

February 4, 2024



**5th Sunday
in Ordinary
Time**

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

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 3 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Val Gene & Helen Veschio by Ricky & Donna Rodriguiz

Sunday, February 4 — 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Lena & Arthur Marino by Randy Marino & Sue Surdyn

10:30 AM † David & Rose Perotti & Frank & Irene Vizza by Phyllis Foglia

Monday, February 5

8:00 AM † Marie Lipari by Frances Tomaskovic

Tuesday, February 6

8:00 AM Mass at St Sebastian

Wednesday, February 7

No Mass

Thursday, February 8

8:00 AM † Enzo Tristani by Marge Talarico

Friday, February 9

8:00 AM Mass at St Sebastian

Saturday, February 10 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Yolanda Reday and Joan Garland by Bernie Reday and Marsha Myers

Sunday, February 11 — 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † James & Mary Zimmaro by Ken & Linda

10:30 AM † Rick & Donna Rodriguez by Dennis & Carol Dachielle

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 — February 10 & 11

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	S. Stein	A. Puntuerio	G. Pesì
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	S. Campus	V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	M. Melvin	T. Mazzei	M. Guiliford M. Specicher

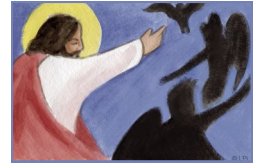
Money Counters

Monday, February 5—Team #2— W. Anders

Keeping Life

& it's suffering in perspective!

Keeping a good perspective on things in life can be a most rewarding gift. We make little things into such big issues that it literally overshadows everything, we feel overwhelmed and at times even lost. Today we are given a gentle reminder of what we can do to avoid such feelings.



We start our Liturgy of the Word off with a reading from the book of Job, which is a book that captures the dilemma of what it means in life to suffer. It is through Job's misery that we can see the amazing healing work of Christ in the gospel. Job reminds us all that evil does not have to be disease or possession or even systemic evil, but can include the drudgery and burdens of daily life. It is the far reaching power of Jesus to save, that can help us to cope and keep us from allowing our suffering to grow out of perspective until that is all we are able to see.

St. Paul in the second reading reminds us that he is free to choose to live the gospel or not, and once he freely chooses to preach the gospel then all of life takes on a new meaning. St. Paul informs us that what he does is for the glory of Christ; everything that he speaks and all the works that he does is for the wonder of God. The question that Paul gives us is one that needs to be repeated every day. How do we in our personal lives accommodate ourselves to the needs of others and far more importantly, what is our motivation for even caring for others? If what we are and what we do is not rooted in the love that God has for us, then we need to rethink our motivations. This brings us right smack into the ministry that Jesus invites us all to be a part of.

Like those in the gospel who come to Jesus for healing, we all come to Jesus with expectations. The challenge is to move beyond our expectations to what Jesus really wants to give us — the Good News of salvation. Jesus' presence to us today and his healing hand do not assure us that we will never suffer. Human life is full of suffering and it is the Good News of Jesus that assures us of having the strength to keep our suffering in perspective. Jesus assures us that suffering belongs to this life but this is not all there is to life.

We can seek out Jesus because he is a wonder-worker, and we can try to have him stay with us because we so enjoy his presence. We can call him Lord, Savior, and Brother. **But we must also live the full implications**

of those terms. In this case, it means the necessity of sharing the good news with others. Otherwise, we are fashioning a new messiah to our own tastes and liking, and failing to achieve that prayerful appreciation of who Jesus really is and what he challenges us to be. It is when we are able to recognize and embrace the healing gift of Jesus that is with us always that we are able to keep a perspective on all of life.

Weekly Collection Jan. 29

Votive Candles:	175
Utility & Energy:	244
Accent:	11
Lenten Folder:	10
Holy Thursday:	10
Easter Flowers:	20
Easter:	20
Children & Adult Collection:	4,809
Online Collection:	769
Total Collection:	\$6,068
Home Mission:	30
Eastern Europe:	20
Total Collection:	\$6,118

Inspiration for the Week

Jesus went from town to town, synagogue to synagogue, following the need. He follows it still, to this very day. Your life is the town he is visiting, your heart the synagogue where he preaches. Remember that for this purpose he has come.

