



**April 21, 2024**



Today's readings

**4th Sunday of Easter**

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Weekday Mass

Monday & Thursday:  
8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday,  
and Friday:  
No Mass

### Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday:  
8:30 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

### Confession:

Saturday: 11:30 a.m.  
Or by appointment

### All Sacraments:

Please call the office



## OUR LOCATION

### Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

44 Pennsylvania Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062

 724-684-7661

 [www.eolparish.com](http://www.eolparish.com)

### Office Hours

Mon.–Thurs.: 8:30 am, - 3:00 p.m. Fri.: 8:30 a.m.– 12 Noon

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Michael J. Crookston  
[mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Bulletin Sec.:** Tara Manderino  
[tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Maintenance:** Patrick Frederick

Regardless of your past, family, or beliefs, you are embraced by our Catholic community. Whether lifelong follower or seeker, you are cherished here. God's love knows no bounds. Let's journey in faith, supporting one another. Welcome home.

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, April 20 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Ted Zelinsky & Bill Hopkins by Wives,  
Jackie & Andrea

### Sunday, April 21 — 4th Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Sheri & George Turner by Betty Nash

10:30 AM † Foglia Family and Helen & Richard Bosh  
by Phyllis Foglia

### Monday, April 22

8:00 AM † Enzo Tristani by Rosina Volpe

### Tuesday, April 23

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Wednesday, April 24

No Mass

### Thursday, April 25

8:00 AM † Al "Cookie" Foglia by Kathryn & Mary Dzurik

### Friday, April 26

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Saturday, April 27 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Teresa Trozzi by Sons, Phillip & Arthur

### Sunday, April 28 — 5th Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Frank Galilei by Cheryl Galilei & Family

10:30 AM 40th Wedding Anniversary Rita & Gary Lucas

### Parish Office:

**44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD  
MONESSEN, PA 15062**

**Parish Office (24/7): 724-684-7661**

**Church Hall: 724-684-5512**

**Religious Education: 724-929-9300**

[www.eolparish.com](http://www.eolparish.com)

[youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch](https://youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch)

[Facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord](https://facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord)

### OFFICE HOURS

**Monday–Thursday:** 8:30 a.m. –12; 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.

**Friday:** 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

### Ministry Schedule — April 27 & 28

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
8:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	L. Henry J. Elias D. Harkins	Volunteer
8:30 a.m.	G. Pesi	S. Stein A. Pastella J. Brown	V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	W. Vlasic	K. Imbrescia T. Mazzei R. Lucas	M. Speicher N. Speicher

### Money Counters

**Monday, April 22—Team #3 – K. Byron**

## We are all the Good Shepherd

Traditionally this Sunday has come to be known as “Good Shepherd” Sunday.

The gospel for today portrays Jesus as the Good Shepherd who was willing to lay down his life for his sheep. The notion of sheep and shepherd has profound meaning for the people of Israel and



throughout the Hebrew and Christian scriptures they have taken on a very spiritual and profound meaning. The leaders of the church were often referred to as shepherds of the people. This concept was readily understood by the nomadic and agricultural tribes of the Hebrews. For those of us who are not associated with the raising and the importance of sheep, we lose some of the deep personal connections to such images.

If we look at all of the readings for today’s liturgy, we are immediately struck with the conviction that the people had in their beliefs. There was no doubting the love that God has for all people. Sometimes this can be a difficult concept to grasp because we often lose what it means to really be loved. The entire Easter mystery is directed toward bringing home to us how much we are loved, how faithful God is in that love, and how far God goes to show us that love – even to the Son’s laying down his life. This Sunday’s gospel of the good Shepherd is an incredibly reassuring one in which we hear in the metaphor of the good shepherd Jesus’ pledge to continue to care for us and love us just as he loves God and God loves him.

For many people love is a hard emotion to deal with. There are so many people living among us who feel that they just do not deserve to be loved. It is hard to imagine living one’s life without ever knowing what love can mean. Love can transform our lives to a new level, one in which we feel confident and secure. It is that confidence that we hear coming from the disciples as they defend their beliefs.

If we absolutely believed how much we are loved in spite of who we are and what we might be doing in life, it could make all the difference with the choices we make. The twist of the gospel is that Jesus’ being our good Shepherd doesn’t save us from the hard work of the gospel call – to lay down our lives for the good of others. Today’s gospel is a reassuring one but it also challenges each of us to be good shepherds for each other. When we like Jesus lay down our life, then we, like Jesus, come to new life. The way of the shepherd is the way of the sheep. The gospel also spells out for us how, as disciples of the risen Christ, we are to lay down our life; by leading, protecting, guiding, knowing, loving. Our Christian living, then, is about relating to others as the Father and Good Shepherd have related to us. This is how we are all “one flock.” This is how we share in bringing salvation to others: by knowing others with the same intimacy and self-giving as God and Jesus know us.

