julia Paholski, 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.

Roast Beef Dinner

St. John the Baptist is holding a Roast Beef Dinner on **February 16, 3-7 pm**. *Eat In or Take Out*. Adults—\$12; Children (4-10)—\$6.

Saying Yes to God...

Sometimes we look at our faith and wonder how we ever got the notions that we have. For example, it has always been said that Catholics are notorious for their feelings of “guilt.” I can understand where guilt comes from but I can also see that notion found in many other faiths and religions. I don’t think that we have the market on guilt. This week our liturgy deals with another one of those “myths” that has always been a part of faith and belief in God namely, believing that we are not worthy of God’s love or care. Often we use this feeling of being unworthy as an excuse for not following the call God may be giving us. In all three of our readings for this week we are given an example of how this “unworthiness” ultimately worked out to God’s advantage. Isaiah in the first reading cries out: “Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips...” St. Paul in the second reading professes to be “...the least of the apostles...because I persecuted the church of God” and then St. Peter tells Jesus: “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” As we can see, weakness and fear do not have the last word, for each of these men reconcile themselves to God and do what is asked of them.

What is it that makes us feel so insignificant that we focus on our weaknesses? It becomes our task to look beyond our fears and embrace the power that God has entrusted to us. In both the first reading and the gospel it is clear that while God is present to us and calls us, our freedom is respected. We are always given a choice about answering God’s call. Just like Isaiah, we often feel afraid and unworthy to answer God’s call. But as we see today it is always the unworthy ones that are accepted by Jesus. We are all called, each one of us by name to answer the mission Jesus wants us to do. We all need to decide for ourselves what it is about us that keep us from saying yes.

Fear is a factor that cannot be denied; we are all afraid of many things. Fear is part of being human and comes in all sizes and shapes. We are afraid of things coming back from our past to haunt us. Fear of letting our failings known to anyone but God. Fear of the future. Fear of putting our fear up front so others can see it. Too often in life we live out of our fears and we never venture forward.

We are just like Peter, Isaiah and Paul! We can allow ourselves to become paralyzed by our own shortcomings and fears that we choose not to say yes to God’s call. Too often we might feel the burdens of life are solely on our own shoulders leaving us feel totally alone. The gift which the gospel brings to us today is that we are never alone when we hear and follow God’s call. Divine always abides within us and enables us both to answer the call and remain faithful to it. God meets us where we are in life. Our sinfulness should never be a stumbling block to follow God’s call. God is forever giving us the choice to say yes. God will always initiate the call; it is up to us to say yes!