

February 20, 2022
7th 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.

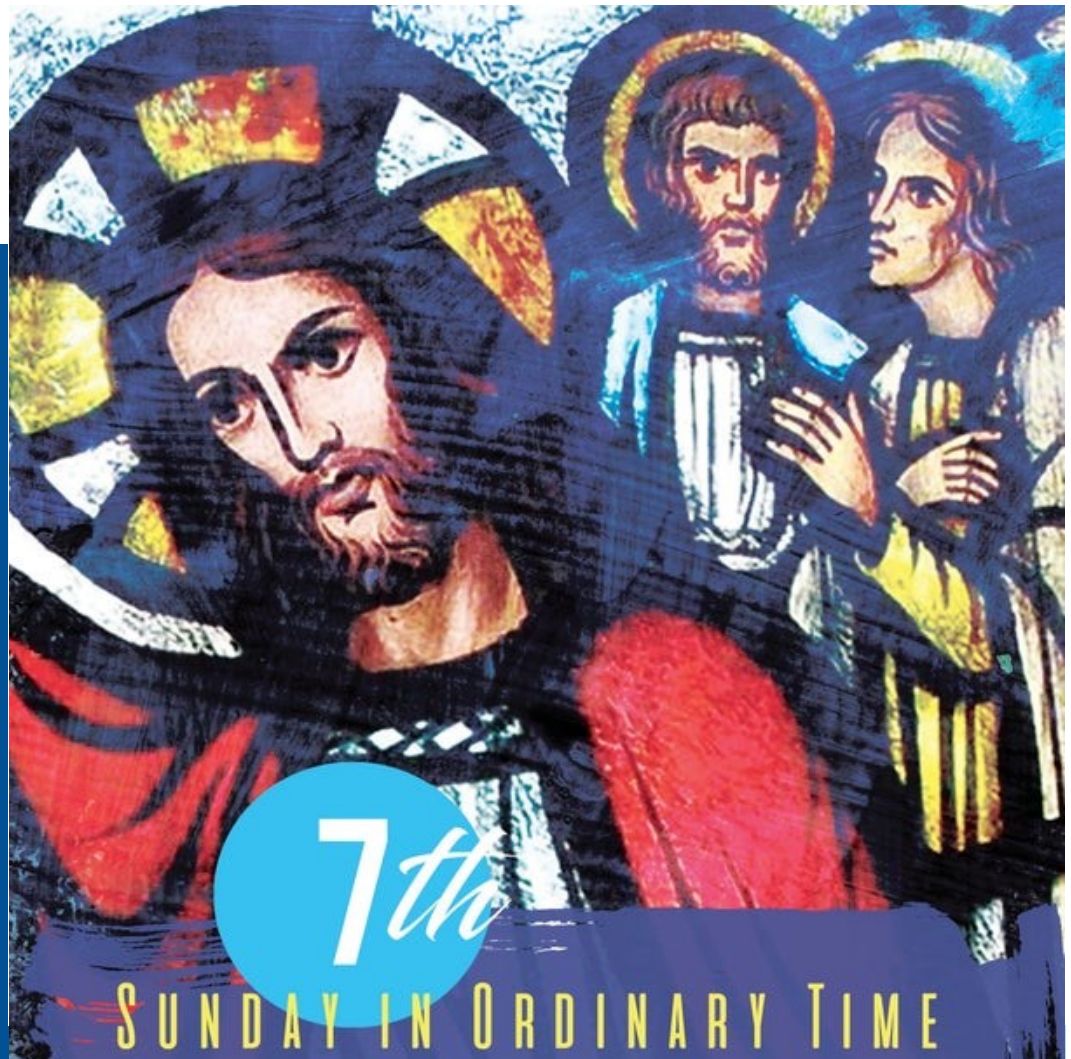
Sunday:
8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Confession:

Tuesday: 5:00 p.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, February 19 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Louise Dudas by John and Family

Sunday, February 20 — 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Debra Harkins by Ted Harhai

10:30 AM † Calvin & Adeline Smith by Family

Monday, February 21

8:00 AM † Doris Kukler by Husband, Alex & Children

Tuesday, February 22

No Mass

Wednesday, February 23

No Mass

Thursday, February 24

8:00 AM † Paul & Tom Sowko by Family

Friday, February 25

No Mass

Saturday, February 26 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Nescot & Gallo Families by Family

Sunday, February 27 — 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Elaine Manderino Nickolich & Melaine

Nickolich Falbo by Melvin Nickolich

10:30 AM Evan Shannon by Donna Wood Boerem

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](https://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 — February 26 & 27

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	L. Henry	S. Puntuerio
8:30 a.m.	M. Melvin	L. DeFelices	D. DeFelices V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	J. Sacco	E. Yatchyshyn	G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters

Monday, February 21 —Team #1—P. Pettko

Be merciful just as your Father is merciful...

