# THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Sept. 27, 2026**

**26th 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

**Youth Coordinator:**
Maureen Ruschak, mruschak@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Maintenance:** Patrick Frederick

## Reflections

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us about two sons. One says "no" to his father but later changes his mind and goes to work. The other says all the right things—"Yes, sir"—but never actually goes. Jesus' point is uncomfortable: **God is interested not simply in what we say, but in what we ultimately choose to do.**

That same message runs through Ezekiel. A person who has wandered far from God is not condemned to remain there. If he turns away from sin and begins doing what is right, "he shall surely live." Conversely, yesterday's faithfulness cannot become an excuse for today's refusal of God.

The Church calls this **conversion**: a genuine turning of the heart toward God that produces a change in our lives. The Catechism reminds us that Christ's call to conversion continues throughout the Christian life. It means turning away from evil with a real "desire and resolution to change one's life," trusting in God's mercy and grace.

This is tremendously hopeful. Perhaps we have spent years saying "no" to God in some part of our lives. Perhaps we have made choices we deeply regret. **Our past does not have to determine our future.**

The question Jesus places before us is not merely, *"What have you said to God?"* but **"What will you do now?"**

There is still time to turn around. There is still time to go into the vineyard. There is still time to say "yes" with our lives.

## Wisdom Nugget

The beautiful thing about life is that you can always grow, change and get better. You aren't defined by your past Some of the greatest reward you will ever achieve comes from what no one else is doing. Keep doing the good work that sets you apart. Balance brings clarity as it helps you to see what matters

All the hard good work you are putting in now will be worth it. The road maybe tough but the destination will worth it. Have faith in God with your good works. The Lord lifts

***~Fr. Anthony Onoko***

## Prayer for the Month of September

Heavenly Father, as we enter the month of September, we come before you with faith and confidence, placing all our needs and the needs of our brothers and sisters into your loving hands. Your Word assures us, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be alarmed, for I am your God" (Isaiah 41:10).

Lord, remember all who are sick and suffering. We pray especially for those battling cancer, diabetes, heart problems and other serious or long-term illnesses. As your Word says, "Heal me, Lord, and I shall be healed" (Jeremiah 17:14). Strengthen them in moments of weakness, comfort them in their pain, bless their treatments and guide the doctors, nurses and families who care for them.

We pray also for all who are looking for employment. Open doors of opportunity for them, especially those who have experienced repeated disappointment. Provide for families struggling financially and bless the work of their hands, for "my God will fulfil all your needs" (Philippians 4:19).

May this month of September bring healing to the sick, employment to jobseekers, hope to the discouraged, peace to troubled hearts and abundant blessings upon our families. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**With Deepest Sympathy —** Condolences are extended to the families of Patsy Maione and Steven C. Beck. 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, September 26 — Vigil**
4:00 PM † Patti A. Bigi by Herman Bigi

**Sunday, September 27 — 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:30 AM † Pro Populo by Pro Populo
10:30 AM † Patricia A. Fantauzzi by Madeline Kuklar & Family

**Monday, September 28**
8:00 AM † Norm Vesely by Rosalie Chuberko

**Tuesday, September 29**
No Mass

**Wednesday, September 30**
No Mass

**Thursday, October 1**
No Mass

**Friday, October 2**
No Mass

**Saturday, October 3 — Vigil**
4:00 PM † Raymond & Rose Cocciolone by Family

**Sunday, October 4 — 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:30 AM † Polaski & Trunzo Families by Michael & Beth Tesznar
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 — Oct. 3 & 4

| | Lector | Eucharistic Minister | Altar Server |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4:00 p.m. | D. Harkins | M. Dzurik<br>R. Lucas<br>L. Henry | G. Pesi |
| 8:30 a.m. | F. Petrosky | D. DeCarlo<br>J. Todd<br>A. Pastells | M. Blatnik |
| 10:30 a.m. | W. Vlasic | P. Francowic<br>K. Byron<br>M. Melvin | T. Gigliotti |

**Money Counters**
**Monday, September 28 —** Team #5 — M. Smith

## TL,DR

TL,DR (Too Long, Didn't Read) is for those of you who like things short, and want the pertinent information quick. Here is the short guide to parish activities and items of interest.

