

January 28, 2024



Today's readings

**4th 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
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Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 27 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Ann Uram by Greg & Toni Bucci

Sunday, January 28 — 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Rene Moncini by C D of A Court 776

10:30 AM † Anthony Mascetta, Fiore & Angela Sacco,
John Sacco by Adelina Mascetta

Monday, January 29

8:00 AM † Deceased Members of the Lenio & Godla
Families by Pat Godla

Tuesday, January 30

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, January 31

No Mass

Thursday, February 1

8:00 AM † Louise M. Dudas by Clemmie Malec

Friday, February 2

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

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

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 3 & 4

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	L. Henry	V. Watkins
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	A. Pastella	L. Assenat
10:30 a.m.	P. Fanatauzzi	K. Byron	C. Blatnik N. Speicher

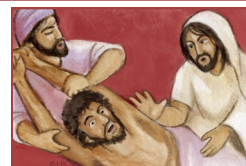
Money Counters

Monday, January 29—Team #3— K. Byron

Ascension App—Listen to Bible in a Year and/or Catechism in a year and follow along with text if you wish. Both are free for your smart phone or tablet, and available in Google Play Store of Apple Store.

We are called to be People of Action!

What does it mean to have authority, and how do we determine when one speaks with authority? Isn't it true that when we are told something from someone with authority we are more apt to listen? What is it that gives one such authority, it has to be more than just a job or a uniform, and it has to be something much deeper. Our gospel today informs us that Jesus "taught as one having authority and not as the scribes." What was it about his words that gave people such an impression? Today our readings relay to us how Moses spoke with the authority of God and the promise of the prophets would do the same. In the Gospel Mark is trying to establish the authority of Jesus.



The people of Israel in the first reading are getting ready to enter the Promised Land and they are aware that Moses will not be with them. They are assured that God will send Prophets among them who will speak with the "authority" of God and lead them through their journey of life. The identity of Jesus' authority rests in his identity as the "Holy One of God" — indeed his identity as the divine Son. The "new teaching with authority" about which the people are amazed is not the healing miracle in itself, but rather the display of God's face-to-face presence mediated in Jesus. The Old Testament prophets were looked to by the people to mediate God's presence and will; they were terrified to encounter God fact-to-face. In Jesus, however, God is present and encounter with this God is not terrifying but astonishing and amazing.

One of the reasons that Jesus acquired such notoriety is that he was a man of action. He was recognized as one having authority because he acted according to his word. The other church authorities knew the Law and how to fulfill its letter. In other words, they knew God's word because they were scribes with that role within the community, but they had not received it into their hearts; it had no effect on their actions. Their words and deeds did not measure up, so their words were empty and their lives did not witness to God's goodness and presence. The authority that the demon speaks of in the gospel is not a power over people as much as an invitation to a new life. His is an authority that derives from modeling how a true servant of God lives. This is what made him so different from other leaders of his time. He did not follow the adage "do as I say and not as I do," rather he lived every word that he spoke.

As we listen To St. Paul speak to the Corinthians he once again enforces his notion that chastity and virginity are superior ways to live. However if we just listen to the words, we might miss the point of what the message is about. Not only is Paul asking what our priorities in life are, but we are also reminded that no matter where we are in life our obligations to be Christ's presence in life is the same. What matters most is that married or celibate, we serve God and each other with our chosen vocations.

Bottom line is that we all need to be more attentive to live the words that we speak and by our actions people should be able to tell we are God's own. To be a true disciple is not to be caught up in mighty deeds but be a part of the integrity where our words and deeds manifest the same integrity as Jesus' life. We probably will always be drawn to the might deeds in life, but we also need to be able break the barriers in life that separate people. It is love that matters, and it is the love of Christ in our hearts that will enable us to be that divine goodness to all we meet.

Stewardship

Eastern Europe Collection



Next Sunday will be the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe **on 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, such as Lithuania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Macedonia,

and Ukraine. Our participation in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe express our care and support for the people in that area, especially in times of crisis and disruption. We are called to continue to offer hope to our fellow Catholics in Central and Eastern Europe by providing both material and spiritual assistance as they face enormous challenges.

