



February 5, 2023



Today's readings

**5th 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



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 4 — Vigil

4:00 PM † William Marino by Family

Sunday, February 5 — 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Rene Moncini by Joe & Suzanne Surdyn

10:30 AM † Jaqueline Bender by Son, David

Monday, February 6

8:00 AM † Deb Harkins by Dan Harkins

Tuesday, February 7

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, February 8

No Mass

Thursday, February 9

8:00 AM † Frank & Concetta Mandarinò & Family by Melvin Nickolich

Friday, February 10

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, February 11 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Steve Beck by John & Nira Persico

Sunday, February 12 — 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † William Bielawski by Ruth, Billy & Jeff

10:30 AM † Frank Vizza by Toni Buccia

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 — Fe. 11 & Feb. 12

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	R. Kozar	J. Dudas	J. Smith G. Smith
8:30 a.m.	S. Stein	J. Todd	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	M. Sacco	K. Byron	M. Guiliford

Money Counters

Monday, February 6 — Team #3 — K. Byron

We are the Light of the World... (Or are we?)

There are a number of ideas that we are left to think about from this week's readings, and they all speak in one way or another about the social teachings and justice of Jesus. Isaiah sets the stage by giving us a reading that is often associated with lent. The people of Israel are once again complaining that God doesn't seem to listen to their cries for help even though they felt they were following the rules and teachings of their religion. Even though they felt they were performing religious acts, God points to their hypocrisy. They are then reminded that true piety is feeding the hungry, caring for the homeless and naked, loving their neighbor and be a light to all nations. The prophet tells the people that when they do care for the needs, God will hear them and their light will shine.



St. Paul in the second reading this week is challenging some of the values of the world. He talks about how worldly wisdom looks for the presence of God in the wrong places. It makes us pause to think about what "worldly wisdom" is present in our world today. If we look at our world and all of the people in, what would you say people value the most? When we look at our own country, what would be our most coveted value? Sometimes I think we almost have to hang our heads in shame for our value systems seem to be all wrong. St. Paul could have been speaking to us in just the same way that he spoke to the people of Corinth in the sense that we too often look for the divine in displays of power and wealth, but the Gospel shatters all of those images by replacing them with a revelation of suffering and forgiving love. That is the ultimate mystery of God and that is exactly what we should value.

This week in the Gospel Jesus follows up on the Beatitudes by reminding the disciples as well as reminding us as well that our mission in life is to be the salt and light to people we share this life with. The image of salt was very clear to the disciples. Unlike the salt we pour from a box today, the salt in Jesus' day came from mines and the sea. Such salt actually contained a variety of minerals, some of which were more pleasant and useful than others. Tasteless salt would have been the residue left over after the best salt had been extracted. Salt was also used in the temple as a part of the daily sacrifices. It symbolized the ever presence of the covenant. Like salt, if the disciples became bland, uncommitted or unfaithful, they were good for nothing. When the disciples hear Jesus speaking of light, they are reminded of Isaiah and his references to be the light of the world. This is nothing less than a call to action. The light that they bear, the salt that they offer is a living witness to the reality of God's kingdom. We too must come to this same realization for we are also the salt of the earth and light to the world. It is by living lives of justice and mercy that these images are given life. It is when we get caught up in our own piety that these images turn around and haunt us. The question we carry this week is: what kind of salt are we to the people in our world and how much light to we bring to help them realize the love of Christ?

Weekly Collection Jan. 29

Votive Candles:	205
Utility & Energy:	39
Accent:	6
Ash Wednesday:	23
Lenten Folder:	30
Easter Flowers	13
Children & Adult Collection:	4,278
Online Collection:	515
Total Collection:	\$5,109
Home missions:	2
Total Collection:	\$5,111

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of JOHN A. IMBROGNO. 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



Baby showers have long been a way to shower expectant mothers with gifts of love. This February, show some love to new and expectant mothers who have no one to shower them. We will hold a **Brown Bag Sunday on February 19**.

We are asking for diapers and clothing with sizes from newborn through 12 months.

