

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD., MONESSEN, PA | 724.684.7661 | WWW.EOLPARISH.COM

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY

THE STONE REMOVED FROM THE TOMB.

JOHN 20:1



Easter
Sunday
readings

A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG



©LPI

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 30—Vigil

8:00 PM Parish Family

Sunday, March 31 — Easter

8:30 AM Parish Family

10:30 AM Parish Family

Monday, April 1

8:00 AM † James Weldon by Pat Weldon

Tuesday, April 2

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, April 3

No Mass

Thursday, April 4

8:00 AM † Karen Salotti by Family

Friday, April 5

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, April 6 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Lawrence ‘Larry’ Mauro by Ted Harhai

Sunday, April 7 — 2nd Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM † Nathan Campus by Wife and Daughters

10:30 AM † Frank Ciccarelli by Marge Talarico

Parish Office:

**44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD
MONESSEN, PA 15062**

Parish Office (24/7): 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](https://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 — April 6 & 7

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
8:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	S. Beneccio M. Dzurik R. Lucas	M. Guiliford
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	L. DeFelices A. Pastella S. Stein	V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	M. Melvin	E. Yatchyshyn J. Elias K. Byron	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn

Money Counters

Tuesday, April 2—Team #5 – M. Smith

They Answered the Call

With joy and thanksgiving to God, the Diocese of Greensburg announces that Bishop Larry J. Kulick, JCL, has called **Deacons Craig Alexander, David Slusarick, and John Torres** to the responsibility of the Presbyterate. The priesthood ordination will be celebrated on June 1, 2024, at 10:00 AM in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

We Celebrate Easter!

The resurrection of Jesus is a paradox; we believe but we do not understand. The resurrection is a mystery which we can never understand but only believe. This mystery takes us beyond all which is familiar to us – to a realm where



God’s glory and power lift us up to a new dignity of risen life. It is a freely given gift by the Divine One who has loved us from the beginning of creation, who breathed life into us, and who continues to beckon us to grow in the truth of who we are.

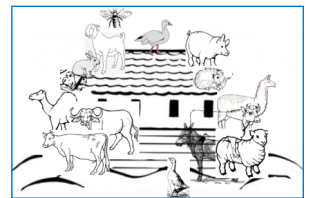
Easter is a celebration where we acknowledge who Christ really is, the one who shared in our humanity even to the point of accepting death, but who conquered death to raise us up to a share in his life. What exactly is it that we celebrate every year on Easter. We recognize the fact that Jesus rose from the dead; but, don’t we do that every time we celebrate the Eucharist? So, what makes Easter such a special celebration in our Church year? It might have something to do with the springtime of the year when everything in nature seems to resurrect. It might also have something to do with the fact that for forty days we have been anticipating this glorious day. Whatever the reason that makes this day so special, we like to celebrate it each and every year. We tell the wonderful story of the resurrection over and over again. Jesus squeezed life out of death and goodness and love triumphed.

The story of Easter is hard for us to accept because we have never seen or experienced anyone rise from the dead. So, we search for symbols to help us comprehend this great mystery. Just as at Christmas, Christians have come up with symbols to say something about resurrection. From ancient times the egg has been a symbol of fertility and immortality, and the church borrowed it and applied it as a visual lesson to the resurrection of Jesus. There is even a tradition that Simon of Cyrene, who helped Jesus carry his cross to Calvary, was an egg merchant. The legend has Simon returning to his shop after the crucifixion only to find that all of the eggs had turned miraculously into a variety of colors adorned with drawings. The butterfly is the most ancient symbol of the resurrection because they are born out of a caterpillar’s sleep in a cocoon, symbolizing the grave. They are transformed, as if with a glorified body, unconstrained by the limitations of matter, flying into the air.

These symbols are strong statements about life, and what happened on that first Easter morning is “life” itself. I pray that as you celebrate this day with your family and friends, the peace and the joy that resurrection brings to our lives may be yours in abundance. Have a wonderful celebration and rejoice in the fact that Jesus truly has risen and that same reward awaits each of us. Alleluia!!

The Ark

Heifer Congratulations....we have filled the ARK! It is gratifying to know that **so many lives will be touched by your generosity.** You have given a lot of people an opportunity for a better life, what better time than at Easter when we all celebrate New Life! I am so very grateful for your generous hearts.



