



August 20, 2023



Today's readings

**20th 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: 11:30 a.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

 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, August 19 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Romeo Bucci by Terry & Anna Maria Dzimiera

Sunday, August 20 — 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Clarita Billick by The Billick Family

10:30 AM † Gene Yatchyshyn by Ted Harhai

Monday, August 21

8:00 AM † Robert Kotch by Wife & Family

Tuesday, August 22

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, August 23

No Mass

Thursday, August 24

8:00 AM † Val Gene & Helen Veschio by Ray & Jeff Ciferio

Friday, August 25

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, August 26—Vigil

4:00 PM † James Elias by Wife, Jackie

Sunday, August 27 — 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Thomas Burger 97th Birthday by The Bagay Family

10:30 AM † Louis & Bernie Greco by Lois, Dave and Jill

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 — August 26 & 27

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	J. Dudas	B. Smith J. Smith
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	J. Todd	V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	P. Fantauzzi	E. Yatchyshyn	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters

Monday, August 21—Team #1 — B. Geis

Breaking down barriers...

Our challenge for this week has to do with breaking down barriers wherever we may find them in life. Isaiah in the first reading alludes to barriers that kept people from worshipping together. Isaiah tells the people as he speaks to us: “Observe what is right, do what is just...” He further goes on to tell us that the house of God



“shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” Isaiah is expanding the boundaries of the worshipping community of Israel and foreshadows the future “catholic” (universal) mission of the church.

St. Paul in this last chapter of Romans speaks about the delicate issue of the future of Israel. He reminds us that God’s call is irrevocable and that God’s mercy will make it possible for all to be reconciled with God, and not just a chosen few. Matthew in his presentation this week does not specifically speak or refers to any barriers, but they are certainly implied. Today’s selection has Jesus withdrawing to Pagan territory which in of itself breaks down a major barrier dealing with foreigners. This time, the initiative comes neither from Jesus nor from the disciples, but from this brave woman, a foreigner and a pagan, who dared to beg from Jesus deliverance for her daughter. The woman shows a great deal of courage, both as a woman and as a foreigner, to call upon Jesus.

Regardless of who the woman was or where she came from, Jesus recognized what was important, her faith; and grants her request. There were many boundaries around women in the day of Jesus, and we all know that the question of how the Bible deals with the issue of women – their identity and their role in society and in religion – has become a very sensitive one, especially among Catholics.

Any reflection on the place of women in church ministries will generate lively debates. Admittedly, the Bible has been the object of severe criticism for having made its own social prejudices against women. Yet, it has been observed that it is not so much the Bible that should be blamed as the reading we have made of it. For example we have focused so much on male heroes of the Bible (the patriarchs, Moses, David, to mention just a few) that we have left to oblivion women like Sarah, Miriam, Deborah, Hannah and many more. In the New Testament, we have focused so much on the twelve that we have forgotten great believers like Elizabeth, Mary the mother of Jesus, the Samaritan woman, Mary Magdalene, Martha and Mary and the Canaanite woman featured in today’s gospel.

Today’s texts invite a thoughtful meditation on America’s place among other nations; on moral issues around the treatment of women, migrants and exiles; or on similar topics about our shared human community. We must learn from the example of Jesus and be faithful to the Spirit that dwells within us. Like Isaiah tells us: Observe what is right, do what is just!

Weekly Collection August 13

Votive Candles:	187
Utility & Energy:	229
Accent:	23
Assumption:	143
Children & Adult Collection:	6,826
Online Collection:	890
Total Collection:	\$8,298
Catholic University:	138
Seminary:	10
Total Collection:	\$8,446

Ministry Callout

The next schedule will run from September 16 through November 5. Please call the office or email Tara — tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org with any changes to your schedule by **Friday, September 1**. If anyone is interested in joining any of the ministries, know that we would love to have you.

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of JOSEPH S. ‘CHIP’ DEFELICIS. May God grant him eternal rest, and comfort to his family. We commend his soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stewardship

Brown Bag Sunday



Thank you to everyone who brought in school supplies for our Back to School Brown Bag. Your generosity has helped many children have a more successful academic year.

Parish Festival

The festival is in the past but we need to mention that we could not have pulled it off successfully without the help of our sponsors. Please check out the list, thank them when you see them and patronize their business. In addition to the festival, we had a car show. Thank you to **Fred Naccarato** and **Jim Earl** for their contributions to that event.

Festival 2023 Sponsors

Platinum Level

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Epiphany of Our Lord Ladies
Knights of Columbus #954
Dr. & Mrs. Martin Dudas

Gold Level

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Highway Appliance
Robert A. Billick Funeral Home

Silver

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FCSLA Jr 157 & Sr 88 Branches
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Hallsworth House
Holy Name Society
ISMA
Joseph's Nursery
Monessen Lions Club
Monessen Volunteer Fire Dept. #2
Naccarato Auto Parts
Ron's Electric & Plumbing
Valley 1st F.C.U.
Wayne & Kathy Vlastic

Bronze

A Bit of Everything
Catholic Daughters of America
Great Dane Realty
Monessen Foodland—Duritz Foods
New Monessen Aerie 2399 FOE
Vito Beneccio

Faith

Faith Formation For Children

Classes for Faith Formation for Children will begin on Monday, September 18. Those children entering First Grade are especially encouraged to register. Children must have two years of Faith Formation before making their First Communion. Forms are available in the back of the church, in the office or online. Also, we are **in need of teachers for the classes**. Call Scott Martin at the Faith Formation office if you are interested; 724-929-9300. If you have any questions about the program, feel free to contact me.



FAITH FORMATION

St. Joseph Icon

Monessen Knights of Columbus Council #954 will present the St. Joseph Icon during 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, August 26 at Epiphany of Our Lord Church, and at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses at St. Sebastian Church. The Icon will remain after each Mass for prayers and reflective meditation. Prayer cards will also be available for your needs.

Inspiration of the Week

“O woman, great is your faith!” The Canaanite woman stood firm in her belief that God would answer her — even when those closest to him tried to send her away, and even when Christ himself challenged her. She never wavered.

Int'l Food Festival

Int'l Food Festival, Greensburg

Join us for an **International Food Festival** to support priestly formation in the Philippines **Friday, Aug. 25, at 5:30 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg.**

Right now, nearly 20 Filipino priests serve as missionaries in parishes throughout the Diocese of Greensburg. Bishop Medil Sacay Aseo, Bishop of Tagum in the Philippines, will be present for the event. In 2018 Bishop Medil Aseo, then, Father Medil Aseo, was serving as Parochial Vicar of St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning, and St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Yatesboro, when he was appointed by Pope Francis as Bishop.

The festival will celebrate his visit and give thanks for all our international priests, and will raise money to support the priestly formation program in the Diocese of Tagum, which has the largest group of priests serving our Diocese in our International Priests Program.

Tickets are \$75 per person, which include samples of food from Italy, Eastern Europe and the Philippines, plus an entire room of desserts and two drink tickets.

Sponsorship opportunities to help provide additional support to priestly formation in the Philippines are available. To purchase tickets or to sponsor the event, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/foodfest.

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Mt 23:1-12

