

**July 16, 2023**



Today's readings

**15th 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, July 15—Vigil

4:00 PM Stella Frantz by Joe & MaryAnn Gallo

### Sunday, July 16 — 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Mary Theresa Olexa by Bob & Cindy Kotch

10:30 AM † Donald Belczyk by Mr & Mrs Joe Gallo

### Monday, July 17

8:00 AM † Leo Janol by Sophia

### Tuesday, July 18

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Wednesday, July 19

No Mass

### Thursday, July 20

8:00 AM † Nathan Campus by Josie Ondulick

### Friday, July 21

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Saturday, July 22 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Garofala & Arabia Families by Family

### Sunday, July 23 — 16th Week in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Charles Urbanowicz by Harhai Family

10:30 AM † Karen Salotti by Vince Salotti

### 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 — July 22 & 23

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	J. Elias	L. Assenat
J. Duds	F. Petorsky	L. DeFelices	Volunteer
10:30 a.m.	M. Gallo	J. Brown	M. Guiliford

### Money Counters

Monday, July 17—Team #2 — W. Anders

## “Let those who have ears, hear...”

One of the most remarkable aspects of the scriptures is their “timeless” nature, and it is amazing how the readings remain so relevant and current. In many civilizations of ancient days, storytelling was the way in which they taught their people about their past.



They also used stories to teach valuable life lessons. Many of the Fairy Tales were originally used to teach children about important facts of life and living. This week’s liturgy has Jesus telling a story to the people, a plain, simple story with a valuable lesson about life. The parable of the sower is not a lesson on agricultural technique nor is it a historical record with clues to ancient farming practices. The parable is about the seed, as it refers to “the word of the kingdom”. The sower (Jesus) scatters the seed extravagantly and indiscriminately. This is consistent with the abundance that characterizes the kingdom. This shows us how God’s kingdom grows.

Today’s parable gives us a lesson on hope. We have all had periods in life where almost everything we touch seems to go wrong. The same thing can be said with the elements of nature: it’s been raining too much, floods, earthquakes, it’s too cold. There are times when suffering seems to be all around us. Our liturgy today gives us a message that there is always hope in life. Even when things seem to be so wrong, there is hope for better times and a better life. St. Paul in the second reading tells us that we live in hope, seeing new life spring up everywhere, we sow the seeds of hope.

Anyone who has ever planted a garden knows that there are many variables that need to line up, if there is to be a good crop. There has to be a balance of sun and rain, the soil needs to be just right, there cannot be too much of one thing, everything needs to balance out. Our parable is telling us that God’s word does not always need everything to be just right in order to be successful. If you listen to the parable, the sower is literally wasting seed by throwing it on ground that will never produce. Things can always go wrong with seed and its growth. But God’s mysterious plan is at work and good results will come despite some failures. There is hope! The sower’s work (God’s word); for the most part will succeed. The parable is a story that reminds us that we are both the sower and the soil. It is a story that can bring much comfort to us. What takes root in our hearts bears fruit that can yield even a hundredfold. We have the potential to bear much fruit and bring success and encouragement to all of life.

The parables are nice little stories that everybody can understand. Yet, they keep challenging us, and they yield their secrets only through careful listening and a genuine willingness to adopt Jesus’ views on God and on God’s Kingdom: “Whoever has ears ought to hear”!

## Daily Readings

### Readings for the week of July 16, 2023

**Sunday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:1, 11, 12-13, 14 (Luke 8:8)/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**Monday:** Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Mt 10:34—11:1

**Tuesday:** Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24

**Wednesday:** Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27

**Thurs.:** Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt 11:28-30

**Fri.:** Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/Mt 12:1-8

**Saturday:** Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Next Sunday:** Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a)/Rom 8:26-27/

**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the families of CAROL B. VIVIO, JACK T. LAFORTE, MARY LOU LOULIS AND THOMAS BURGER. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

## DLA

We closed out our campaign this year with **\$47,355** which is only a few thousand over our Diocesan Goal. Please know that I am aware of how tough things have been lately and **I am extremely grateful to all of you who helped** us with this year's DLA.

## Weekly Collection July 2

Votive Candles:	39
Utility & Energy:	389
Accent:	34
St. Anthony:	92
Children & Adult	
Collection:	4,563
Online Collection:	1,494
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$6,611</b>
Peter's Pence:	35
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$6,646</b>

## Weekly Collection July 9

Votive Candles:	334
Utility & Energy:	145
Accent:	3
Children & Adult	
Collection:	6,276
Online Collection:	855
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$7,613</b>

To sign up for online giving:  
[www.eolparish.com](http://www.eolparish.com).

