

March 19, 2023



**4th Sunday
of Lent**

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



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, March 18 — vigil

4:00 PM † Mary Louise Persico by John & Nira Persico

Sunday, March 19 — 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM † Naccarato & Reda Families by Mr & Mrs. Fred Naccarato

10:30 AM † Jerry Tonarelli by Patti & Family

Monday, March 20

8:00 AM † Micahaelene "Micki" Campana by Julia Wisyanski

6:00 PM Taizé

Tuesday, March 21

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, March 22

No Mass

Thursday, March 23

8:00 AM † Val Gene & Helen Veschio by Clemmie Malec

Friday, March 24

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 25 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Steven W. Beck by Kathryn & Mary Dzurik & Rita Lucas

Sunday, March 26 — 5th Sunday in Lent

8:30 AM † Virginia Quattro by Quattro Family

10:30 AM † James Weldon by Wife, Patricia

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 — March 25 & 26

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	A. Punueriero	S. Punueriero
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	J. Todd	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	W, Vlasic	E. Yatchyshyn	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters

Monday, March 20—Team #3— K. Byron

From Darkness into Light

Once again during our liturgy for the fourth week of Lent we celebrate another scrutiny with those who are journeying to share in the waters of Baptism of Easter. Although our focus is on that sacrament our readings shed light on all of our journeys not only through Lent but also through life. In a very human way we can clearly see from our first reading that we certainly do not see life in the same way that God does. As we are presented with the drama of Samuel following God's command in selecting a successor for the King of Israel, we are shown that it is not merely by appearances that God sees us. It is quite clear that God's ways are mysterious. God's standards are not our standards. Even Samuel, though a man of God would have been satisfied with the eldest son, a man of lofty stature. But God does not choose according to appearances. God looks at the heart. David will indeed prove to be a man of great gifts and skills. But he too will have serious flaws and commit terrible sins. Yet God does not require perfection from those he chooses, but love, passion, and commitment. How many times have we all felt that we just were not worthy of something? We allow ourselves to become so enveloped with our own faults and weaknesses that we do not allow any room for goodness. It is good to remember this reading and remind ourselves that God does not require perfection and that God looks at the heart.



St. Paul in the second reading tells us that the majority of Christians of the first century were not born into their religion. They became Christians in adulthood. Therefore in the letter to the Ephesians it makes perfect sense to compare the Christians to their former life by reminding them: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord." Now we are introduced to the theme of darkness and light which leads right into the Gospel where we hear the story of the man born blind, literally living in darkness and how he came to live in the light of Jesus.

Even though the theme of light and darkness seem obvious, there are a number of issues that we can learn and grow from. If we pay close attention to the story as it is given, we can see that there are various steps of the blind man's coming to faith in Jesus. This can exemplify the journey we all make in getting to know Jesus a little better. Even though we use this example for those who are preparing for Baptism, it is an excellent opportunity for all of us who share in the Eucharist to examine and assess our own journey of faith. Maybe we are taking our faith for granted; if so, we may be getting nowhere or, even worse, going backwards.

It doesn't matter who we are or where we are in life, we always have something to learn about Jesus. In many ways we are all in the same position as the man born blind who gets progressive insights on who Jesus is. Recovery of sight was an easy accomplishment; spiritual insight is more difficult and takes much more time. Our being sent and witnessing to the Good News of Christ does not have to be as extraordinary as the man born blind. Our witness unfolds in the everyday actions of our lives. We must meet life's obstacles not as daunting but as challenging us to deeper faith and more authentic worship. We have to be careful not to be like the Pharisees who pretend to know more and teach lessons to everyone, while becoming completely blind to the light of Christ.

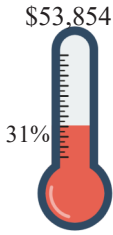
Weekly Collection March 12

Votive Candles:	216
Utility & Energy:	140
Accent:	18
Lenten Folder:	768
Easter Flowers:	309
Children & Adult Collection:	\$4,296
Online Collection:	\$894
Total Collection:	\$6,641

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of LORRAINE BOORD. May God grant her eternal rest, and comfort to her family. We commend her soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stewardship

Diocesan Lenten Appeal



We are moving along with our DLA this year. We have heard from 70 people and we are at **\$16,764**. I am asking that you please consider making a contribution to this year's campaign. Remember that we would like to **frame in a window from the Church on Knox and backlight** it in the Church. If you have any questions about this year's campaign, please feel free to contact me.

