



**April 30, 2023**



**4th Sunday  
of Easter**

Today's  
readings

## 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](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. Michael J. Crookston**  
[mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Director of Faith Formation:**  
Scott Martin  
[smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Bulletin Sec.:** Tara Manderino  
[tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Maintenance:** Patrick Frederick

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, April 29 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Robert M. Fuoco by Angela Fuoco & Family

### Sunday, April 30 — 4th Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Nathan Campus by Rita & Gary Lucas & Mary & Kathryn Dzurik

10:30 AM † Gloria, Ella & Joseph Salotti by Sharie, John & Salotti Family

### Monday, May 1

8:00 AM † Frank Vizza by Carol & Paul Petrusky

### Tuesday, May 2

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Wednesday, May 3

No Mass

### Thursday, May 4

8:00 AM † Emily Zboyovosky by Chrissy & Karen

### Friday, May 5

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Saturday, May 6 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Lena, Art Marino and Norma Pasquinelli by Joe and Sue Surdyn

### Sunday, May 7 — 5th Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Gloria Martinez & Felix Martinez by the Bennet Family

10:30 AM † Nancy Penich by Arlene Karg

### 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 — May 6 & 7

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	P. Fantauzzi	J. Elias	B. Rizzuto
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	A. Pastella	L. Assenat J. Smith
10:30 a.m.	J. Sacco	E. Yatchyshyn	B. Smith

### Money Counters

Monday, May 1 — Team #3 — K. Byron

## We are called to be Shepherds!

There are many ways that we may image Jesus. We refer to him as our Savior and Glorified King; we may be able to relate to the title of the Suffering Servant or the gentle carpenter. Today on this fourth Sunday of Easter



we look at Jesus as the Good Shepherd and the gate. Sheep can be found either in their pasture or in their holding pen. The sheepfold was usually made of fieldstone or mud brick, was generally uncovered, and high enough so the sheep couldn't jump over. Keeping the sheep together in an enclosed area at night made it easier for the shepherd to protect them from wild beasts and thieves. There is only one opening in the wall between the open grazing land and their enclosures: the gate. At night, the shepherd stood at the gate as the sheep entered one by one and inspected each sheep. Those scratched or injured would be tended and their wounds anointed with oil; the thirsty would be watered. When all were accounted for and safely inside, the shepherd would sometimes lie down and sleep across the entrance to the sheepfold: thus, the "shepherd" was also "the gate."

As pastoral as it sounds, the gate was often the only thing that prevented danger from entering and doing harm to the sheep. We are reminded in this gospel story as well as in the second reading that danger and death are always lurking near. It is only with perseverance and steadfast faith that we are able to endure. Our second reading shows us how we are to respond to the call of Jesus. Even when surrounded by enemies and persecution or even the little aggravations of life, we are to respond with patience and return no insults. No small task when you really stop to think about it!

As Peter speaks to the crowd on Pentecost he gives a blueprint showing us just how to enter into that sheepfold. It is through our baptism that we are given the promise of eternal life. It is through baptism and the gift of the Spirit that we share in the ministry of Jesus. Faith as Peter reminds us cannot simply be lip service. This is a fundamental part of our life with Jesus that we too often forget. Faith calls for a radical change in life and for commitment to the gospel.

This season of Easter reminds us that the risen One, the Good Shepherd, is truly there for us, calls us by name, and leads us to abundant life. Thus does Jesus model for us how we, too are to be both gate and shepherd in life, dealing with the hardships we face with patience in suffering, doing good, returning no insult or threat and hand ourselves over for the good of others. This may seem like a tall order, and it is. However, Jesus is always there, walking "ahead of" us, guiding us toward being good shepherds ourselves.

We are reminded this Sunday that our simple, everyday actions of being faithful to the gospel are how we live out our baptism, our entry into following Jesus. When we embrace our baptismal commitment we enter through Jesus the gate into a life of being gate and shepherds ourselves.

