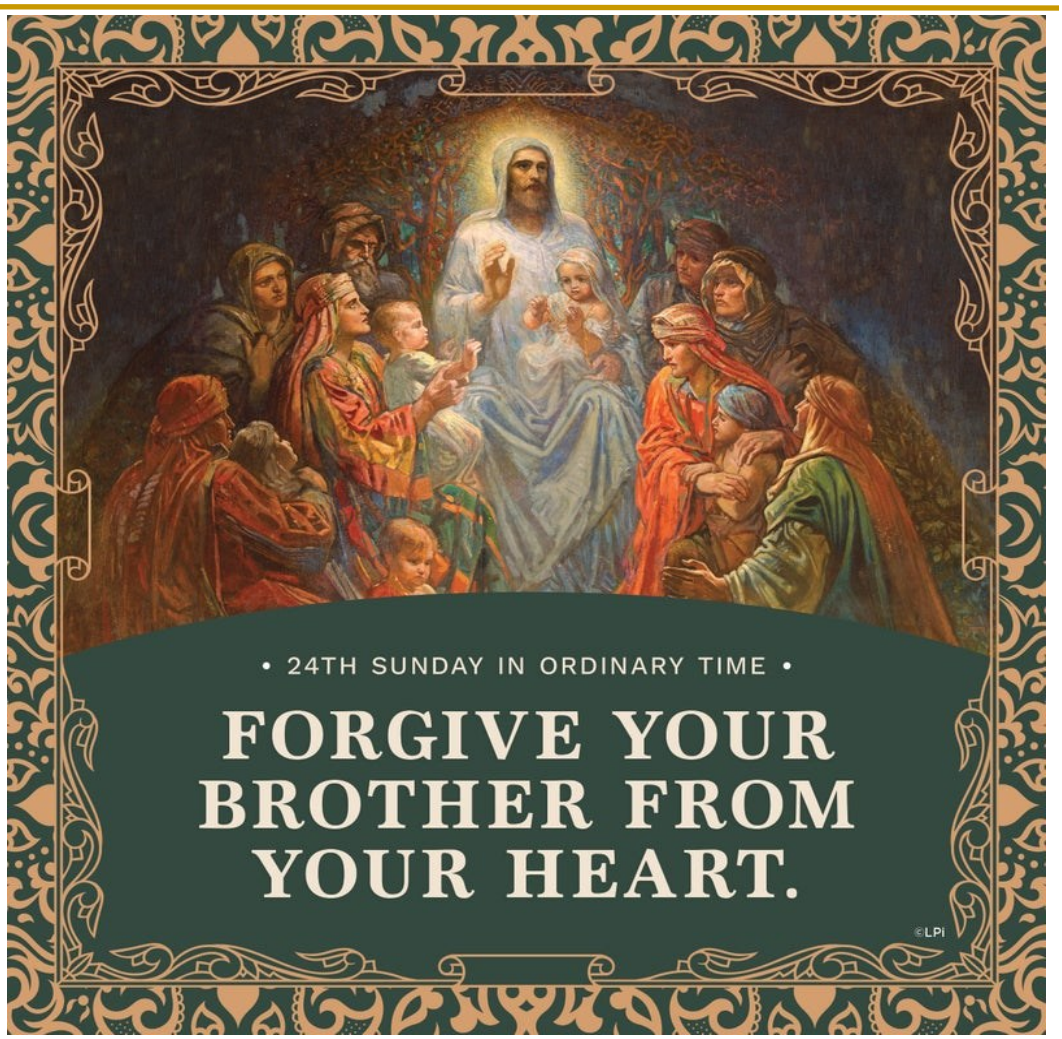
THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sep. 13, 2026

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

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 Director of Faith Formation & Discipleship:
Adelle Slebodnik, aslebodnik@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

Reflections

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sirach 27:30-28:7; Ps 103; Rm 14:7–9 ; Mt 18:21–35

One of the hardest commands Jesus gives us is also one of the most freeing: **forgive**. Peter thinks he is being generous when he asks if forgiving someone seven times is enough. Jesus shatters every attempt to put limits on mercy: "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times." In the parable that follows, the servant who has been forgiven an unimaginable debt refuses to forgive a comparatively tiny one. The message is clear: those who have received God's mercy must become instruments of that same mercy.

