



**February 22, 2026**

**1st Sunday in Lent**

## 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](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. Anthony Onoko  
[aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Michael Thomas  
[mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mthomas@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

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

**Regional Directors Religious Education:**  
Adelle Slebodnik, Grade 6—Adult  
[aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Maintenance:** Patrick Frederick

## Scripture Reflection

**From Fr. Anthony Onoko:**

HOMILY GIVEN ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026  
MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-18

This week we begin the holy season of Lent with the Ash Wednesday liturgy. Lent is a special season of fasting/penance, prayer and almsgiving.

All the readings of today focus on these Lenten practices and what God expects of us. I shall not explore this today because we shall have time over the next few weeks to examine each of the Lenten practices more closely.

Today, I would like to focus on the words of the priest or minister as they impose ashes on us.

As the priest or minister imposes ashes on us, they say one of the following two statements:

“Remember that you are dust and unto dust, you shall return” (Genesis 3:19), or “Repent and believe in the Gospel” (Mark 1:15).

Today, I want to reflect on the words “Repent and believe in the Gospel.”

Lent is a season to reflect, repent and reconnect with God.

Our first question is: “Lord, what are you calling me to repent from? What are you calling me to change in my life?” We can only get answers to these questions through sincere self-examination and openness to the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps this Lent God is calling us to repent from putting Him by the side and making other things the centre of our lives. Perhaps He is calling us to repent from loving other things and persons more than Him. Let's think about the sin of spiritual laziness or waste of time, prioritising other things above our relationship/communion with Him. We could think about how we treat other people, our self-control in words, temper, desire for pleasure etc.

God's call to repentance is not to be seen as a threat. It is a call of love. God is saying, “My son, my daughter, don't waste your life in what fails to satisfy; don't feed on the wrong things. Don't live as a slave to sin and your passions. You don't have to go down the path of sorrow and regret. Turn to me and experience greater joy, satisfaction, freedom and delight.”

And then we say “Believe the Gospel.” What is the Gospel that I am called to believe? The summary is this:

God loves you so much, that He gave His only Begotten Son to die for our sins. Through faith in Him, we receive forgiveness of our sins; we are reconciled with God; we receive adoption, which gives us access to God and makes us coheirs with Jesus; we receive justification instead of condemnation and the hope of an eternal life of peace and joy.

So friends, shall we heed God's call to repent and believe in the Good News?

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, February 21— Vigil**

4:00 PM † Joe Reda by Clemmie Malec

**Sunday, February 22 — 1st Sunday of Lent**

8:30 AM Pro Populo

10:30 AM † Jacqueline Bender by Son, David

**Monday, February 23**

8:00 AM † Carol Wrzesinski by Francis Wrzesinski

**Tuesday, February 24**

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

**Wednesday, February 25**

9:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist

**Thursday, February 26**

8:00 AM † Paul & Tom Sowko by Family

**Friday, February 27**

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

10:15 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, February 28 — Vigil**

4:00 PM † Jim Sepesky by Carol Sepesky & Family

**Sunday, March 1 — 2nd Sunday of Lent**

8:30 AM † Doris Kukler by Alex W. Kukler

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](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 — Feb. 28 & March 1, 2026

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	P. Fantauzzi	R. Lucas D. Harkins A. Punturiero	G. Pesì
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	S. Stein T. Todd J. Todd	Volunteer
10:30 a.m.	W. Vlasic	T. Mazzei K. Byron K. Imbrescia	T. Gigliotti

## Money Counters

**Monday, February 23—Team #4— A. Daniele**

## Stewardship

<b>Weekly Collection Feb. 15</b>	Ash Wednesday:	100
Votive Candles:	212	Children & Adult: 4,286
Utility & Energy:	23	Online : 1,598
Accent:	0	<b>Total Collection: \$5,884</b>

## Faith

**Stations of the Cross** is an ancient devotion that follows of Jesus' life from his condemnation to his burial. Not only is this a way for us to reflect on Christ's suffering, but it helps us grow in gratitude for salvation and to develop compassion for others' suffering. We will have stations here every Friday in Lent at **6:00 p.m.** (1:00 p.m. on Good Friday). We will need **volunteers to lead the stations on February 20 and March 13.** Also, if you are willing to be cross bearer for any week, please let us know.

## Purse Bash

Epiphany of Our Lord and St. Sebastian parishes will hold a Designer Purse Bash and "Unique" Bake Sale on **Sunday, April 26.** The event will be held at Epiphany Church Hall from 2 p.m.—5 p.m. Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and include lunch, beverage, and door prizes.

