



July 24, 2022

**16th Week 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
tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 23 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Mary Stinogle by Son, Roy Stinogle

Sunday, July 24 — 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Joseph A. Salvino by Mr & Mrs. Fred Naccarato

10:30 AM † Talarico Family, Angela, Felice, & John by Marge Talarico

Monday, July 25

8:00 AM † Ron Danko by Mom & Dad

Tuesday, July 26

No Mass

Wednesday, July 27

No Mass

Thursday, July 28

8:00 AM † Adina Mancini by Mary Ann & Joe Gallo

Friday, July 29

No Mass

Saturday, July 30 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Gloria Sala, Jesse Balogh, Casimir & Amerlia Zawicki by John Zawicki

Sunday, July 31 — 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Damien Luti by Ken & Linda

10:30 AM † Romaine Kerestes by Marge Talarico & Angela DeRose

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 30-31

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	P. Fantauzzi	A. Punturerio	S. Punturerio
8:30 a.m.	M. Melvin	A. Pastella	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	S. Stein	T. Mazzei	T. Smith

Money Counters

Monday, July 14—Team #5 — R. Croushore

The Power of Persistence in Prayer



The obvious point of our readings today leads us to believe that we are being informed of persistence and prayer. This is true to a point however the readings call us to a much deeper responsibility to prayer. If persistence were all that is needed to get what we want, we would all be millionaires living in some paradise. Prayer is not magic; we cannot expect to receive whatever we want from God just for the persistent asking. The surprise of the gospel is that persistence in prayer does not lie in asking again and again. The persistence essential for fruitful prayer is to ask for what God intends to give us: the Holy Spirit. Ultimately fruitful, persistent prayer is tied to the desire and will of God. In the first reading Abraham is a model of persistence in prayer because he asks for what he knows God wants to give – mercy to sinners. Prayer always includes a discernment of what God wants for us, not simply what we want for ourselves.

The dialogue that went on between Abraham and Yahweh is almost comical in its appearance. Abraham is using a technique of argumentation which is characteristic of the Middle Eastern world. One barter and bargains before coming to a decision. The story demonstrates for us the compassion and mercy of God, and the delightfully personal way in which Abraham feels he can talk with God. The outcome of their dialogue shows us that God is merciful, God is compassionate, and God is forgiving even when we do not deserve it.

Most of us first learned to pray by saying prayers – meal prayers, bedtime prayers, the Guardian Angel prayer, the Our Father and Hail Mary. This is a good beginning because it gives us an anchor; it gives us the words to get started. As we grow older and we come to know God better, however, there is always the risk that these “memorized prayers,” prayers known by heart and so familiar to us, might become rote. We could end up just “saying prayers.”

The kind of prayer Jesus taught is prayer from the heart, a prayer of communion, a prayer of attentiveness to divine Presence, a prayer seeking God’s will. Praying – even saying familiar and much loved memorized prayers must bring us to divine encounter and to listen to God’s will for us. Jesus reminds us that no one who seeks goodness for another, or asks for the gift of the Holy Spirit, will be refused. The moral of the story in the gospel is that God will hear persistent prayer, we must never give up on prayer. We shouldn’t think that we need to be knocking constantly on God’s door for God to hear us, God hears even our whispers. When Jesus taught the disciples to say “Our Father,” he was telling us that our prayer can be simple, stating our daily needs.

Prayer is simply talking with God. God does not always answer all at once, just as the man knocking on the door had to wait for a response. That does not mean God does not hear us. Continue to pray with the knowledge that prayer is a mystery, and constant prayer is a sign of the depth of our faith.

Weekly Collection July 17

Votive Candles:	172
Utility & Energy:	125
Accent:	6
Children & Adult Collection:	4,671
Online Collection:	1,336
Total Collection:	\$6,310



An elderly woman was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. When she put the heavy package on the counter, the postal clerk asked, “Is there anything breakable in here?” “Just the Ten Commandments,” the lady replied.



Catholic Charities offers counseling

Catholic Charities provides virtual and in person counseling. Call Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840 or email counseling@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Parish Festival

Epiphany Parish Festival

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating our Parish Festival! This is always an exciting time for our parish. Many people have already put in a lot of time getting things ready, but we will need much help to assure a successful time. There are signup sheets available in the vestibule of the Church. If you are able to give a few hours of your time, simply sign up and let us know when you will be available.