Filling the Ark!

We are off to a slow start in getting our ARK filled! This week because of your generosity we were able to board:

One Trio of Rabbits One Pig
One Cow One Llama

Remember if you wish to make a donation, simply put it in an envelope and drop it into the collection.

A Gift of a Pig: To help hungry, undernourished families put protein back in their diets at little cost, Heifer teaches farmers how to raise healthy pigs even with scant resources. A farmer who may not be able to manage cows can raise pigs. In Latin America, pigs eat rejected bananas or damaged yams that otherwise would be wasted. They grow to market weight while producing manure that improves crop production. Around the world, using resources once considered worthless, impoverished families supply themselves with the protein and income they need to build better houses, put their children in school and improve their lives.

A Gift of a Rabbit: Why rabbits? Because even a family without the land or resources to raise cows or even goats can find a warm dry spot – in a hutch on a back porch or perhaps even in a cool burrow dug beneath a garden planter – were rabbits can thrive. They can be fed with vegetable waste and kitchen scraps, so they conserve farm resources as they grow. And, like other livestock, rabbits are sources of healthy protein to help feed the hungry. Their nitrogen-rich manure makes excellent fertilizer to put on crops as compost. And everyone knows how rabbits proliferate. Here's a gift that multiplies! With as many as 40 offspring a year, a trio of rabbits can provide a family with a steady source of protein and income.

The more rabbits Enithe (pictured above) has, the more money she can make by selling them. Enithe's husband works in construction in France, while she lives with their 12-year-old son, Richardson Tinius, in a valley in the Saint Louis du Sud region of Haiti... She is excited about raising more rabbits and maybe one day saving enough money to move to an area less prone to flooding.



Scholarship

Knights of Columbus Council #954 is accepting applications for its annual academic award. Applicant must be a high school senior member of Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church, or St. Mary's Byzantine Church. **Application deadline is Saturday, April 15.** The application can be downloaded from the church website: www.eolparish.com

Faith

Holy Week

With Holy Week quickly approaching there is much to be done with the Liturgies, there will be more information on this in the coming weeks. Also on **Holy Thursday** we will need people to have their **feet washed**, and people to **dress the altar**. If you are interested in being a part of this for the Liturgy, I will have a signup sheet in church.



Music for Easter

Dan Godla, our accompanist, is going to work with people on music for Easter. If you are interested in helping out, please let Dan know or call the office. We particularly would like music for Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil.

THE WELL, Diocesan Men's Conference

Men in the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to get out of their comfort zone and **make Catholicism a way of life** at "THE WELL – BE NOT AFRAID," the Diocesan Men's Conference, **Saturday, March 25** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. It will be a day of inspiring speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation and Mass celebrated by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. Cost is \$50 and includes lunch. Scholarships are available through the Diocesan Francis Fund. Register now at DioceseofGreensburg.org/TheWell.

Volunteers Needed

We will be **washing walls** in the church on **Tuesday, March 21** beginning at 5:00 p.m. If you are able to contribute a couple of hours it would be greatly appreciated. All help welcome! If you have any questions, please call the office.

Bake Sale Reminder

Bake Sale Reminder— Those with last names beginning A—I are asked to contribute to the Fish Fry Bake Sale on Fri., March 24.

Pierogi Making

We will be making pierogis on Sunday, March 26 after 8:30 a.m. Mass, and on Monday, March 27 after 8 a.m. Your help is greatly appreciated.

HOMEMADE SAUSAGE SALE

The **Holy Name Society** will hold a sausage sale on April 4 & 5. All orders must be in by **Saturday, March 25**. Put in your order now to make sure you get it! The **sausage will be sold at \$5.50 /lb. Minimum order is 2 lb. per item. All orders MUST be made on the order form.**

<u>LINK</u>	<u>LOOSE</u>	
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Sweet Sausage
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Hot Sausage
___ lbs.	___ lbs.	Hot Hot Sausage

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Orders may be placed by filling out the order form above, placing it in an envelope marked "Sausage Order" and depositing it in the collection basket. To call in your order, or for info, contact Kenny at 724-929-3464. Please make checks payable to the **Holy Name Society**.