

**August 21, 2022**



**21st Week  
in Ordinary  
Time**

Today's  
reading

## 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, August 20 —Vigil

4:00 PM † All Deceased Members of the Alvarez Family by Family

### Sunday, August 21 — 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Romeo Bucci by Bob & Deb Kuzynski  
10:30 AM † Rita Gronemeyer by James Brian Smith

### Monday, August 22

8:00 AM † Louise Dudas by John and Family

### Tuesday, August 23

No Mass

### Wednesday, August 24

No Mass

### Thursday, August 25-71st Anniversary

8:00 AM † June & Franklin Hines by Daughter, Patti

### Friday, August 26

No Mass

### Saturday, August 27 — Vigil

4:00 PM Mass of Thanksgiving: 67th Wedding Anniversary by Robert & Rosemary Betza

### Sunday, August 28 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Vicki (Malec) Moody by Loving Mom, Family & Friends  
10:30 AM † James Barron by Mary Ann & Joe Gallo

### 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](http://www.eolparish.com)

[youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch](https://www.youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch)

[Facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord](https://www.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 27 & 28

|            | Lector    | Eucharistic Minister | Altar Server         |
|------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 4:00 p.m.  | S. Surdyn | A. Punturerio        | S. Punturerio        |
| 8:30 a.m.  | M. Melvin | N. Mazzie            | V. Watkins           |
| 10:30 a.m. | M. Sacco  | K. Byron             | J. Smith<br>M/ Smith |

### Money Counters

**Monday, August 22—Team #3 — K. Byron**

**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the families of MARY E. COLEMAN AND DOLLY GAUDIO. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

## Will all be saved?

Our readings speak to us today about how God invites the “whole world” to feast in the kingdom. Isaiah tells us that the voice of God beckons people from all nations to come and share in His Kingdom. As the people in the days of Isaiah heard these words, they were hard for them to comprehend, but if we are honest with ourselves, it is just as hard for us today.



As people we too easily forget how amazing and undeserved the grace that brought us to our present privilege and citizenship was. So much so that we begin to feel entitled. This notion of entitlement begins to show in all areas of life. For example, in bumper-to-bumper city traffic when lanes on the freeway are forced to merge, have you ever watched in disbelief as a car is granted access to the open lane by a gracious driver who slows to allow space in front, only to watch that same vehicle so recently grafted into the traffic lane refuse access to another car seeking the same mercy from him. How quickly we forget mercy extended to us when it comes our time to pass it along to another.

Or a toddler, who receives all of her toys freely given from the sacrifice and love of parents, nevertheless learns quickly to angrily hurl the words “MINE” and “NO” when another child wanders into her play area to pick up one of her toys. How quickly today’s gifts become tomorrow’s entitled possessions!

To bring this point even closer to home we can look at the current issues surrounding immigration. Granted, there are a number of complexities with the whole immigration question, but it is still puzzling and ironic to hear so many Americans, who are themselves descendants of immigrants to this country, resenting and resisting the next generation of immigrants who seek to come to America. How easy it is to forget that most of us are not too many generations removed from those hearty and hopeful forebears who came to this country by way of Ellis Island, or who were shipped here on slave ships against their will, but who nonetheless helped build and shape the character and strength of this great nation. What if the borders of America had been closed to our ancestors, as some want to do to present day immigrants today? Again, yesterday’s gift can easily become today’s entitlement.

Isaiah speaks of a God who wants divine mercy and favor extended to all nations. God does not want any second class citizens, all are welcome. Jesus carries this same idea in the gospel for today. Basically what he is saying is that we have no right to stop God’s grace and favor from being shared with anyone; no matter where they may be from or how they live. God’s grace is open to all who want to accept it, the invitation is given freely to all people.

Granted, there are many things we take for granted in life and there are many ways that we feel entitled, however we must tread lightly when we speak of our faith and belief in God. That is something that we must never take for granted or feel entitled over.

We are reminded today that all of God’s children are in the same position in life and Jesus meant it when he said that the last may very well come first. In answer to the question “will many be saved,” Jesus assures us that we are all given the same opportunity to embrace the salvation offered to us through the grace of God!