## Heifer

Before receiving a gift of goats, Chasha Veronica begged for money for soap and things for her children. When her friends told her about Heifer, she thought they were joking because nothing that good ever happened before. They had never heard of people giving goats for free. "Then they woke me up in the middle of the night saying 'The goats are here!' I was so excited. Now I can buy flour and make bread. That never used to happen. My granddaughter stays with me and I am paying for her to go to school. I want her to get an education so she can have a bright future. I never thought it would be like this. **I'm no longer a beggar. I've gained back my dignity.**"

**Fun Goat Fact:** Goats discovered coffee beans! A goatherder in the Ethiopian highlands found that his goats were very "spirited" after they ate a berry from a particular tree native to those lands. Soon after, it was made into a drink by locals and the rest is history.



## Land of Peace

**On March 7 & 8,** Roni Sala from **Bethlehem Christian Families** will be here to share insight into the struggles faced by Christians in the Holy Land. This mission seeks to bring hope and support to Christian families and churches in the Middle East, who continue to endure ongoing violence and a significant decline in tourism. Your participation can help make a profound difference. Religious articles handcrafted from olive wood will be available for purchase. For more info, visit [www.landofpeace.org](http://www.landofpeace.org)

**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the families of PAMELA J. MAISANO AND MEGAN MARIE VACCARO. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

**Lenten Retreat** with Fr. Barnabas O'Reilly, OSB on **Monday, March 9,** at St. Sebastian: "Why didn't God just bring us to Eden?" **Tuesday, March 10** at Epiphany of Our Lord: "What am I supposed to be doing with my life right now?" and **Wednesday, March 11** at St. John the Baptist: "What's actually happening at Mass?" All sessions will begin at 6:00 p.m.

## Groups

The **Epiphany Ladies** will meet on in the Church Hall Sunday, March 8, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All members and women of the parish are invited to attend.

## Bake Sale reminder

For Friday, February 27, we ask those whose last name begins with **A — H** to bring in baked goods.

## Lenten Reflection

St. Sebastian Ladies of Faith will hold a Lenten Reflection on Saturday, March 21 at 11:00 a.m. There will be *Stations of the Cross in the Voice of Christ*, followed by a light soup luncheon in the parish hall.

## Homemade Sausage Sale

The Knights of Columbus will hold a sausage sale on March 31—April 1. All orders must be in by Sunday, March 15. Put in your order now to make sure you get it! The sausage will be sold at \$6.00 /lb. Minimum order is 2 lb. per item. All orders **MUST** be made on the order form.

Link	Loose	
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Sweet Sausage
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Hot Sausage
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Hot Hot Sausage

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Orders may be placed by filling out the order form above, placing it in an envelope marked "Sausage Order" and depositing it in the collection basket. To call in your order, or for more info, contact **Jason 724-454-8688.** Please make checks out to **Knights of Columbus 954.**

## Hoagie Sale

### Monessen Knights of Columbus are having a Hoagie Sale

The hoagies will be \$10 each. *Orders must be received by Friday March 13, 2026 6 P.M.* Orders can be placed in the collection baskets at Masses or emailed to

[monessenkoc954@gmail.com](mailto:monessenkoc954@gmail.com). Any questions please contact Jason at 724-454-8688 if there is no answer please leave your name and number. There will be a very limited number of hoagies that can be purchased on the day of pick up.

Hoagies available for pick up at the Monessen KoC Hall located at 1925 Grand Blvd, Monessen, PA 15062 on **March 28, 2026, from 10AM-2PM**

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

Best Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Hoagies: \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Conference

Calling all high schoolers! Join hundreds of Catholic teens at the Steubenville Youth Conference **June 26-28** to be transformed by the love of Christ. All rising freshmen in high school through rising freshmen in college are invited to attend this retreat with the Diocesan group. Registration is currently only for high school students due to limited tickets. Adults interested in attending as chaperones should contact youth ministers and e-mail [ffd@DioceseofGreensburg.org](mailto:ffd@DioceseofGreensburg.org). Registration for chaperones will be opened at a later date. Chaperones must have all clearance and safe environment requirements completed. A portion of the costs for the conference has been underwritten by the Diocese of Greensburg Francis Fund. The remaining cost per participant is \$375 and includes room, board, transportation and three T-shirts. The full cost may be paid at this time, or there is an option to pay a non-refundable \$50 deposit to secure a spot, with the balance due by April 1.

[www.DioceseofGreensburg.org/steubenville-youth-conference](http://www.DioceseofGreensburg.org/steubenville-youth-conference).

## Pilgrimage

Save the date and plan to attend our next **Diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.** It will be led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick on Saturday, **Sept. 19**, and is one of the special events planned to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Diocese. Further information will be forthcoming this spring.