- Furthering our Faith begins Oct. 1; pg 7
- Blessing of Pets, Oct. 3 at 11:30, pg. 5
- Marinara Sauce Sale, pg. 4
- Columbus Day Dinner, Oct. 10; pg. 4
- Rosary Prayer Breakfast, Oct. 3, St. Sebastian; Pg. 6
- St. Sebastian Calendar Ticket; pg. 4
- Appalachian Shoe Box; pg. 5

## Faith

### Convocation

Each year the Priests of the Diocese get together for a convocation. At this meeting there are discussions of many aspects of ministry and parish life. This year the convocation will be this week from **Tuesday, September 29 through Thursday, October 1**. Since all active diocesan priest will be away for these days, there will be **no Mass** until Saturday, October 3.

### Time, Treasure & Talent

We each have a talent. Consider how you can share yours with your parish family, and worship God. If people tell you that you're friendly, or have a ready smile, think about being a **Greeter.** You attend church regularly; perhaps you would like to be a **Eucharistic Minister**. Maybe you don't want to stand in front of people, but would like to bring communion to the homebound. We are always in need of **readers and cantors**. Ministry is a lot more than just volunteering your time or your talents. **It is a way of living our lives with the commitments our faith asks of us.** By recognizing our talents and how we can utilize our time, we can all work together in building a stronger Kingdom of God and become Good Stewards at the same time.

If there are other ways you would like to share your talents, please let us know by calling the office or talking to Fr. Anthony or Fr. Mike.

### Communion to the Homebound

If you are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the office and let us know.

## Stewardship

**Weekly Collection September 20**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Votive Candles: | 127 | Children & Adult: | 3,420 |
| Utility & Energy: | 87 | Online : | 1,696 |
| Accent: | 3 | **Total Collection:** | **$5,333** |

## 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

## 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 $5,383 toward our parish goal of $20,000.

## Seminarian & Clergy Formation

This weekend, there will be a second collection for Seminarian & Clergy Formation. Please prayerfully consider supporting our Seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, the ongoing formation of our Clergy, and our International Priests. You may respond with the tear-off portion of the letter that you received last week, the envelope in your parish packet, or online at **Dioceseofgreensburg.org/SCFC.**

## Calendar Ticket

A 2027 Cash Calendar is available for sale at St. Sebastian Parish, Belle Vernon. You may stop by their Parish Office 801 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon (9 AM - 3 PM) and pick your winning number for 365 chances to win! Any questions or for more information call Linda at 724-929-9300.

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: _____

## 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

## 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.

## Shoe Box Project

The Diocesan Central Council of Greensburg, **Society of St. Vincent DePaul,** will be participating in the Appalachian Christmas Shoe Box Project. The shoeboxes will be packed on Sunday, October 25 following the 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Sebastian in their parish hall. Help will also be needed in sorting the items for the shoe boxes. **Items requested are listed below.** They can be brought to either the Epiphany or St. Sebastian church office.

**Priority Items:**
Disposable Razors
Calendars
Shaving Cream
Bar Soap (full size)
Toothbrush / Toothpaste (single items)
Deodorant
Washcloth
Purse Size Tissues
Comb/Brush
Pencils / Pens
Gloves
Shampoo
Body Wash

**Optional Items:**
Chapstick
Socks / Knee Highs
Hand Lotion
Small Puzzle Book
Denture Cleaner

## Blessing of Pets

On **Saturday, October 3**, we will celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a Blessing of Pets at **11:30 a.m. in the Epiphany church parking lot;** there will be a pet blessing at St. Sebastian's parking lot at 1:00 p.m.

St. Francis was known for his great love of all creation, and viewed all living creatures as his brothers and sisters under God. There are stories of him stopping to preach to a flock of birds, telling them to always praise their creator, and of calming a violent wolf who terrorized a town and negotiating a peaceful pact between the wolf and the townspeople.

## Cheese Balls

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Monessen are again selling their "World Famous Cheese Balls" for the Holidays. They are wrapped to freeze and nuts are bagged separately. Cost $10.00. **Orders are due by Tuesday, October 20**, by calling Regent Debbie Genemore at 724-708-8335. **Pick up date: Friday, November 17** between 1:00 to 3:00 in the Church Hall. Thank you, in advance, for your support of our projects

## Save the Date

The Knights of Columbus and Epiphany Ladies will sponsor a **Spaghetti Dinner** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1925 Grand Blvd., Monessen from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on **Sunday, October 18**. Donation is $15. Eat in or take out. Tickets can be purchased from any of the Knights, Epiphany Ladies, or at the church office. Additional tickets available at the door.