Today's liturgy speaks to every one of us about life and what lies in our hearts, and how well we know our own hearts. As we live our lives we all deal with life as it comes at us. Sometimes we deal well with the problems we face and sometimes not so well. However we deal, we all do the best we can with what we know. That is not to say we cannot learn more about our relationships with one another and how better to cope with life; this is the message Our Lord is putting in front of us today. We being told in no mixed words to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."



In the first reading for today's liturgy we see David who has been unjustly condemned by King Saul reacting with that mercy and compassion Jesus speaks of. Saul, who was consumed by jealousy of David's rising popularity, has driven him out of the court and pursues him into the desert. When David had the opportunity to take the king's life, he chose not to because he was the anointed one. He spared Saul's life showing compassion and mercy. David did not allow his own feelings to guide his actions, rather he followed the mercy of God. How often in life do we all react from our emotions without thinking about what we are doing or saying. How often have we criticized or even condemned another because we didn't agree with them. It is way too easy to allow ourselves to be driven by emotions without any thought as to what might be right or merciful.

We are reminded by St. Paul that we all resemble Adam in the sense that we are created out of the earth with all of the faults and weaknesses we possess. And yet at the same time, we all resemble Christ because we have been formed in his image as well. The hard part is melding our humanity with the persona of Christ. This becomes the proverbial struggle, dealing with our emotions and remembering the law of Christ. Far too often in life we allow our anger, jealousy, insecurity, and judgmental attitudes to direct our lives without thinking about the consequences.

In the gospel for today Jesus emphasizes that forgiveness and love for one's enemies should be our guiding light. Judging from our standards, God's governance is not just. Equity, equality, democracy, and leadership are measured by a different value system in God's reign, and Jesus is asking us to make those standards our own. We cannot argue with the fact that forgiveness and acceptance is easy, but then again we expect people to enact those standards on us. It is far easier to be forgiven than to forgive others.

There is no doubt that as followers of Christ we are called to a higher standard of living, and this standard is not an easy one to embrace! It always gets down to our acceptance of things in life. We need to be aware of just how much we have been accepted and forgiven before we can start to do the same for others. If we do not feel forgiven, then we probably will not be so forgiving. It is always about the mercy and love of God that is in the forefront of all that life is about. When we remember that simple fact, maybe then it won't be so hard to follow after the teachings of Christ. We all need to make the command of Jesus a part of who we are and far more importantly who we are to become to "be merciful just as your Father is merciful."

Weekly Collection Feb. 13

Votive Candles:	228
Utility & Energy:	174
Accent:	3
Lenten Folder:	40
Ash Wednesday:	30
Children & Adult	
Collection:	7,109
Online Collection:	989
Total Collection:	\$8,573
Eastern Europe:	85
Home Mission:	37
Total Collection:	\$8,695

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the families of LUCILLE BISEDA AND YOLANDA REDAY. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

Making rice for dinner? Add water to your pot. A simple enough task that we don't have to think about. But in developing countries such as Ghana, Malawi and Zambia it's not so simple. With no access to clean water sources, the families in these countries struggle each day to collect the water they need.

This year, for our Stewardship project during Lent will focus on Cross Catholic's "**Wells of Salvation**" project to help provide access to clean water sources. Without access to clean water sources, people in these countries often suffer from painful diseases when they must draw from a contaminated stream or shallow well.



Any gift that we are able to collect will help to install 65 wells to provide clean, refreshing water for these struggling areas in our world. This Lent won't you consider giving a little so that many people will benefit a lot more? Any money you want to donate, simply **mark an envelope with "Wells of Salvation"** marked on it. At the end of Lent we will send in all of the money we have collected and we will be assured that many people will benefit from our generosity.

