



January 11, 2026



**The Baptism
of the Lord**

Today's
readings

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: 3:00 p.m.
Or by appointment

All Sacraments:

Please call the office



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST

OUR LOCATION

Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

44 Pennsylvania Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062

📞 724-684-7661

📞 724-397-7035 —Emergency Pastoral Care

🌐 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. Anthony Onoko
aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Michael Thomas
mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bulletin Sec.: Tara Manderino
tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Regional Directors Religious Education:
Adelle Slebodnik, Grade 6—Adult
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Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

Scripture Reflection

From Fr. Anthony Onoko:

YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON: THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JANUARY 11, 2026

Grace and peace to you dear brothers and sisters in the Lord.

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We recall the day when the sinless Saviour, who didn't need baptism, joined the queue and received baptism from John the Baptist. He received baptism as a way of endorsing the ministry of John. He was baptised as an expression of His solidarity with all sinners and He received baptism to show us by example, that baptism is of great importance. He received baptism not to be purified but to purify the water of baptism for all those who would be baptised.

According to the account of Luke, at the Baptism of Jesus, the Trinity was present, and it was another Epiphany/Theophany. Three things happened:

Heaven, that was closed against Adam and Eve (humanity), was opened to show that with Jesus, we now have access to the Father.

The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus, as a sign of empowerment and anointing.

Then the voice of the Father was heard. For over 4000 years, the people of God had not received any word from God. Today, the Father spoke because the person being baptised was His Word, the Word of the Father.

So today, we want to reflect on the greatest sermon. The pulpit was heaven, the preacher was God and the message is "You are my Beloved Son; with you, I am well pleased."

God usually sent messages through the prophets. If it was a special message, He would send angels and if it was a message of very sublime importance, He sent Archangels. At His Son's baptism, He didn't send any of these; He spoke Himself. This matter must be of the greatest importance.

God announced to the world that this person being baptised is not like any other person. "He is My Beloved Son and I am well pleased with Him", that is, the fullness of God's favour rests on Jesus. God confirmed what He had spoken about His Son in Psalm 2:7 and Isaiah 42:1.

This is exactly why we pray in the name of Jesus. This is why we offer the Body and Blood of Jesus at Mass. This is why we can confidently ask the Father for mercy for the sake of Jesus and this is why we have hope of heaven - it is all because of the Son. The Father honours the Son absolutely. The Son, in turn, completely glorifies the Father by His incarnation, His ministry, His complete obedience, His suffering and His death.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT US?

St. Paul tells us in Galatians 3:27, that when we are baptised, we put on Christ. It means that we become what He is - we become beloved sons and daughters of God. God sees His Son in us. This is why it is a spiritual abuse to deny baptism to a child and it is an injustice to the self to postpone our own baptism.

We have established that baptism makes us beloved sons and daughters of God. God accepts us but the question is:

- Can we say that God is pleased with us or proud of us? With whom we have become and with how we live?
- Can He say of us "This is my beloved child, in whom I am well pleased" or will He say, "This is my beloved child, with whom I am very disappointed?"

Take note, God loves us in His Son. That is called **ACCEPTANCE** and that will not change but being proud of us is **APPROVAL** and that depends on us.

We may ask: How can God be proud of me?

St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading of today that what we have to do is to give up everything that doesn't lead to God. We must give up all our worldly ambitions, be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world (Titus 2:12-13).

Here is the message of hope: If anyone thinks or has reasons to believe that God is not proud of them, it is never too late. In Jesus, there is hope for us. Through Him, we can obtain forgiveness of sins and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can live a new life of which God approves.

It is very important that the Father is well pleased with each of us because to finally enter the place of rest, which is our ultimate destination and the ultimate essence of our existence, the Father has to approve us and testify that He is pleased with us.

Lord Jesus, thank you for making a way for me to be a child of God. Fill me with the power of the Holy Spirit, and help me to give up what doesn't lead to God, to live in such a way that the Father can say of me "This is my beloved child, with whom I am well pleased."

Groups

CDA Court Monessen #776 will meet on Sunday, January 18, 2026 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The rosary will be prayed at 10:00 a.m. before Mass in the church.



With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the families of JOSEPH CHIARAVALLE AND JOSEPH L. REDA, JR. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 10 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Walter & Stella Anders by Sons

Sunday, January 11—Baptism of the Lord

8:30 AM † Leo Janol by Sophia

10:30 AM Pro Populo

Monday, January 12

8:00 AM † Mary Ann Gallo by C D of A Court 776

Tuesday, January 13

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, January 14

9:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist

Thursday, January 15

8:00 AM † Tesznar Family by Michael & Beth Tesznar

Friday, January 16

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

10:15 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, January 17 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Steven Furio by Ginny Desak

Sunday, January 18 — 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Kenneth Zimmaro by Clemmie Malec

10:30 AM Pro populo

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

Emergency Pastoral Care: 724-397-7035

www.eolparish.com

youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch

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 — Jan. 17 & 18, 2026

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	A. Punturiero	D. Harkins P. Fantauzzi Volunteer	M. Guiliford
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	L. DeFeclices S. Stein J. Todd	Volunteer
10:30 a.m.	D. Yagodich	K. Byron P. Francowic K. Imbrescia	T. Gigliotti

Money Counters

Monday, January 12 — Team #3 — K. Byron

Stewardship

Weekly Collection Dec. 28		Christmas:	3,065
Votive Candles:	286	Children & Adult	7,386
Utility & Energy:	85	Online :	1,207
Accent:	38	Total Collection:	\$12,205
Solemnity of Mary:	40	Children & Family:	350
Christmas Flowers:	63	Total Collection:	\$12,555

Weekly Collection Jan. 4		Advent Folder:	20
Votive Candles:	216	Christmas:	765
Utility & Energy:	265	St. Lucy:	20
Accent:	9	Children & Adult	4,700
Solemnity of Mary:	575	Online :	3,246
Christmas Flowers:	30	Total Collection:	\$9,846

Tax Statements

A statement of your contribution will be available by the end of January. They will be in the back of the church.