We have many exciting things planned for this year's festival so mark your calendars for the weekend of August 6-7 and plan on spending some time with us. There will be much good food and entertainment. Remember that this year we will have a Fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, followed by an outdoor Mass at 10 p.m. I hope to see you at the Festival!!!



Parish Raffle

Every year as part of our Festival we send out to all of our parishioners a packet of tickets which will be pulled at the Festival. If you have not yet turned yours in, won't you please consider doing so? The money raised from the tickets certainly does help to ensure that we have a successful festival.

Auction Donation

We're looking to make our most popular auction basket—the Lottery Basket—bigger and better than ever this year! If you are able, please donate scratch off lottery tickets that can be added to the basket. You can drop the ticket(s) off at the office, or in a marked envelope in the collection basket. Thank you. Your involvement makes a difference!



Church Dumpster

Even though we keep it as out of the way as possible, I'm sure most of you are aware of our dumpster. The church, like every household in our city, has to pay to have our garbage hauled away. We have a dumpster behind the garage which we only had to empty every couple of months. Lately, it seems that everybody is using our dumpster to get rid of their trash. **This is not a public dumpster.** Aside from regular property maintenance, we have a fair number of activities that generate their own waste. We pay \$300 each time we have the dumpster emptied. Recently, we have had to have it emptied once a month!

I have posted that this is not for public use, and a No Dumping sign, but that did no good. It has come to the point where we will have to have a fine for illegal dumping. Please pass this word along because we will prosecute.



Tuition Assistance

Catholic School Tuition Assistance

Millions in Catholic school tuition assistance available: SPREAD THE NEWS! The 12 Diocese of Greensburg Catholic schools now have millions of dollars in tuition assistance available! Become a TOP Student today. Visit www.CatholicSchoolsGuide.org or call 724-552-2565.

Faith



Calling all young adults (ages 21-35) to join us on August 11th for a half-day outdoor hiking retreat through the wilderness of Ohio! The day's activities will kick off with food and fellowship picnic style before taking off on a hike with periodic stops along the way. As we hike, we will be in continual prayer, in search of spiritual renewal, and considering our gifts and graces which we fail to notice in the speed of everyday life. **Take this opportunity to slow down with us**, look around, and renew your awareness of God and his work in all our lives. For those unable to make the daytime part of the retreat, the second part of the event will begin at 6 p.m. with food and fellowship around a campfire. Please register at the link below or contact us for more information! <https://www.holyfamilylatrobe.org/yaretreat> or call 724-539-9751.

Car Wash Thanks

Grateful thanks to all who came this past Saturday to get their car washed. A group of young parishioners gathered to participate in a service project in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. They collected over **\$300 for the Catholic Climate Covenant** to help take care of the planet God gave us. They were positive, enthusiastic and hard working. If these young people are the future of the Church there is much hope for the years ahead.

Please pray for them as they prepare for the Sacrament, please support them in their endeavors, and please encourage them to join us at Sunday Mass, so they gain the strength and wisdom to use their energy and gifts to bring Christ's love to the world.

Photo Directory



This fall we are hoping to put together a "Photo Directory" for our parish. It has been many years since we have done one and our parish certainly has changed since then. This will be a good thing to have for all of us. As we prepare to get this process underway and to ensure success, we will need people to help with handling the process.

The company doing the directory will do most of the ground work for the directory, we just need people to help by being greeters and signing people in. If you think you may want to help with this know that any time you are able to give will be most welcome. We will begin to take pictures on **November 8 – 12**, but need to line up helpers before then. Please give us a call at the office if you think you might be able to help. The more people involved with the process the more productive it will be. I do thank you in advance for your help!

Golf Outing

Catholic Charities Annual Golf Outing

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg will host its **20th Annual Paul R. Smiy Memorial Golf Outing** Friday, Aug. 12, at Ligonier Country Club, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. The outing will feature **theme holes**, "Pope Putt," **skill prizes** and more. Cost is \$150 per golfer or \$600 per foursome. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or to register, visit ccharitiesgreensburg.org.