**KERYGMA**  
**DISCIPLESHIP RETREAT**  
**APRIL 10-12, 2026**  
Christ Our Shepherd Center  
2900 Seminary Drive, Greensburg

**COME ENCOUNTER THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL**



- Hear the Gospel proclaimed with fresh clarity
- Encounter Jesus Christ in a deeper and more personal way
- Rediscover the Catholic Church as home
- Be renewed in faith, hope, and joyful discipleship



TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma)




Want to hear the Gospel message with new ears? Are you looking to deepen your relationship with Jesus? Are you looking to discover joyful living through your faith? Find all of that and more at the **Kerygma Discipleship Retreat April 10-12** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The retreat is designed to give you an opportunity to begin, renew or strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ. It's a time to evaluate where you are in your Christian way of life and discover practical ways to stay close to Him. Learn more about this transformative retreat at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma).

## Engaged Encounter

**Catholic Engaged Encounter weekends** will be held **March 28-29** and **Oct. 3-4** at the Spiritan Center in Pittsburgh. The weekends begin Saturday morning and end Sunday afternoon. A team of two trained married couples, along with a priest, facilitate and guide the program. For more information or to register, visit [pittsburgh.engagedencounter.com/](http://pittsburgh.engagedencounter.com/). An Engaged Encounter weekend is one of the **accepted wedding preparation programs in the Diocese of Greensburg**.

**Soda Donations** are needed for the Fish Fry! Coke and Pepsi products, diet or regular are welcomed. Soda can be dropped off in the office or the hall.

## Faith

### Lenten Reflections With Bishop Kulick

With Lent approaching, Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites the faithful of the Diocese to participate in one or all of three Lenten Evenings of Reflection, Adoration and Reconciliation. These special evenings will explore **the theme "Into the Heart of Christ: A Lenten Journey through John 17,"** with each reflection by Bishop Kulick focused on a different topic:

**Monday, Feb. 23:** "Consecrated in the Truth: Set Apart to Belong," Saint Joseph Parish, Uniontown, 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 3:** "That They All May Be One: Entering the Heart of Unity," Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City, 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 25:** "That the World May Know You Sent Me: Mary's Fiat as the Model of Ecclesial Witness," Saint Vincent Basilica Parish, Latrobe, 6 p.m.

All of the reflections will be recorded and will be available at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/)

## Around the Diocese

### Luck of the Irish Lottery Ticket

Our Lady, Queen of Peace is selling Tickets. They are \$10 and have two three-digit numbers; the winner will be determined by the 7 p.m. March 17 Pennsylvania Lottery PICK 3 drawing. The winner will receive a complete roll of \$5, \$10 and \$20 Pennsylvania Lottery scratch-off tickets. Tickets are available at the church after weekend Masses, at the parish office, and by calling 724-882-8776.

Seton Hill University will host the **American College Dance Association Northeast Conference** Friday-Tuesday, Feb. 27-March 3. Events include a community-building event with Peter DiMuro, executive artistic director of The Dance Complex in Cambridge, Mass., faculty group performances with **six shows open to the public at the Palace Theatre, and classes and performance opportunities for high school students.** For tickets and additional information, visit the Westmoreland Cultural Trust ACDA Northeast Conference event page.

### Paska Bread Making Retreat

On **March 23** from 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. there will be a Paska Bread Making Retreat at Mt. St. Macrina House of Prayer. Sr. Carol Petrasovich, OSBM will present. Space is limited. Offering: \$35. Please register by March 16.

**Pysanky Classes at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church** Pysanky (Slavic, Eastern European and Ukrainian style egg decorating) will be held Mondays thereafter (Feb. 23 and March 2, 9, 16 and 23) from 6-8 p.m. For information, call 724-438-1382.

## Faith

### Inspiration of the Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan."

### Questions of the Week

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Question

Genesis reveals that from the beginning the serpent (the devil) desires to lure and trap us into disobeying God.

*Can you think of some lies the serpent is telling people today?*

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Question

Paul argues that Jesus' obedience to God brought us the gift of freedom and life.

*How do you see yourself obeying God?*

#### Gospel Question

The season of Lent begins each year with the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert.

*As we begin the 40 days of Lent, what temptations are you willing to confront?*



### Mass of Thanksgiving

Join Bishop Larry J. Kulick, clergy, religious and the faithful of the Diocese as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Greensburg with a Mass of Thanksgiving **Tuesday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.** Join us as we give thanks for 75 years and look forward to our future.

Join Bishop Kulick, the clergy, religious, and faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg for a

# Mass of Thanksgiving

Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the Diocese of Greensburg

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026 • 6:30PM**  
**Blessed Sacrament Cathedral • Greensburg**