Pierogi Making

We will be doing our last round of pierogi making this weekend before the fish fry. Mark the dates:

Sunday, **February 20** after 8:30 a.m. Mass

Monday, **February 21** at 9:30 a.m.

If you are able to help out in any way, your time will sincerely be appreciated. We will post other pierogi-making dates as needed.

Bake Sale Reminder

Along with the great fish, our fish fries will also feature our **bake sale**, and for that we can use your help. For Ash Wednesday we are asking that if your last name begins with **A—M**, please bring in baked goods; if your last name begins with **N—Z**, please bring in baked goods for Friday. We will post a rotation list once we begin our fish fry. You may bring baked goods to the church hall that day. As always, your generosity is sincerely appreciated.

Olive Wood Items

Bethlehem Christian Families



This weekend, February 19/20 Roni Salsa, representing the Bethlehem Christian Families, a non-profit organization through Land of Peace will be with us speaking about the Christian situation in the Holy Land and selling Crucifixes, religious artwork, and rosaries—all made of olive wood which is native to Israel and Bethlehem. Since tourism is

largely depleted, Christian families in the holy land, who depend on tourists, have been greatly affected. The goal of this mission is to **help many organizations and Churches in the Middle East**. Sale of these goods will help them very much and also give you the opportunity to have "something" authentic from the holy land. Please browse and buy some articles. It is for a good cause and also a help to your personal devotion. For more information, please see their website:

www.landofpeace.org and <http://www.bcfmission.com/store/c2/Crosses.html>

If you recently updated your phone, or for some reason no longer have the **church app**, this is how to get it: Text ParishApp 1 to 555888 (Apple) / ParishApp 2 to 555888 (Android).

The Season of Lent

With the celebration of **Ash Wednesday** next week we begin the season of Lent. This is a period of time set aside by the church to afford us the opportunity to look at our relationship not only with God but also with one another. The entire message of Jesus is one of discipleship, being for one another. As we look at what we can do for this season, it would be good to see just how we relate to one another and determine how we can improve.

- **Ash Wednesday:** Liturgy will be celebrated at 8:00 a.m., and there will be a communion service with the distribution of ashes at 4:00 p.m. I will be celebrating Mass at St. Sebastian's at 6:00 p.m., and there will be distribution of ashes there at 4:00 p.m.
- Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. we celebrate **Taizé Prayer** together
- Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. we will have an **adult Education** series where we explore the Book of Revelation.
- Fridays during Lent we will pray the **stations of the cross** at 6:00 p.m.
- **Daily Mass** at 8:00 a.m. on Monday and Thursday with Mass at St. Sebastian's on Tuesday and Friday.

I am hopeful that you will be able to avail yourselves to some of these events.

Stations of the Cross

We will hold Stations of the Cross here each Friday during Lent. Every other week, I am asking that one or two parishioners lead the stations for those gathered. If you would like to lead one of the weeks, please see me or call the office so that we can schedule you. We need people for March 11 & 25, and April 8.



Synod on Synodality

The Town Hall listening sessions are your opportunity to have your voice heard on views and direction of the Church. There are several town hall meetings scheduled throughout the Diocese. Please check the website or the Catholic Accent for the dates and times. These Town Hall meetings are the same throughout the Diocese. A **Zoom session** will be held for those who prefer not to gather. In addition, we will be holding a **group Zoom meeting** in our church hall for those not able to attend other sessions.

Register for a Zoom Town Hall listening session! (Individuals) **Details can be found at DioceseOfGreensburg.org/synod**

The group Zoom session in the **Epiphany Parish Hall** will be held on Monday, February 28 from 6—7:30 p.m. If you plan to attend that session, please use the **sign up** sheet in the back of the church or sign up on our website.

Mardi Gras

A week from Tuesday we will celebrate this year's Mardi Gras. The evening will begin at **6:00 p.m.** In preparing for this celebration we are going to ask that you once again **bring one of your famous deserts**. We can also use pop and water if you are able to donate some. Don't forget to **bring in all of your old palm branches** from last year so that we can burn them. The ashes from the palms will be used the next day on Ash Wednesday. **There will be a sign-up sheet in the church this week and next for you to indicate how many people you will be bringing to the Mardi Gras.**