I ask that you be generous to the collection because their 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)

Weekly Collection Jan. 14

Votive Candles:	221
Utility & Energy:	18
Accent:	3
Children & Adult Collection:	5,110
Online Collection:	827
Total Collection:	\$6,179

Lenten Fish Fries

Our parish family as always been known for its great Fish Fries during the season of Lent. We will need lots of help in order to provide this service not only to our parish family but the larger community as well. **There are many areas that we are in need of people to help.** If you think you might be able to lend a hand this year, your help and your presence will be greatly appreciated. There will be signup sheets in the back of the church for you to volunteer.

Remember that we are doing a bake sale this year. In order for this to work we will need a pretty hefty supply of baked goods. The easiest way to break this down will be to go alphabetically. On Ash Wednesday we are asking that if your last name begins with letters **A – H** to bring in baked goods. For Friday of that first week of Lent in your last name begins with letters **I – P** to bring in baked goods. The following Friday will include letters **Q – Z**. We will repeat this throughout Lent. The list will be posted on the church bulletin board. There should be two times when we are asking for donations. I am sure that this will work out well, and I do thank you all in advance for your goodness.

Open House

Open house at St Sebastian Regional Catholic School will hold an open house this **Sunday, January 28 from 12:00-2:00 p.m.** Registration for the 2024/25 school year is now open grades PK-8. Please call 724-929-5143 to set up a tour.



National Ed. Contest

The 2024 CDA (Catholic Daughters of the Americas) **National Education Contest** is accepting entries until February 1. Students may be Catholic or Non-Catholic. CDA Members may also submit an entry. Complete rules are on the entry form, which is available at the Epiphany Church Office website. For additional information, contact Pat Godla, Chairperson, at 724-684-7235.

Faith

The Season of Lent

Every year we are given the opportunity to experience a renewal of our faith through the weeks of Lent, and discover our faith on a deeper level. Although the tenor of the season has changed and we do not do all of the “hard” sacrificing that we once did, there are still many ways that we can enrich our own spirituality. It is a blessing to be able to share in the Eucharist more often during this period of penance. Try going to daily Mass, it is a wonderful way to start your day.

Created In God’s Image

Women in the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to attend a gathering at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. **“Beloved,” a gathering for women, will be held Monday, Jan. 29** at 6:30 p.m. and will feature the Bishop speaking on “Created in God’s Image.” The gathering will include prayer, reflection, small group discussion, Eucharistic Adoration and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation with multiple confessors. There is no cost, and no reservations are required.

Mass Book for 2024 is open. There are some available dates. Forms are available in back of the church and on the website. As always, you may mail the form in, or drop it in the collection basket, or email Tara at tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org. You are always welcome to visit the office.

Inspiration of the Week: With one swift command, Jesus freed a man from the possession of evil spirits. He has that same power to banish the shadow of sin from our own lives. Let’s invite him into our hearts, asking him to cleanse the darkness he finds there.

Mardi Gras

On **Tuesday, February 13th** we will have our annual Mardi Gras celebration! If you would like to help in setting **up for this we will begin on Monday the 12th at 6:00 p.m.**, please know that all help is most welcome. We are asking that you bring one of your favorite desserts, and if you wish, a case of pop or water would be most welcome.



Don’t forget to bring your **old palms** from last year. I will have a box in the church to collect them, or bring them with you the evening of our celebration. Since we have the fish fry beginning on Wednesday, I am hoping that we have some volunteers to help tear down the decorations and set up for the fish fry.

Knight News

- The Knights of Columbus Council #954 donated \$200 to the **Polar Bear Plunge**, for two members to participate in the February 2nd event
- The Monthly recitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be held at 7:00 p.m., **Wednesday, February 21** in the Knight’s Hall on Grand Blvd., Monessen. All are invited to attend. Light refreshment will be served.

Thank You!

Thank you to the Epiphany Ladies for their donation. Through their contribution, **new ‘voices’** have been added to the organ allowing for a wider range of sound.