

April 16, 2023



Today's readings

2nd Sunday of Easter

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: 11:30 a.m.
Or by appointment

All Sacraments:

Please call the office



OUR LOCATION

Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

44 Pennsylvania Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062

📞 724-684-7661

🌐 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. Michael J. Crookston
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Faith Formation:
Scott Martin
smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bulletin Sec.: Tara Manderino
tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 15 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Karen Salotti by Family

Sunday, April 16—2nd Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Ronald Skira by Sophia Janol

10:30 AM † James Barron by Irene Babinski

Monday, April 17

8:00 AM † Ed Monaghan by Ginny, Melanie & Family

Tuesday, April 18

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, April 19

No Mass

Thursday, April 20

8:00 AM † James Weldon by Wife, Patricia

Friday, April 21

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, April 22 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Jose & Adela Alvarez by Tony Alvarez & Gloria Vasunda

Sunday, April 23 — 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Sheri & George Turner by Mom, Betty Nash

10:30 AM † Angela Lancas by Jason & Jamie Titmus

Parish Office:

**44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD
MONESSEN, PA 15062**

Parish Office: 724-684-7661

Church Hall: 724-684-5512

Religious Education: 724-929-9300

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 — April 22 & 23

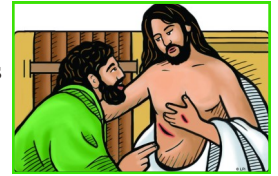
	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	G. Pesi	L. Henry	M. Guiliford
8:30 a.m.	F. Petosky	A. Pastella	D. DeFelices
10:30 a.m.	A. Blatnik	T. Mazzei	C. Blatnik

Money Counters

Monday, April 17—Team #1— B. Geis

Without Seeing We Believe

We find ourselves in the glorious season of Easter! The beauty of the Resurrection is once again made real for us through our celebration of Easter. The readings for this season all speak about the resurrection experiences of not only the disciples but also of the early Christian Communities. As we listen to the stories we should be able to see how relevant they are even for this day. There are many ways that we are able to relate to the experiences of those early followers and apply the grace that the risen Lord brings to our lives today.



If you notice the readings for the season of Easter come from the New Testament. There are testimonies from those early followers of Jesus. We hear of their joys as well as their struggles. A common theme that we can find throughout these readings deals with the rapid growth of the early church. In our first reading this week Luke summarizes the situation, character and activities of this church. We are told that the people were “of one heart and mind.” Unity is definitely a gift that they celebrated. They held everything in common and shared all that they had with those who were in need. It is good to take this first reading and slowly go over it line by line and feel the joy that was present among the people. We would certainly do well to compare their experiences with our own in the communities we live in.

St. Peter in the second reading makes reference to some of the trials that these early Christians had to endure. He compares Rome to Babylon as it was experienced in the Old Testament. Although at the time of Jesus Babylon was no longer a great power, but only a tiny, unimportant place, the name certainly refers to Rome whose authority was beyond question throughout the world known to the author. By the time this letter was written the government had already been persecuting the Christians and there was much suffering and fear. Here, the people are reminded of the purpose of their journey through life, and that all will certainly come to fruition in the risen Lord.

The Gospel presents us with the real question for the week: can we believe without seeing? This has always been the primal question with all believers. Thomas becomes the great teacher for us through his own experience. He simply could not believe what was being said about Jesus, he needed to see for himself, he needed concrete proof.

When Thomas is confronted with the Risen Lord, Rather than touch Jesus, he utters a profound profession of faith. Clearly the gospel is about seeing, but another, deeper layer is gradually unfolded. Thomas’ seeing is concerned with the physical presence of the risen Christ and his wounds. However, Jesus leads the disciples into the deeper meaning of seeing: today we “see” Jesus through our being faithful to the mission he gives us. What does it mean to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? Like Thomas, many of us struggle with belief. Too often, however, our struggle is similar to Thomas’: we want tangible evidence. The twist of the gospel lies in the kind of tangible evidence we are given: the tangible presence of the risen Jesus is found in our being sent to continue the mission of Jesus. The tangible evidence of the presence of the risen Jesus is found in receiving the Holy Spirit so we can do the good works of faithful disciples. Believing in the risen Jesus means more than accepting the fact of his resurrection; it means doing as Jesus does. We experience this Risen Lord when we offer to others “peace, forgiveness and new life.”