## Middle School Students

Calling all middle school students! Get ready for an unforgettable night! Register now for **PAX: CHOSEN, Friday, Nov. 6,** from 6 p.m. -9:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg. Join us for an evening of **games, food, friends and a powerful faith experience.** Keynote speaker Mari Pablo will remind you how God has CHOSEN you for greatness. Register now at **DioceseofGreensburg.org/PAX**

## Spirited

Women are invited to attend Spirited 2026: "Chosen and Precious in the Sight of God" (1 Peter 2:4) **Saturday, Nov. 7, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg.** The conference, a day of prayer, inspiration and fellowship sponsored by the Diocese of Greensburg's Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, will feature nationally recognized Catholic speakers Mari Pablo and Ali Hoffman, along with keynote presentations, breakout sessions, witness talks, opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, praise and worship, and Mass celebrated by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. Breakfast and lunch are included. Whether you are seeking spiritual renewal, deeper discipleship or fellowship with other Catholic women, Spirited 2026 offers a meaningful opportunity to grow in faith and encounter Christ. **Register now at DioceseofGreensburg.org/Spirited**.

Presented by the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, on **Thursday, Oct. 22** offers this unique experiential event invites participants to encounter Christ through the eyes of His Blessed Mother and discover how Mary leads us more deeply into a relationship with her Son. Two sessions will be offered, at 2 and 6 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Admission is free. **Registration opens Tuesday, Sept. 1.** We invite you to save the date and join us for this inspiring opportunity.

## 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

## 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.

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: _____

## Furthering Our Faith

Every once in a while we need someone to give us a good mental shake to make us look at things differently. **Metanoia** means conversion, but more than that, it means to change, to repent, to think differently. And that's what we will be looking at in this series by Wild Goose. "But I'm already Catholic, I don't need to convert." Conversion is for everyone at all times, inviting us to grow deeper in our 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. There is a signup sheet in the back of the church.

## Eucharistic Ministers

Serving as a Eucharistic Minister is a sacred privilege and a beautiful opportunity to serve Christ and our parish community. Thank you for sharing your time and faith in this special ministry.

If you are a Eucharistic Minister and are not scheduled to serve, but additional ministers are needed at the altar, please come forward. Your help is most welcome. As a reminder, all Eucharistic Ministers should be at the altar by the beginning of the *Lamb of God*. After Mass, please ensure that all chalices and sacred vessels are reverently returned to the sacristy, properly cleaned, and put away. Thank you for your generous and faithful service to our parish.

## God in Ordinary Moments

### The God of Changed Minds

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I wonder what was so important.

The man gave both his sons the same order: go out and work in the vineyard today. One son said yes. One refused.

The first son doesn't show up. The second son changes his mind, and does what his father asked. I wonder what was so important, that it kept the first from fulfilling his word. I wonder what was so important, that it prevented the second from committing wholeheartedly.

I have an image in my head of the sun setting on the vineyard. The second son pauses for a moment to catch his breath while his father sits at the gate, anxiously scanning the horizon. "Any sign?" the son asks the father, who instead of answering drops his gaze into his lap.

With this parable, Jesus acknowledges that few of his disciples can anticipate a straight path to Heaven. Most of us are destined for a few bends in the road. Most of us will suffer failures of will and strength. We will become distracted. We will become preoccupied. We will doubt ourselves. There will be so many things that seem important, and it will take us too long to realize they aren't. Once we have, we may be too proud to change course.

The shadows grow long in the vineyard. Any moment and they will give way to darkness. With its dying breath, the sun illuminates the contours of a figure making his way toward the father and son. When the figure cries out, it is a voice they recognize. "Am I too late?"

We worship the God of second chances. The God of changed minds. The God of never-too-late. ©LPi

### October Count

Throughout the month of October it has been customary to count the people who attend church. This count is important when we look at the Diocese and see where we are going and how we can best manage the support and coverage of our parishes.

### Inspiration for the Week

The owner of the vineyard gave both his sons the same opportunity. Only one took it, even though he had rejected it at first. Always remember: it is never too late to do the will of God. He waits for you.