

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Monday, & Thursday

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wed., Friday

NO MASS

**November 28, 2021**

# THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST  
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

**44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD. • MONESSEN, PA 15062**

[www.eolparish.com](http://www.eolparish.com) · [facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord](https://facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord)

[www.youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch](https://www.youtube.com/EpiphanyofOurLordCatholicChurch)

## FIRST SUNDAY of Advent



### RECONCILIATION

Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. or you may call the office to make an appointment.

### BAPTISM

We baptize during all Masses. Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism session prior to the Baptism. Please call the office for more information.

### MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

### MINISTRY OF THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and cannot get to Mass, and they wish to receive the Eucharist, please call the office so arrangements can be made.

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Michael Crookston  
[mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Director of Faith Formation:**

Scott Martin

[smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Bulletin Sec.:** Tara Manderino

[tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Maintenance:** Patrick Frederick

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

Any article for the bulletin must be in the office by Monday noon.

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, November 27 — Vigil

4:00 PM † James Weldon by Ken & Maria Kite

### Sunday, November 28 — First Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Ray & Dorothy Jozwiak by Family

10:30 AM † Ed Monaghan by Melanie & Todd Yeager

### Monday, November 29

8:00 AM † John B. Harhai by Family

### Tuesday, November 30

No Mass

### Wednesday, December 1

No Mass

### Thursday, December 2

8:00 AM † Eugene Foglia by Dolores & Chip DeFelices

### Friday, December 3

No Mass

### Saturday, December 4 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Ralph Buffa by Donna Buffa

### Sunday, December 5 — Second Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Rita Cocca by Michael, Donna & Dessie Apostolakis

10:30 AM † Deceased Members of Nick Mascetta Family by Family

### 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

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 8:30 a.m.–12; 1 p.m.–3 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

The Office will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 30, Wed., Dec. 1 & Friday, Dec. 3. Fr. Mike can be reached at St. Sebastian Church on Tues. & Friday at 724-984-9300.

### Ministry Schedule — Dec. 5 & 6

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	J. Dudas	M. Guiliford
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	J. Todd	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	R. Kozar	K. Byron	C. Blatnik A. Blatnik

### Money Counters

Monday, November 29—Team #1—P. Pettko

## Prayer Shawl



The Prayer Shawl group has been quiet but busy! If you know of anyone who could use an afghan / lap robe, please contact Betty Geis at 724-684-5037 or call the office at 724-684-7661.

## Advent: A Time to Hope

Today we begin the season of Advent which is a time of preparation and planning to once again celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Advent is full of promise and hope reminding us of our unique relationship and commitment to God. Often in life we humans

can find it very difficult to be true to our commitments. We may have the very best of intentions when making those commitments but if something better comes along we too easily let them go. This time of preparation and waiting can be full with the many trappings that Christmas is swallowed up by. We also can be swallowed by those trappings and find that Advent is nothing more than a reminder that we only have four weeks to get everything done. As the countdown begins where do our thoughts turn? Most often we lose ourselves on what we have to get done, and how we are going to “cram” everything into such a short period of time.

Our readings for this First Sunday of Advent present us with a contrast between lives lived in faithful commitment to God’s covenant and lives which have strayed from that covenant. In the first reading Jeremiah is preaching to a people in exile. Because of their lack of fidelity to God’s covenant they brought upon themselves lives of captivity and longing for their homeland. The gospel presents a similar contrast but in a context to choices that we need to make. We are reminded that we need to choose to be faithful to our covenant and promises made to God; we are to live our lives out of this constant awareness which will give us hope.

Advent is a season in which we look both backward and forward, it reflects on the rhythm of our lives. We know that we continually move into the future, yet we feel the need to look to the past to see how it has shaped our lives. Our readings today are filled with hope; they encourage us to look to our past and learn from it without allowing it to drag us down. We are given a promise of hope and new life despite our past. Hope then becomes a reason to embrace the future with confidence.

I suppose the real question we need to ask ourselves is: what do you hope for? In answering this question we need to look at hope as it is expressed throughout the scriptures as a belief that at some time what we desire now, deep down inside of us will actually happen. Hope is different from dreams, which can be momentary and forgotten. We do not build our lives on dreams; they are built on hopes. Hope gives us strength to continue even when our dreams are shattered. For many people living on this earth, hope is their only food. Advent reminds us that we remember in order to make the promises of the past come true now. The past is our teacher. The future is our hope. With hopeful faith, we continually prepare for the arrival of the Son of God.