### Weekly Collection April 16

Votive Candles:	213
Utility & Energy:	14
Accent:	0
Ascension:	10
Children & Adult Collection:	\$3,494
Online Collection:	775
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,506</b>
Communications:	10
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,516</b>

The practice of "bending the knee" is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings. Today, Catholics are asked to

genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle. In churches where the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar.

## Stewardship

### DLA

There are 5 weeks left in this year's DLA campaign, and **we still are short of our Diocesan goal** of \$43,854. We have only heard from **29% of our parish** and from that group we have amassed \$41,901 in gifts and pledges. I was hoping to reach our parish goal of \$53,854 so that we can bring a window from the church on Knox and refurbish it for our church. **If you are in the 71% of our parishioners who have not yet responded, won't you consider making a gift** to the campaign this year?

## Men's Prayer

### Transformation – A Men's Prayer Gathering

On **Monday, May 1**, gather with men from throughout the Diocese of Greensburg and be renewed in your faith journey. "Transformation – A Men's Prayer Gathering" will begin at **6:45 p.m. at St. Vincent Basilica Parish** (downstairs in the crypt). Take a break from your hectic schedule and be renewed with leadership development, spiritual growth, prayer, music, Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation. The gathering will conclude at 9 p.m. There is no charge to attend.

## Groups

### PRO LIFE ROSARY



Please join the **Catholic Daughters of the Americas** in praying a Pro Life Rosary before the weekend Masses on May 6 and May 7. The Rosary will start 30 minutes before Mass. We will pray the Rosary for unborn human life through the campaign of

[www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org](http://www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org). **Please join us in reaching their goal of 1,000,000 Rosaries for unborn babies.**

There will be no coffee and doughnuts this weekend.

## T-Shirt Time



We've become known for our unified t-shirts at the festival! This year we're **heading back to the '50s!** We're now taking orders for t-shirts. The deadline is Tuesday, May 30. The shirts are **\$20.00** each. The largest size in this t-shirt is 3XL. Order size based on previous t-shirts. Orders can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the office.

### T-Shirt Order Form

To order a t-shirt, include your name, best contact number, size and \$20.00 per shirt ordered.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Size & Quantity:  S  M  L  XL  
 2XL  3XL

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith

### Congratulations to our First Communion Class

This week as a parish we were blessed to share the gift of the Eucharist with three of our children. It is always a blessing for the entire parish to share this treasure with our children. I ask that you keep in your prayers our First Communicants along with their families. This year we welcome to the Table of Our Lord:



*Anthony Naccarato*

*Gabriel Rapsky*

*Zoey Sepesky*

### Good Shepherd Sunday



**World Day of Prayer** will be observed today, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

### Thanksgiving for Vocations

We thank you for all the vocations that you have given us. Send Your Holy Spirit to guard and guide these men and women. In thanksgiving we ask Your blessings upon those who have so generously responded to Your call. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

### Registration open for Eucharistic Congress

Registration is open for the Diocese of Greensburg's Eucharistic Congress. "Creating a Eucharistic Community: Forming Disciples of Christ in Love and Service" will feature engaging workshops, speakers and national experts who will provide insight into fostering a Eucharistic culture in parishes, schools and the Diocese. Diocesan and parish staff and members of the general public can select from one of two sessions: May 8-10 or May 9-11. To view a list of speakers, visit [DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival). Attendance is free for the first 400 people to register.



## Recognition

### *A note of gratitude!*

Last week we put the report from our Fish Fry in the bulletin and as you can see, we did very well! It goes without saying that **this could not have happened without the help of you, our parishioners.** It has been said before but warrants being repeated that **we are so very blessed with a community that truly does help and support our parish.** It doesn't matter what we are doing, be it the festival, car show, picnic, fish fry, we always seem to get a lot of support and help from you, the parishioners of Epiphany parish. I simply wanted to let **you know how deeply grateful I am to you all!**

## Out of Office

The office will be **closed on Tuesday, May 9 and Thursday May 11** for staff to attend the Eucharistic Congress. If you have any questions, please call the office number and leave a message with the answering service.