### Weekly Collection August 14

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Votive Candles:              | 159            |
| Utility & Energy:            | 154            |
| Accent:                      | 28             |
| Assumption:                  | 301            |
| Children & Adult Collection: | 5,032          |
| Online Collection:           | 1,432          |
| <b>Total Collection:</b>     | <b>\$7,106</b> |
| Seminarian                   | 10             |
| Catholic university:         | 25             |
| <b>Total Collection:</b>     | <b>\$7,141</b> |

## Stewardship

Drought in Somalia is ravaging crops and water resources. This is the most devastating drought Somalia has faced in 40 years, affecting nearly 90% of the country. This year, 450,000 people have been forced from their homes. CRS is working to provide families with a range of assistance to help them survive and thrive.

Before the drought, Somalia was already among the countries with the highest food insecurity rates and the lowest life expectancy rates in the world. Due to this drought, there are now 918,000 people in Somalia displaced from their homes. CRS and other local partners in Somalia are on the ground providing nutrition services, clean water, cash and more. Visit [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) to see how you can help!



## Photo Directory

We will be doing our Photo Directory this fall. To make this happen, we are in need of volunteers to greet people, make phone calls, and numerous other tasks. If you are interested in helping out in any way, know that we are having an organizational meeting with the company representative in September. Please let us know if we can add you to the list of volunteers so that we can keep you informed of the meeting date. We will begin to take pictures on **November 8 – 12**, but need to line up helpers before then.



## Traffic Control

During the festival set up and take down, it became obvious that numerous people use the church parking lot and cemetery as a through way. It is not. The **church parking lot is private property**. Cut-through driving is not recognized as a safe driving practice, for the driver, or pedestrians in their path. There have been incidences of drivers narrowly missing staff and volunteers as they fly through the parking lots. **Drive safe.**

## Back to School

As our children begin their new school year, wish them well in their endeavors.

Heavenly Father, Please watch over these children as they begin a new school year. Bless their teachers, school administrators, bus drivers, school support staff, friends and classmates.

Keep them safe every day. I pray they may feel Your presence and know that You are always with them. Give them wisdom to make good choices, and an openness to learn new things. Fill them with knowledge and positive thinking. Help them overcome obstacles and shield them from negativity.

Surround them with good friends who also know and love You. Help them treat each other with kindness, fairness, and respect. May they treat each person they encounter as another child of God. Grant them the Grace to place their trust in You so they may know Your peace. Amen



## Faith

### Religious Formation

Life certainly has thrown many curve balls our way and it has brought about many changes. Even though our society has gone through many disruptions and new ways of doing things, there are those factors of life that remain constant. The formation of our children is one of those factors.

After COVID we have been very slow in getting people back to church and this is beginning to take its toll. Our children have been a “visible” absence in church and this is a concern that we all should be worried about. When we talk about the future of our church, we need to look at our youth, for **they are the future**. It is a responsibility that falls on all of our shoulders to see that our children are catechized in the faith. Times change, but God is constant. It is our responsibility to pass on that reassuring message to our children.

We are in the process of putting together our program for faith formation. There are many exciting things planned for this year. Remember if your child (or grandchild) is at the age to receive Reconciliation or First Communion, they need two years of formation classes. If you have someone for Confirmation, they also need two years prior to being confirmed.

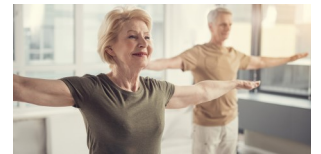
You can find registration forms for this year’s program in the back of the Church. Classes will begin on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September. If you have any questions about formation you may contact Scott Martin our director, or call the office.

### Bible Study

We are planning another Bible Study / Adult Ed program for Fall. Details will be upcoming, but we plan to start on **Monday, September 12**. As Catholics, we do many things by habit. During these sessions we will learn the roots of what we do and why we do them.

### Interested?

We’ve talked about having a **yoga exercise class** here at the church. Before we can firm up any plans, we need to know of your interest. If you are interested, please let us know, or call the office. We would like to get something started sometime in the Fall.



## Daily Readings

### Readings for the week of August 21, 2022

**Sunday:** Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

**Monday:** 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/Mt 23:13-22

**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26

**Wednesday:** Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51

**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 25:14-30

**Next Sunday:** Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