## Daily Readings

### Readings for the week of November 28, 2021

**Sunday:** Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

**Monday:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Next Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6



## Stewardship

### Christmas Angel Tree

For those who took a name from our giving tree, remember that your gifts need to be brought to church during the weekend of **December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact the office. **All you need to do is wrap your gift and attach the card from the tree on the package. Bring the package with the card attached and we will make sure it gets delivered.**



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

#### Weekly Collection Nov. 14

Votive Candles:	184
Utility & Energy:	377
Accent:	36
All Souls	57
All Saints	109
Advent	140
Children & Adult Collection:	5,514
Online Collection:	517
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$6,934</b>
Dio. Poverty Relief	75
Mission Co-Op	275
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$7,284</b>

### Get the App



Text ParishApp 1 to 555888 (Apple) / ParishApp 2 to 555888 (Android). Or if

you prefer — Search for Parish App in the Apple Store or Google Play. Once you download the app, you will need to select Epiphany of Our Lord as your parish.

## Breakfast with Santa



On the **19<sup>th</sup> of December from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** we will celebrate Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Breakfast will be provided by the Holy Name Society. They will serve pancakes and sausage, juice and coffee for **\$5.00 (adults), children**

**are free.** Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there for pictures. There will be treats for all the children. I hope that you will be able to stop by and visit with Santa!

## Christmas on Broad Ave.

### Christmas on Broad Avenue



At St. Sebastian's on **December 12** we will celebrate our first Christmas on Broad Ave. from **4 p.m. until 7 p.m.** This is a golden opportunity to come with your family and celebrate the joy of the season. There will be plenty to do so mark your calendars.

## Calendars

Thanks to the generosity of **Janosik's Pharmacy, Dalfonso – Billick Funeral Home, Franks Service Garage, INC. and the Robert A Billick Funeral Home, INC** who provided our parish once again with the calendar for 2022. We are grateful to these sponsors and thank them for their goodness. You may pick up one of these calendars throughout the Advent Season.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who contributed shoe boxes to the St. Sebastian St. Vincent de Paul. They will be sending 100 filled shoeboxes to the Appalachian Project. Your help was sincerely appreciated.

## Faith

### Christmas Wafers

There will be Christmas Wafers available in the entrance of the Church. **The cost per package is \$2.00.** The breaking of these wafers is an ancient ritual that unites the past with the present. As the wafers are shared **the leader says:** "Through this sharing we are God Bound to forgive each other all the wrongs real and imagined, which have been committed through the year... and promise never to return to them. Only then do we have a valid sharing of the holy wafers. As Christ forgives us, so we forgive each other."



If you've ever wondered about the **colored wafer** often found in packets, they are put there for the pets in the family. Yes, they are perfectly fine for humans. Pets are recognized since the animals were the first to greet Christ at birth.

### Confirmation



The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place this **Tuesday, November 30** at 7:00 p.m. **Rehearsal** for Confirmation is on Monday, **November 29** at 7:00 pm in the Church. Sponsors or their proxy should be in attendance also. If you have any questions, please call the Faith Formation Office at 724-929-9300. **If you wish to donate cookies** for the Confirmation reception, they may be brought to St. Sebastian Parish Office between 9 am—3 pm on Monday, and on Monday evening to the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm.

### God's Forgiving Mercy

During this advent season we focus on the Mercy of God we share through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below are listed the dates and times when confessions will be heard in our region. There will be no Penance Service, the priests will all be in church to hear your confessions beginning at 6:00 p.m.



Note that the first opportunity will be next weekend, December 2. There will be several priests at each session, so it should go quickly. There will be no regular Tuesday confession during these weeks.

- December 2: St. John's, Perryopolis
- December 6: St. Edward's in Herminie
- December 13: Seven Dolor's in Yukon
- December 14: Epiphany in Monessen
- December 15: St. Anne's in Rostraver
- December 16: Holy Family in West Newton
- December 20: St. Sebastian in Belle Vernon

I hope that you will be able to fit one of these times into your schedule and share in the Mercy of God during this season of waiting.

## Groups

### Monessen Knights Christmas Banquet

Saturday Dec 18<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Christmas dinner/dance. **Live music by Ken Santoro!** Drinks & appetizers starting at 5:30pm. Dinner at 6pm. Cost is \$20/person. **BUT ALL MUST PRE-REGISTER** so we can ensure we have sufficient food available. Contact committee chair George Pesci (412-951-6829) or Grand Knight Bob Kuzynski ([kuzynski@verizon.net](mailto:kuzynski@verizon.net)) to register by the deadline of Dec 5th.