### Weekly Collection April 14

Votive Candles:	230
Utility & Energy:	45
Accent:	6
Children & Adult Collection:	\$5,617
Online Collection:	\$1,448
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$7,346</b>

## Save the Date

### Diocesan pilgrimage to National Shrine

Mark your calendar and plan to join in a Diocese of Greensburg pilgrimage to the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., Saturday, Sept. 21**, led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. This further information on the itinerary, transportation options and cost will be announced soon. If you would like to get an idea of what is in the National Shrine, check out the interactive map:

[www.nationalshrine.org/interactive-map/](http://www.nationalshrine.org/interactive-map/)

**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the families of RICHARD DeRENTIS AND PATTI GUZZIE BIGI. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

## Stewardship

### Diocesan Lenten Appeal

There really hasn't been much of an increase since I reported last week, people responding to the DLA for this year represents **only 30% of our parishioners**. We only have a short way to go until we reach our Diocesan goal. Thus far **we have in gifts and pledges: \$41,857 and our Diocesan Goal is \$44,354**. Once we reach that goal, everything that is given from that point on will stay 100% in our parish.

It would be a blessing if we get enough from DLA to complete the necessary work needed for the roof repairs! **If the other 70% of our parish would respond** to this year's campaign we would certainly have no problem doing just that. If you have any questions about the campaign or anything else in the parish, please feel free to contact me.

### Spaghetti Dinner

The Knights of Columbus will hold a Spaghetti Dinner this Sunday, April 21 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Grand Blvd., Monessen. Tickets are \$13.00 for adults and \$9.00 for children under twelve. Hours are 11:30 AM till 5:00 PM. Take-outs available. For tickets, contact any of the Knights, or Epiphany Ladies member, or contact Dan Harkins at 412-885-0022. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

### Purse Bash!

Tickets for this year's Purse Bash on **Sunday, April 28** will be sold after Masses. Tickets are \$35. The event will begin at 2 p.m. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. You may BYOB.

**If you would like to donate any baked goods** for the "Unique Bake Sale," items can be brought to the Epiphany Church Hall on Friday, April 26 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

### Ravioli Dinner

St. Anne's, Rostraver, will hold a Ravioli and Spaghetti take out dinner on **Sunday, May 5** from Noon to 4 p.m. Dinners are \$15 and include ravioli or spaghetti, bread and salad.

### T-Shirt Time



We've become known for our unified t-shirts at the festival! This year we're **giving a nod to the Olympic Games**. We're now taking orders for t-shirts. The deadline is Thursday, May 30. The shirts, up to size 2 XL, are **\$22** each; 3XL -5 XL are **\$23** each. Orders can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the office.

#### T-Shirt Order Form

To order a t-shirt, include your name, best contact number, size and \$22 (\$23) per shirt ordered.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Size & Quantity: \_\_\_S \_\_\_M \_\_\_L \_\_\_XL  
 \_\_\_2XL \_\_\_3XL \_\_\_4XL \_\_\_5XL

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith

### Confirmation



Congratulations to our youth receiving the sacrament of Confirmation Saturday, April 20.

*Louisa Rose Assenat*

*Paige Elizabeth Lindsay*

*Gabriella Frances Lopresti*

*Nathan Peter Speicher*

*Gabriella Apollonia Yatchyshyn*

**May the Holy Spirit strengthen you and guide you!**

### Formation and Shepherding

What better time than on Good Shepherd Sunday to talk about the Formation of our Children! As I mentioned last week, this is a responsibility that we all have a part to play in. **This week I am asking you to consider being a part of our Vacation Bible School for this summer**. This is a unique opportunity for our children to come together and have "fun" while learning about the message of God's love and peace for them. There are many ways that we can all be involved.

Our former director, Scott Martin, is now working with the Diocese, but he will still be available to help us with resources and ideas.



I would like to have a meeting for anyone **who might be interested** in VBS for this summer to come to a meeting on **Monday April 29 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Epiphany Church Hall. This can be a good start for our new Formation Programming. **Come and bring your ideas!**

### Ministry Call Out



The next schedule will run from **May 11 through June 30**. If there will be any changes to your schedule, please contact Tara or email [tman-derino@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tman-derino@dioceseofgreensburg.org) by **Friday, May 3**.

Next week, Tuesday, April 23, Pennsylvania will hold the primary elections. As good stewards, it's our responsibility to uphold civic responsibilities as well as those of the church.

#### Prayer Before an Election

Lord God, as the election approaches, **we seek to better understand** the issues and concerns that confront our country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

**We ask for eyes that are free from blindness** so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.

**We ask for ears that will hear the cries** of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.

**We ask for minds and hearts that are open** to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

**We pray for discernment** so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.