Sirach prepares us for the Gospel by warning that anger and resentment are poisons we willingly carry. If we expect forgiveness from the Lord, we must first be willing to forgive others. St. Paul reminds us why this is possible: whether we live or die, we belong to Christ. Our identity is not determined by the wounds others have inflicted but by the One who died and rose for us.

Forgiveness does not mean pretending evil never happened, nor does it always restore trust immediately. Rather, it is the decision to surrender vengeance to God and refuse to let bitterness rule our hearts. Sometimes the person we most need to forgive is someone we have not spoken to in years—or even ourselves.

As we approach the altar this Sunday, let us remember the immeasurable mercy God has shown us. Then, strengthened by His grace, may we extend that same mercy to those who have wronged us, so that our hearts may truly reflect the heart of Christ.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be parted from you.
From the evil Enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me
and bid me come to you,
that with your Saints I may praise you
for age upon age. Amen.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 12 — Vigil
4:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Anders Family by Family

Sunday, September 13 —
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 AM Pro Populo
10:30 AM † Mafalda & Gus August by The August Family

Monday, September 14
8:00 AM † Wayne Shuma by Dom & Shirley Vaccaro

Tuesday, September 15
8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, September 16
9:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist

Thursday, September 17
8:00 AM † Frank Dolessndro, Marie Dolessandro, Frank Dolessandro Jr., and Mary Lou Loulis by John M. Loulis

Friday, September 18
8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian
10:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, September 19 — Vigil
4:00 PM † Anthony Mascetta, Angela, Fiore & John Sacco by Julia Cain

Sunday, September 20 —
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 AM Pro Populeo
10:30 AM † Kenny Zimmaro by John & Noreen Tiech

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

Ministry Schedule — Sept. 19 & 20

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	M. Dzurik R. Lucas S. Surdyn	M. Guiliford
8:30 a.m.	S. Stein	T. Todd J. Todd A. Pastella	M. Blatnik
10:30 a.m.	G. Pesoi	K. Byron K. Imbrescia M. Melvin	G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters
Monday, September 14 — Team #3 — K. Byron

OCIA Training

All clergy, regional directors, parish catechetical leaders, Christian Initiation leaders and catechists involved in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) are invited and required to attend the Diocese of Greensburg's **Re-Envisioning Christian Initiation 2026 training.** The program will be held at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, on **Saturdays, Oct. 3 and 17, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Participants must attend both sessions to receive course credit. To register, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/OCIAtraining. For information, contact the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship at FFD@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

Faith Formation for our families with youth from infant through 12th Grade has been finalized. There will be mulitple options to help meet the needs of our families. Families are asked to sign-up for our new communication method: **Flocknote.** Families that sign up will be sent our format for the coming year and registration information.

Mid Mon Valley Formation Communication

TEXT MMVFORM TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

mmvformation.flocknote.com

Ministry Callout

We are working on the new ministry schedule. This will run from **October 4 through November 22**. Please check your calendars and let us know when you will or will not be available by **Sept. 18**. Please contact Flo or Tara. Email tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call the office.

Parish App

Don't have the app yet? Search for **WeConnect Parish App** in the Apple Store or Google Play or use the appropriate QR code .

Apple

Android

Furthering Our Faith

Fall heralds the beginning of change in many ways. Leaves change color, students and teachers are back into the school routine and everyone seems to have their own Fall routine to follow as the days start to grow shorter.

This fall, we will be looking at **Metanoia** for our Furthering Our Faith. The word metanoia means conversion, but much more than that. It means to change, to repent, to turn, to think differently. Conversion is for everyone at all times, inviting us to grow deeper in their faith. We will begin **October 1 and meet each Thursday for five weeks at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall.**

There is no study guide for the series, so there is no cost. We will watch the video by Wild Goose and have a brief discussion. For those who participated when we did the Wild Goose series, this is a different series.