Mission

This Sunday, January 11 at the 10:30 a.m. Mass, a speaker from A Simple House will speak about the vital role their mission plays in protecting the vulnerable. Please use the provided envelopes to make a donation.

Pierogi Making

We will begin making our Lenten pierogis on Sunday, January 11 after the 8:30 a.m. Mass and continue on Monday, January 12 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. The complete list of dates is in the expanded bulletin.

In appreciation

I am so very appreciative of the many prayers, cards, gifts, cookies and candies that I've received from you, the parishioners of Epiphany of Our Lord. I thank each and every one of you for remembering me and for your many kindnesses to me this Christmas. God bless all of you, I am grateful to all of you.

Fr. Anthony Onoko

Thank you to all our parishioners for the many Christmas wishes, beautiful cards, generous gifts, and the countless cookies shared this Christmas season. Your kindness, thoughtfulness, and prayers are deeply appreciated and are a true blessing. May the Lord reward you abundantly and fill your homes with His peace and joy. With love, thanksgiving, and gratitude,

Fr. Mike

Meet & Greet

St. Sebastian's Ladies of Faith will hold a casual Meet and Greet on Saturday, January 17 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the St. Sebastian Parish Hall. This is an opportunity for the three parishes to get together, shake off cabin fever and enjoy company. There will be refreshments and hor d'oeuvres

Ministry Call out — The next schedule runs from Jan. 24 to March 15. Please let Tara know any changes by January 15 by email or call the office.

Pierogi Making

We will begin making our Lenten pierogis on Sunday, January 11 **after the 8:30 a.m. Mass** and continue on Monday, January 12 **after the 8:00 a.m. Mass**. This is the time for all dates.

The complete pierogi making schedule:

Sunday, January 18
Monday, January 19
Sunday, January 24
Monday, January 25
Sunday, February 1
Monday, February 2
Sunday, February 8
Monday, February 9

Pierogis are a main staple of our fish fries. In addition, after the fish fries we sell bags of frozen pierogis for the Easter table.

Groups

The **Epiphany Ladies** will gather on **Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 6 p.m.** in the Church for the traditional *Mass of Remembrance* for members who have died in the past year. Refreshments and business meeting will follow in the church hall. All members, families of deceased members and parishioners are welcome to attend.

The **Holy Name Society** will hold its monthly meeting on **January 11, 2026** following the 8:30 Mass. All Catholic men are welcome.

Inclement Weather

Reminder: In the case of inclement weather, the parishes will follow the school schedule. If the local school district has a 2 hour delay or cancellation, then the Daily Mass would be cancelled and the office hours would follow the same schedule as the school district. Epiphany of Our Lord will follow the Monessen School District; St. Sebastian, the Belle Vernon District, and St. John the Baptist will follow Frazier School District. The info will be posted on social media and the app. You may always check **WTAE.com** for school delays and cancellations.

Office Hours

Father Anthony Office Hours:

Monday: St. John the Baptist, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday: Epiphany of Our Lord, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: St. Sebastian, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Father Mike Office Hours:

Monday: Epiphany of Our Lord, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Thursday: St. John the Baptist, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Friday: St. Sebastian, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Faith

If you haven't put away your Christmas decorations, you're still have time. The Baptism of the Lord officially ends the Christian celebration of Christmas. This is when the church year shifts to Ordinary Time and our readings move towards Jesus' mission on Earth.

Inspiration for the Week

John could not believe that Jesus would seek baptism from him, a lowly mortal man. But our God is a humble God. He does not fear our weakness. He extends his hand, saying, "It is fitting." So take his hand. Begin the work he has set out for you.

Connect with Tradition & Grow Your Faith Joy, Explained!

Though it is often used as a synonym for happiness, joy has far more to do with the choices we make than the emotions we feel.

Joy is the experience of achieving what we most desire — and what we most desire is love. God made us in love and for love, and so, in the same way that a flower seeks the sunlight, our souls seek the warmth of true, selfless love. **The virtue of joy, therefore, is a fruit of the virtue of love, or charity (CCC 1829).**

"We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done," said Saint Pope John Paul II. "We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy."

Open House

St Sebastian Regional Catholic School will hold an Open House on Sunday January 25, 2026 from 12:30-2:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to EFouch@sssbv.org

Weekly Readings

Readings for the Week of January 11

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

The Fay-West Catholic Churches
of the Diocese of Greensburg present:

RENEW & RESTORE

an adult event

Friday, January 30, 2026 + 6pm to 9pm
St. Joseph Church, Uniontown
Cost \$35 per person or \$50 per couple

Dinner + Non-Alcoholic Drinks + Games
Dynamic Speaker on
“Patching & Healing the Cracks in our Foundation”
Adoration + Prayer



Child Care Available