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the families of STEPHEN J. SLAVONIA AND NATHAN J. CAMPUS . May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

DLA

D.L.A.

Lent is behind us and so is the major portion of our Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Thus far we have only heard from 25% or 162 of our parishioners. From these parishioners we have collected \$39,749. We still have a way to go to reach our diocesan goal of \$43,854, however I am sure we will make it. We have set an additional \$10,000 as our parish target to backlight a window from the church on Knox. If you have not yet made a contribution, won't you please consider doing so? From the **75% of our parish that we have not yet heard from**, we should be well over our goal!

Weekly Collection April 2

Votive Candles:	337
Utility & Energy:	166
Accent:	5
Lenten Folder:	120
Easter Flowers:	112
Holy Thursday:	121
Good Friday:	124
Easter:	405
Ascension:	5
Children & Adult Collection:	\$6,834
Online Collection:	\$1,378
Total Collection:	\$9,607

Weekly Collection April 9

Votive Candles:	271
Utility & Energy:	255
Accent:	15
Lenten Folder:	25
Easter Flowers:	100
Holy Thursday:	798
Good Friday:	870
Easter:	5,538
Children & Adult Collection:	\$7,987
Online Collection:	\$815
Total Collection:	\$16,674
Mission Collection:	5
Total Collection	\$16,679

A grateful heart...

The season of Easter is a time for hope in life, and hope always brings with it a lot of love. This year I turned "70" and I must say that it certainly was a birthday to remember! Someone gave me a towel that says: Being 20 in the 70's was way more fun than being 70 in the 20's! I certainly agree with the first part of that saying, but since I am only starting the second part, the jury is still out. I cannot remember a birthday where I felt so much love from so very many people, and that certainly does beat out the fun in the 70's. I want to thank everyone who made my transition from the 60's to the 70's a whole lot easier. Please know how grateful I am to all of you, and know that I am humbled by your love and support.

Father Mike



Divine Mercy Sunday

Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites the faithful of the Diocese to join with him in a celebration of God's mercy on **Sunday, April 16**, Divine Mercy Sunday. The liturgy is scheduled for **2 p.m. in St. Joseph Chapel at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg**. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed during this time of Eucharistic Adoration. **Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor Eucharistic procession.**

The Season of Easter

With the celebration of Easter behind us, we find ourselves in the Season of Easter. Until the day of Pentecost, our liturgies will focus on the Resurrection of Jesus and the beginnings of the Early Church. In looking back at our celebrations for the Triduum and Easter, I am thankful for all of our ministers who gave of themselves so that our liturgies would be rich and meaningful. I want to thank all of our parishioners for making this Easter such a special one, and together we share the joy that the Risen Christ brings as we continue on our own Journey of Faith.

Men's Retreat

The CDS East Men's Emmaus Retreat will be held at Christ Our Shepherd Center, 2900 Seminary Dr., Greensburg April 21—23. For more information, visit the site or contact Santos Hernandez at 1026hernandez@gmail.com / or call 412-427-2302. Cost for the weekend retreat is \$150. For details and to register, go to www.christthedivineshepherd.org/mensretreat.



Monthly Rosary

The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly rosary on Wednesday, **April 19 at 7 p.m.** They will meet in the Knights' Council Hall on Grand Blvd., Monessen. All parishioners are invited. Light refreshments will follow.

Calling All Bakers

We will be holding our **Designer Purse Bash** on Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. We are planning a **"Unique" Bake Sale**, and for this, we need your help! Show off your stellar baking skills; we are taking all types of baked goods. Bring your donations to the Epiphany Church hall on **Friday, April 28 between 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** Items do not need to be packaged for presentation.



Groups

CDA Monessen Court #776 will meet on Tuesday, April 18 in the church hall. The rosary will be prayed before the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All Catholic women are welcome to attend the meeting and learn about the mission and purpose of the Organization. Call Regent Debbie Genemore for additional information at 724-708-8335.

Craft Show

Craft & Vendor Expo on **Saturday, May 6** from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in St. Sebastian Church Hall. There will be 40 tables of crafters & vendors with wonderful items for sale. Admission is free; a basket raffle and refreshments available.