



March 22, 2026

5th 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



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
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Parochial Vicar: Rev. Michael Thomas
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Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

Scripture Reflection

From Fr. Anthony Onoko:

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE: 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT,
YEAR A, MARCH 22, 2026 WEEK IV, LENT, YEAR I
EZ 37:12-14; Ps 130; ROM 8:8-11; JN 11:1-45

Grace and peace to you dear brothers and sisters in the Lord. Today is the fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A. Next Sunday will be Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.

The Gospel of today is another dramatic encounter between Jesus and the family of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, an encounter that culminated in the raising of Lazarus.

Our five weeks of Lent ought to lead us to a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and to experience Him in our lives. This morning, let's look at the revelations we have received so far in these five weeks.

•First Sunday of Lent:

We read about the temptation. Jesus is revealed to us as the New Adam who conquered the tempter and we are assured that through Him we are also overcomers.

•Second Sunday of Lent:

We read about the Transfiguration. Jesus is revealed to us as the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets, the Chosen of the Father, the One we should listen to.

•Third Sunday of Lent:

We have the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. Jesus is revealed to us as the living water that satisfies our deepest thirst for love, truth, meaning, and joy.

•Fourth Sunday of Lent:

We reflected on the cure of the man born blind and Jesus is revealed to us as the light of the world and the One sent by the Father to bring us light and hope.

Today, the **Fifth Sunday of Lent**, the Gospel of today is the Seventh of the Seven signs recorded by John, that Jesus performed.

Jesus tells us as He told Martha, I am the Resurrection and the Life. This is a very powerful claim - it is the fifth of the Seven I AM sayings of Jesus in the Gospel of John.

Note: Jesus didn't say, He came to give life or to make people resurrect. He is the Resurrection and the life; that is, the Resurrection is not just a doctrine but a person. The resurrection is not just something to be experienced at the end of time but right now in the middle of time - what theologians call "realised eschatology."

Shall we look at the meaning of Jesus' claim, I am the Resurrection and the Life?

I. Jesus is the source of life. It is only in Him that we can live our lives to the full (John 10:10). Without Jesus, our lives are limited and cannot be lived fully.

II. Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life means that Jesus is the one who conquers Hades/death. In Greek mythology, Hades is the most powerful and feared god, and no one can overcome him or make him release his captives. Jesus is life and He conquered death/Hades. He forced him to release Lazarus after four days, and in the same way He will force death to release all his captives at the resurrection.

III. Jesus is the Resurrection means it is He who will one day call all of us to rise from the grave, just as He called Lazarus today. This is what the Prophet Ezekiel prophesied in the First Reading.

We also read in John 5:28:28 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out.

A commentator said Jesus specifically called Lazarus' name. If He had said "Come out" without calling Lazarus, all those buried in the graves of that garden would have come out.

IV. Jesus is the Resurrection means He is the one who can bring back to life what is dead. He can give hope where hope is lost: He can give us new life. He can open a new chapter in our lives. It is called the resurrection power (Second Reading). The power that called Lazarus out from the tomb, can change our stories. Those who are dead in sin, can receive the new life of grace.

V. It is through Him that we can have hope of eternal life. Jesus has not come to prolong our lives more than the ordinance of providence but He has come to give us eternal life. By believing in Jesus, our life doesn't end in death. We begin a new life of eternal joy, and this is the greatest gift that only Jesus can give (John 3:16).

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are the Resurrection and the Life. I believe that outside of you there is no life. Help me to surrender to you fully and believe in you completely. Let the power of the resurrection be at work in me and save me from fear of death. May the hope of resurrection give me peace in time and a longing to be with you for all eternity, Amen.

Sunday blessings to all of you.

Bake Sale reminder For our final bake sale on Friday, March 27, we ask those whose last name begins with **I — P** to bring in baked goods.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 21—Vigil

4:00 PM † Ernestine Theakston by Suzanne Surdyn

Sunday, March 22 — 5th Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM † Guiffre, Sybert & Kiel Families by Linda Guiffre

10:30 AM Pro Populo

Monday, March 23

8:00 AM † Angela, Fiore, & John Sacco, Lena Mascetta and Marie Dolesandro by Julia Cain

Tuesday, March 24

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, March 25

9:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist

Thursday, March 26

8:00 AM † Earl Lancaster by Angela & Sons

Friday, March 2

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

10:15 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 28 — Vigil

4:00 PM Pro Populo

Sunday, March 29 — Palm Sunday

8:30 AM † Florence Cipa by Mark & Patti Drake

10:30 AM † Albert Foglia by Phyllis and Family

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 — March 28 & 29, 2026

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins A. Punturiero	M. Dzurik R. Lucas J. Brown	Volunteer
8:30 a.m.	S. Stein G. Pesi	F. Petrosky L. DeFelices Tristan	J. Todd
10:30 a.m.	M. Melvin W. Vlastic	W. Yatchyshyn K. Byron K. Imbrescia	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters

Monday, March 23—Team #3— K. Byron

Faith

It won't be long before we are entering the holiest of weeks. Opportunities for reconciliation will be at various sites throughout the region. For Holy Thursday, we are looking for **volunteers for the Washing of Feet, and dress the altar**. If you are interested in assisting with either of these, there is a sign up sheet in the back of the church or you may call the office.

Reconciliation Schedule

The remaining dates for reconciliation before Easter are:

Mon., March 23; Epiphany of Our Lord, Monessen, 6 p.m.
Wed., March 25; St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis, 6 p.m.

Stewardship

Weekly Collection March 15

Votive Candles:	132	Children & Adult:	3,102
Utility & Energy:	25	Online :	1,562
Accent:	40	Total Collection:	\$5,546
Easter Flowers:	550	Heifer:	485
Lenten Folder:	135	Total Collection:	\$6,031

Spring Cleaning

Let's get moving on Saturday, **March 28**. The Epiphany Ladies are sponsoring a **Spring Cleaning** of the church at **9AM**. Cleaning supplies will be provided, though extra cleaning cloths would be helpful. **All men and women in the parish are invited to help**. The more hands the lighter the load!

Movie Night

Be inspired as we prepare to enter into Holy Week. We will show **Risen** on Thursday, **March 26 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church hall. Catholic News Service and Bishop Barron call Risen "robustly Christian and substantially faithful to the biblical account of what transpired after the death of Jesus."

Heifer

We added some serious weight to the ark this week with **1 ox and 1 pig**. We also added a **flock of ducks and another hive of bees**. **Oxen** are highly valued by those who receive them. Because of their size they replace costly machinery, increasing farm productivity allowing families to grow more food.



With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of ERNEST ANTHONY VINGAS AND AUGUSTINE (GUS) AUGILAR. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.