Sometimes the Spirit descends upon you gently, as a dove. Other times, the Spirit gets right up in your face like a goose with a score to settle. There are signup sheets in the back of the church.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration is now available. There are multiple options available for families to choose from. For more information, please sign up for Flocknote. ***Registration is online only....you can scan the QR code.*** If you need assistance with registration, please reach out to Adelle and we can schedule a time to meet and complete the online registration together.

SCAN HERE

Faith Formation Registration

Questions of the Week

1st Reading Question Sirach encourages us not to hold anger or seek revenge against a neighbor who has wronged us. Can you think of a time when you took this good advice?

2nd Reading Question Paul tells us that Jesus died and rose to life so he might be the Lord of the living and the dead. How do you remain open to Jesus as the Lord of your life?

Gospel Question In the parable of the unforgiving servant, Jesus teaches Peter the importance of forgiving others from the heart. How do you know your forgiveness of others is sincere?

Stewardship

Give online

Consider online giving. It is quick and easy to set up. You can do it one time, or however often you wish. It can be stopped at any time. Sign up through the app or the website: www.eolparish.com

Due to the bulletin deadline, this week's collection will be listed next week.

DLA

Since we have reached our Diocesan goal of $44,564, everything now contributed to DLA **will come back to the parish!** We are currently holding at $3,329 toward our parish goal of $20,000.

Cemetery Care

As we welcome the beauty of fall, many of us take time to lovingly care for and refresh the gravesites of those who have gone before us. As you freshen or decorate a gravesite, please keep a few guidelines in mind: Artificial flowers should be in metal containers rather than plastic; If you plant live flowers and wish to help protect them from the weed eater, please use a non-plastic border. Borders should extend no more than 12 inches beyond the headstone footer in front and should remain in line with the headstone on the sides.

Please remember that we cannot prevent damage caused by wild animals. Thank you for helping us lovingly care for our cemetery and honor the memory of those who rest here.

Getting Married?

A Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend will be held **October 3-4** at the Spiritan Center in Pittsburgh. The weekend begins Saturday morning and ends 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/**. An Engaged Encounter weekend is one of the **accepted wedding preparation programs in the Diocese of Greensburg.**

Catholic Trivia: A pope's pontificate begins when they accept the election results, not at their coronation.

Groups

The **Holy Name Society** will meet on September 13, 2026, in Epiphany Hall following the 8:30 Mass. **All Catholic men are invited** to attend.

Epiphany Ladies will meet on Sunday September 13 in the church hall following the 10:30 Mass. All current and new members are welcome. The officers are hosting a "Family Sunday Dinner" and we will discuss this year's theme; **Walking with Mary: growing in virtue through her example**. We will also present our fundraisers as well as our philanthropic agendas. Our theme for September is 'FAITH'. We will be collecting school supplies to help out the Monessen City School District.

We hosted this Sunday's Donut Social following 8:00 a.m. Mass and we will do so every first Sunday of the month.

We would love to have you join our parish. You are most welcome here. Drop this form in the collection basket, or call the office at 724-684-7661.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

A Blessing for Grandparents

Dear God,
Bless the grandparents in our community. Stir in them a sense of caring, thoughtfulness, and kindness toward their preceding generations. Like St. Anne and St. Joachim, inspire them to live lives of brave faith and virtue. Give them and their families warm memories, happy times, and bright hope.
Amen.

Columbus Day Dinner

Knights' Council #954 will hold their Annual Columbus Day Banquet at our Council Hall on Grand Blvd., on **Saturday, October 10. This event is open to all.** The event will begin at 5:00 p.m. with Appetizers/Cocktails ; the main course served at 6:00 p.m. Cost of the event is $35.00 per person. **Reservations are required.** As always, widows of deceased Knights are invited to attend free of charge.