Pierogi Schedule

We will be making pierogis on Sundays, after the 8:30 Mass and on Mondays, we will begin at 8 a.m. Our schedule is:

Sunday, February 5 Monday, February 6
Sunday, February 12 Monday, February 13

In the case of inclement weather, we will follow the Monessen School schedule for delays and cancellations. If school is canceled, so is pierogi making for that day.

Fish Fry

Help needed with our fish fry



As all of you are aware, our fish fry has become quite a hit in Monessen as well as the Valley. This did not happen by itself for we have many dedicated people who work hard to make it the success that it is. Not only does our Fish Fry speak well of our parish, we do offer a delicious

Lenten meal. In order for us to continue this service to the community, we do need your help. **All of us are a part of this venture and we do need your support.** If you are able to lend a hand for a few hours on Fridays during Lent it would be a tremendous help. There are signup sheets in the back of the church if you are willing to help. Not only does your help provide a service, but **being there is a wonderful community experience.** Won't you please consider lending a hand this year?

Groups

Holy Name Sunday is next Sunday, February 12. 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 2023 should be paid at this time. Please place your dues (blue) envelope in the regular church collection.

CDA MONESSEN COURT #776

The Court will meet on Sunday, February 19, in the Church Hall following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Rosary will be prayed before Mass at 10:00 a.m. in the Church. The February meeting will feature our Annual Pro Life Baby Shower. All Members and parishioners are invited to participate in this Pro Life Project by donating items for **newborn babies**. Needed items are **clothing, diapers/wipes, educational toys and books.** All are invited to participate in the Rosary and 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.

The **Epiphany Ladies** group will meet on Sunday, February 12 following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All women from the parish are invited to join.

Faith

Lent

This year Lent begins on the 22nd of February with Ash Wednesday. This is a time that the Church sets aside for us to contemplate on our life and relationships with one another and with God. There are many ways that we journey through this season, but the important thing is that we somehow prepare ourselves to once again celebrate the great gift of Easter.

On Mondays, we will gather for Taizé prayer at 6:00 p.m. at the church followed by a class in the church hall on the "Why we do the things we do as Catholics." Class begins on February 13 but will continue through March 13. On Fridays, we will pray the stations at 6:00 p.m. We will be having our fish fry on Fridays during Lent from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Lent is also the time when we focus on our stewardship and how we sacrifice for the good of others.

Taizé Prayer Service

When you think you don't have time to slow down — that's the time you need to do so. On Monday evenings during Lent we will gather at 6:00 p.m. and have a Taizé prayer service.

The service consists of scripture, songs, repetitive prayer and silence. It is a very **spiritual and relaxing service** and is a good way to wind down on Monday...the service only lasts a half hour. No preaching. No teaching. Why not come and see what a difference that little bit of time can make in your life.



Stations of the Cross

We will pray the Stations every Friday during Lent. On the alternate weeks that I am in Belle Vernon **we will need someone to lead them.** If you are interested, please let us know at the office. The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion that offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death, and has been in existence for hundreds of years.

Mardi Gras

Remember that on the 21st of February we will celebrate Mardi Gras marking the beginning of the Lenten Season. Mark your calendars and come for a "fun" night of celebrating before Lent begins. Remember that we are having **nominations for the King**



and Queen... so if you have anyone you would like to nominate, just give us a call. We will have more information on this event in the coming weeks.

Scholarship

The 2023 annual scholarship of the **Catholic Women's College Club** will be awarded to a deserving Catholic senior girl who is a current resident of: Belle Vernon, Bentleyville, California, Charleroi, Donora, Finleyville, Fredericktown, Monessen, Monongahela or Rostraver Twp. and has a GPA of 3.50 or higher. Applications for the award are available at the parish office or guidance offices at Belle Vernon, Bentworth, Beth Center, California, Charleroi, Monessen, Ringgold, Geibel, Serra, Seton LaSalle or Greensburg Central Catholic High Schools. Deadline for the application is **March 13, 2023.**