

**February 22, 2026**

**1st Sunday of 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



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## 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.**