For reservations please contact John Petritis, Banquet Chairperson at 724-994-6594 or 724-684-7323

Ascension App

The Ascension App for your phone or tablet, has the full Catechism of the Catholic Church, and complete text of the Great Adventure Bible, **daily Mass readings** and reflections and full rosary with audio from various speakers. **https://ascensionpress.com/pages/ascension-app**

Fall Fest

FallFest will be on **Saturday, Sept. 26**! We'll meet under the pavilion to share news, fun and food! All ages welcome. Weather permitting, the 4:00 p.m. Mass will be outdoors. We will begin immediately following Mass and party until 8 p.m. There will be a variety of lawn games and a bonfire in the evening hours. We ill provide hot dogs. We are asking each family to bring a covered dish. For those whose las name begins with **A — G please bring a side dish and H —Z to bring a desert.** To get an idea of the number of people planning to attend, there will be a sign up sheet in the back of the church. This is an outdoor activity (weather permitting) so please dress appropriately.

Rosary Prayer Breakfast

Please join the St. Sebastian Ladies of Faith in a Rosary Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday, Oct.3**. Mass will begin at 9 a.m. followed by the rosary, breakfast and Deacon William Newhouse presenting, ***Holy Mary, Mother of God.*** Registration is due by Wednesday, Sept.23.

Rosary Prayer Breakfast
October 3, 2026

Name_____

Phone_____

Reservation cost of $10, must be included with this form.

Check_____ Cash_____

Please make checks payable to St. Sebastian Ladies of Faith. RSVP by Wednesday, Sept. 23
Mail to: St. Sebastian Church 801 Broad Ave
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
Att: Darleen Koury

St. Sebastians, Epiphany of Our Lord, and St. John's invites you to...

Three nights of
Prayer, Praise, and Adoration
6:30PM, All on Fridays

September 25th, St. Sebastian's, Belle Vernon
October 16th, Epiphany of our Lord, Monessen
October 30th, St. John The Baptist, Perryopolis

Come to all three or just one. All are welcome! Bring a friend!
These events will be directed by the Holy Spirit! Come Holy Spirit!

Around the Diocese

St. John the Baptist Parish Flea Market, 3332 Pittsburgh Rd, Perryopolis (Social Hall) will be held Friday, September 18 thru Sunday, September 20, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. *"One Man's Trash Is Another Man's Treasure!"* Come and find your treasure!

Holy Cross Parish, Youngwood, will hold their Parish Festival on Saturday, September 12 from 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and on Sunday, **September 13** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be ethnic and American food, children's games, games of chance, and Sunday will feature live music.

St. George Maronite church, Uniontown, 6 Lebanon Terrace, Uniontown, will hold their 30th Annual **Lebanese Food & Cultural Festival** on Saturday, **September 19** from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Vibrant Lebanese Music from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., basket raffle and more. Baked Kibbee, Lamb Kebab, Chicken Kebab, Tabbouli, Labneh and more. Lebanese baked goods available. We will also have chicken tenders and fries. Divine Liturgy at 4 p.m. in the Church. 724-437-5589.

Classic Car Show, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, Uniontown. The 20th Annual Classic Car Show will be on **Sunday, September 27.** Registration will be from noon-2 p.m., with the show continuing until 4 p.m. Registration is $12; the first 150 cars will receive dash plaques and goody bags, and trophies will be awarded. The day will also include oldies DJ

RAS Golf Outing, hosted by St. Bruno Parish, will be on **Saturday, Sept. 26,** at Glengarry Golf Links, Latrobe. The format will be Scramble Best Ball. Registration begins at 7 a.m. with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The $120 entry fee includes 18 holes of golf with cart, a snack at the turn, a steak dinner, beverages and prizes. For information, call 412-613-2348 or email kedmunds216@yahoo.com

Chamber Music Concert at Mt. St. Peter Parish, New Kensington. The Astralis Chamber Ensemble will present a concert **Friday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m.** The concert will explore works by lesser-known composers. A free-will offering to benefit the organ repair/upgrade at Saint Mary of Czestochowa organ will be taken.