## Parish Festival

In just a little over two weeks we will be celebrating our Festival! There is still much to be done to make this happen. If you would like to help in preparing the food we **will be making meat balls and Halupki this Friday, July 21 starting at 9:00 a.m.** It would be nice if a lot of you find the time to come and help! Then **we will be making Haluski on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup>** of July also beginning at 9:00 a.m..

This year because we are having the car show along with the festival, parking will certainly be an important issue we need to address. **We will need people to help direct traffic and help with the parking, particularly early Saturday afternoon.** I



am hoping we can get enough people to help with this so we can do it in shifts. Anyone can help with this!

We will be setting up on Thursday evening, August 3, before the festival, all "Hands on Deck" for that. Times will be in the bulletin next week. Be on the lookout for your tickets for this year's festival. You can turn them in at the office or drop them off at the festival.

The success of our festival depends on you! We have tried to do our part (to the best of our ability) now, we need your help and support!

Remember we are having a 50's theme this year...be creative! We're planning on a fun couple of days with great food and music!



## Remember...

We are **collecting glassware or dishes, etc.** in good condition. These items will be used for the coin toss game. You can bring the items to the office at any time, or to the church hall. We're hoping our **50s' Corner** generates fun and memories.

While we're talking fun... I hope you are thinking of ways to decorate your wheels for our All Wheels Parade! Streamers, balloons, tissue flowers and a lot of imagination stir up fun. Plan on how to deck out your bicycles, scooters, skate boards, toy cars, strollers (Doll and real, depending on age!), wheel barrows, lawn mowers and more! Any non-motorized float or entry is welcome to participate. if it rolls on people-power (hover boards and kiddie vehicles accepted), it's in!

## Questions for Reflection


**First Reading:** The prophet Isaiah assured the Israelites who were exiled in Babylon that God's word is reliable and purposeful. *How might you help friends or family trust more in God?*

**Second Reading:** Paul sees creation itself sharing in the redemption and future glory that awaits all believers — "For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God." *What do you imagine earth would look like filled with God's glory, absent any "corruption?"*

**Gospel:** Over the next few Sundays, we will be hearing many parables from Jesus. Today's parable of the sower and the seeds speaks to how people react differently to the Good News of the kingdom of heaven. *How would you describe your reaction to Jesus's parables of the kingdom?*

## 50th Wedding Anniversary

## Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

 Bishop Kulick desires to recognize all couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during the calendar year 2023. The Jubilarians, their children, relatives or friends should contact their local parish office to register couples for this recognition. The Jubilarians will be invited to join the bishop for a special Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass to be celebrated in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on **Sunday, October 1, 2023**. Even though personal circumstances may not permit individuals to participate in the Mass, all registered couples will receive a scroll signed by the bishop commemorating their anniversary.

## AED Demo

Next weekend there will be a demonstration of how the AED Machine should be used. **Bob Stark**, Education and Outreach Coordinator for Rostraver-West Newton Emergency Services, will **present a demonstration of AED usage** in our Church Hall following the 4:00 p.m. Mass on **Saturday, July 22**. He will also present the same demonstration following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on **Sunday, July 23**.

## Around the Diocese

## Catholic Charities golf outing set Aug. 11

Only four openings for foursomes remain for Catholic Charities' 21st annual Paul R. Smiy Memorial Golf Outing, set for Friday, Aug. 11, at Ligonier Country Club, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. To register or for more information, visit [CCharitiesGreensburg.org](http://CCharitiesGreensburg.org) or call 724-837-1840, ext. 1504.

**Quo Vadis Days** This summer, the Priestly Vocation Office will host the sixth annual *Quo Vadis Days* (QVD) at Christ our Shepherd Center **Sun., July 23 – Wed., July 26**. This 4 day retreat/camp for high school boys that are open to considering a vocation to the priesthood and striving to follow God's call in their life. For more info and to register, visit [GreensburgPriest.org](http://GreensburgPriest.org).

**Family Reunion Musical Comedy** will be performed on **Thursday, July 20** at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Mack Hall (200 Leger Rd, North Huntingdon) by Alabaster Performing Arts. This heartwarming story reunites eccentric aunts, uncles and cousins. It will also be performed **Sat., July 22** at St. Bruno Church, Greensburg. For tickets, call Alabaster Box Office (724) 516-5189 or purchase online at [AlabasterPerformingArts.org](http://AlabasterPerformingArts.org).