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of EUGENE VINCENT SALVINO May God grant him eternal rest, and comfort to his family. We commend his soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stewardship

Eastern Europe Collection

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe will be taken this weekend, **February 3 and 4**. The proceeds from this collection will help the Church to overcome the challenges of rebuilding after decades of atheistic communist rule, bringing light to twenty-nine nations in Central and Eastern Europe. . I ask that you be generous to the collection. This support helps foster nurturing communities in which Catholics can share and grow in faith. For more information about the collection and whom it supports, [visit www.usccb.org/cc](http://www.usccb.org/cc)

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 something. Since Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday" is all about "junk food" we will need lots of that. We can also use pop and water if you are able to donate some. Whatever we don't use for the Mari Gras we will make good use of during the Fish Fry. Remember that our celebration closes with a parade lead-

ing to the burning of our old palms. 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.

Also, we will be selecting our new Mardi Gras King and Queen. So far we have a few nominations. **If you would like to nominate someone**, please call the office or send Tara an email at tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Purse Bash

The purse bash will be held on Sunday, April 28 from 2 p.m.—5 p.m. in the Epiphany Church Hall. Join us for a fun afternoon, but tickets are limited. **Tickets are \$35 and will be sold in the back of the church after Masses next weekend, February 10 & 11.** For more information contact Kathy Imbrescia at 412-996-0775.



Groups

Holy Name Sunday is next Sunday, February 11. Corporate Communion will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. The regular monthly meeting will follow in the church hall. Holy Name members are reminded that their dues for 2024 should be paid at this time. Please place your dues (Blue envelope) in the regular church collection.

CDA, Court Monessen #776 will meet on Sunday, February 18, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Epiphany of Our Lord Church Hall. Our Annual Pro-Life Baby Shower will be held. Members and parishioners are invited to participate in this Pro-Life Program by donating items for **new born babies**. Needed items are clothing, diapers/wipes, educational toys and books. 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.

Epiphany Ladies will meet next Sunday, February 11, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The meeting and social will be held in the church hall. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.

Faith

A journey of what we believe and why we believe it...

We live in a world where faith and church have taken on different dimensions. Fifty years ago, we would believe a truth simply on matters of faith, today however, we need to be a little clearer on what we believe and why we believe. It is a lot more involved than simply sitting down and learning from a Catechism. There are many people who are truly searching for ways to help them meet their spiritual needs, and to identify with a church or community of faith. When we look at how we all learned our faith, we can readily agree that we probably all went about it differently. Whether we went to a Catholic school or learned during religious formation classes, the most memorable faith sharing moments came from our family. It was by watching, experiencing and living our faith that we truly learned about the ways of God and how God operates through the Church. People become the most effective means of communicating the love of God. We simply cannot learn that from a book of any kind.

For **FOUR Monday** evenings during Lent we will look at the teachings of our Church: where they came from and why we believe. Each week I will publish what we will be going over so if it interests you, you are most welcome to come.

We will meet on Monday evenings on **February 19 and 26, and March 4 and 11.**

This Lent...

The season of Lent will be starting in a week and a half! It seems like we just finished putting away all of our Christmas decorations and here we are getting ready for Lent. The season of Lent offers all of us an **opportunity to draw deeper into the mystery of Christ's love for us.** It is not always the fasting or sacrificing that we do, it is becoming more aware of the simple fact that we are loved by God. That is the real gift of the season. We always seem to look for more things to do for lent, but the Church avails to us the opportunity to grow closer the mystery of Christ's love through our participation of the Mass, as well as the Stations of the Cross. Both of these gifts of the season afford us the opportunity to grow closer to the love of Christ and help us better celebrate the gift of Easter.

We celebrate the Mass daily and the Stations of the Cross are prayed on Fridays during Lent at **12:00 Noon and 6:00 p.m.** It is a blessing to be able to participate in these. Offering up something during these 40 days also helps us to be aware of Christ's great love, we all certainly can do something like this for Lent.

Below is listed the times for services for Ash Wednesday:

- 8:00 : Mass at Epiphany
- 10:00: Mass at St. Sebastian Church (with school children)
- 12:00: Service at Epiphany
- 4:00: Service at St. Sebastian
- 6:00: Mass at St. Sebastian

First Eucharist Parent Meeting

Parents/Guardians of children who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist are to attend a meeting on Monday, **February 12** at 6:30 p.m. in St. Sebastian Parish Hall.

Confirmation Candidates

Those making their confirmation this spring are to return their Diocesan Information Sheet when they attend the Confirmation Retreat on **Sunday, February 18**. The retreat begins with the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis. If you do not have a copy, please contact the office or the Faith Formation Office at 724-929-9300. Please be sure to include your chosen confirmation name on the form.