Purse Bash

Catholic Charities Designer Purse Bash
Tickets will go on sale Saturday, **Aug. 15**, for Catholic Charities' 10th Annual Designer Purse Bash & Crystal Bake Sale, set for **Sunday, Nov. 1**, at the Barn at Ligonier Valley. Doors open at noon. **Tickets are $35** and can be purchased at **www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org** or by stopping in the office during business hours, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. The event sells out annually, so it is recommended that tickets are purchased early. For information, call 724-837-1840.

DCCW Anniversary

Everyone is invited to attend the 65th anniversary celebration of the Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) on **Thursday, Sept. 24,** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. We will begin with rosary for priests at 5:30 p.m., acknowledgments by Bishop Larry J. Kulick; Father Eric J. Dinga, spiritual advisor, will celebrate **Mass at 6 p.m. Mass. There will be hors d'oeuvres and memory sharing afterwards.** There is no charge, but reservations must be made by **Thursday, Sept. 17** by calling Millie Krinock, 724-539-2064, or Betty Nemchik, 724-668-7436, or emailing Kathy Byron at KByron@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

Virtues, Explained!

Friendliness

The modern world we all must share seems, in some ways, to be shrinking.

For good or ill, thanks to the internet, the widespread use of social media, and the omnipresence of smartphones, we are finding ourselves interacting frequently with people who live, act, and think differently than we do.
It may well be that the virtue of friendliness, known officially as affability, is more important than ever.

In fact, being attached as it is to the virtue of justice, friendliness is a debt we owe our fellow human beings, writes St. Thomas Aquinas (*Sum.*, II:II, 114, Art. 2). **The fact is, we cannot evangelize without kindness.** We can see this in the instructions Christ gives his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew: "As you enter a house, wish it peace. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; if not, let your peace return to you." (Matthew 10:13)

Golden Anniversary

Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites all married couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries in 2026 to join him for the Diocese of Greensburg's annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass Sunday, **Oct. 4,** at 3 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. Couples must register **at DioceseofGreensburg.org/GWA or by calling 724-837-0901.** couples not attending the Mass can submit their names, addresses, and wedding date to Liz Hornicak **ehornicak@dioceseofgreensburg.org** so that they can receive a letter and certificate from Bishop Kulick acknowledging this significant milestone.

Pilgrimage

Two weeks until the Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites you to join him for the Diocese of Greensburg's 75th Anniversary Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, Sept. 19. The full schedule and registration can be seen at DioceseofGreensburg.org/Pilgrimage

God in Ordinary Moments

Mercy You Can Feel

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

"You qualify for forgiveness," I heard the woman on the other end of the phone tell me, and I surprised myself by starting to weep.

I had called the hospital system's financial services department to set up a payment plan on a balance I owed after having some unexpected scans and tests. I was hoping to minimize the dent our family's savings took — transform one devastating wallop into a series of more easily absorbed blows, so to speak.

Imagine my surprise when I realized the hospital was pulling its punch. If you have ever had a financial debt forgiven, you know the relief that came over me in that moment.

It wasn't until a little later that the guilt set in. I know so many people who have medical debt. Why was I able to get out of paying, and they were not?

But the cold, hard truth is that I didn't "get out" of anything. My insurance, for which I pay, had given the hospital enough money to cover the true cost of the procedures. That balance would merely have increased the hospital's profit.

Make no mistake: capitalism does not forgive.

If you describe the Sacrament of Reconciliation to someone unfamiliar with theology, chances are they'll think God is a chump. "You get to go in, say you're sorry, and leave — and everything's just fine?" someone once asked me in disbelief.

Well, yeah. That's forgiveness.

Real mercy cannot be budgeted. It must be given recklessly, extravagantly, against all reason. It must cost the giver. It must scandalize any accountant worth his salt. And no one "qualifies."

If I can't wrap my head around the idea, it might mean I'm stuck in a for-profit paradigm of justice. It might just mean that I need to engage more in real mercy. Mercy I can feel. ©LPi

If you change your address or phone number, be sure to let us know. You can call the office, drop the info in the collection basket or email Tara at tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Name: _____

New Address: _____

Phone: _____