Parish Contacts: Pastor: Rev. Michael Crookston:
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Sec.: Tara Manderino: tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Faith Formation: Scott Martin: smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

DLA

I did not have a report in last week's bulletin because it had to be sent out early and I didn't have anything new to report. This is the latest on how our parish is doing: Remember that our **goal for the Diocese is set at \$44,354** and our **parish goal is set at \$84,354**. With our portion of the DLA we were hoping to do a new roof on the Church. This is a project that cannot be put off for very long. Remember that everything we get above our goal comes directly to the parish.

Thus far we have heard from only **about 22% of our parishioners or 132 people**. From these individuals we have collected \$32,210 which is 73% of our diocesan goal, and 39% of our parish goal. As you can **see we do have a long way to go!** We still have over 75% of our parish who have not yet responded. I certainly do hope that we can achieve our goals. If you have not responded yet, won't you please consider doing so? If you have any questions about this year's DLA, please feel free to contact me.

Weekly Collection March 18

Votive Candles:	290
Utility & Energy:	174
Accent:	59
Lenten Folder:	205
Easter Flowers:	645
Holy Thursday:	38
Good Friday:	48
Easter:	180
Heifer:	1,610
Children & Adult Collection:	\$6,515
Online Collection:	\$1,208
Total Collection:	\$10,974

Due to the bulletin deadline, this week's collection will be listed next week.

Easter Gratefulness



As we bask in the glory that the Risen Lord brings I can't help but think over the past few weeks with much gratitude. As a parish family I think we celebrated this great feast with much style and grace. God's Spirit could certainly be felt in the hearts of all. Sometimes we do not realize how many people are involved in a single liturgy let alone an entire season. I certainly

would like to **thank everyone for their willingness to give so generously of their time and talents**. In a special way I would like to recognize:

- ♦ All of our Liturgical ministers; the Lectors, Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers, Greeters and Ushers
- ♦ **Dan Godla, Jeffrey Olup** and all of our choir members who came out to sing.

All in all we as a Parish Family enjoyed a Blessed Easter celebration!

...I would be amiss if I did not **thank the many people who helped throughout the season of Lent with our Fish Fries**. These weekly events have always been a smashing success not only for our parish but for the community at large. It is so nice to see such a large group of people from all around come and enjoy the company along with the delicious food.

Please know how very thankful I am to all of you who helped in any way to make this year's Fish Fry such a success!

Fr. Mike



Our app is a great way to stay connected and keep current. The app works on smart phones and tablets. Search for Parish App in the Apple Store or Google Play. Text ParishApp 1 to 555888 (Apple) / ParishApp 2 to 555888 (Android)

First Holy Communion

Over the next two weeks of Easter our second graders will be making their First Holy Communion. This is always a life giving time for our parish family. I ask that you keep these children in your thoughts and prayers as they share in the gift of the Eucharist.

Celebration of Confirmation

On April 20, St. Sebastian will host our neighboring parishes for the celebration of Confirmation. Along with the Bishop and the priests from surrounding parishes, it should be a wonderful celebration during the Season of Easter. Along with the conferring of Confirmation, there will be a reception immediately following in the Hall. We will need cookies, veggie and cheese trays for this. **Won't you consider baking some cookies or making some other donation for this event? I will have more information on this in the coming weeks.**

Formation for the Future of the Church...

What better time of the year to be talking about "Formation" than during the great season of Easter? It is at Easter that we all receive the gift of eternal life, and it is "Formation" in our church that enlightens us about just what a gift "eternal life" really is. As we all look back at how we learned about our faith and religion, I would venture to guess we got most of it from our families. Sure, we went to catechism classes and may have had religion in school, but it was from our families that we got the bulk of what we know about our faith.

We are living through a period of history where religion and religious values are not quite so present in a lot of our families today. So, where does the responsibility to teach about our faith lay, and just how are we supposed to help form our children in the understanding of our faith? I only wish I had the answer to that question! However, just because we might not have the answer, **we still have a responsibility to do what we can to assure the future of our faith.**

During this season on Easter, there will be sessions on just what we can do with formation in our parish. We will have speakers from the Diocese to help us in this discernment process. For now, I am just **asking all of you to keep the formation of our children in your prayers during this Easter Season**. We may not find the answers we are looking for, but we will certainly find the answer to what it is God is asking us to do.

Our Return To Easter

*Even though we are baptized,
what we constantly lose and betray is
precisely that which we received at baptism.
Therefore Easter is our return
every year to our own baptism,
whereas Lent is our preparation for that return
the slow and sustained effort to perform,
at the end, our own "passage or pascha"
into the new life in Christ...
Each year Lent and Easter are,
once again, the rediscovery
and the recovery by us of what
we were made
through our own baptismal
death and resurrection.*

