

October 15, 2023



Today's readings

28th 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



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, October 14 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Kathy Betza Pileggi by Bob & Rosemary Betza & Family

Sunday, October 15 — 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Leonard Babinski by Irene & Family

10:30 AM † Mary & Sinbaldo Daniele by Daughters

Monday, October 16

8:00 AM † George & Anna Josay by Loving Family

Tuesday, October 17

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Wednesday, October 18

No Mass

Thursday, October 19

8:00 AM † Angela & Felice, and John Talarico, and Rose & Patsy Cianflone by Marge Talarico

Friday, October 20

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

Saturday, October 21 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Mafalda and Gus August by The August Family

Sunday, October 22 — 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † James H. Todd, Sr. by Ruth Jane Todd & Family

10:30 AM † Chip DeFelices by Ted Harhai

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 — October 21—22

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	A. Punturiero	J. Smith B. Smith
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	J. Todd	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	P. Fantauzzi	T. Mazzei	C. Blatnik

Money Counters

Monday, October 16—Team #3— K. Byron

October Count

Throughout the month of October it has been customary to count the people who attend church. This count is important when we look at the Diocese and see where we are going and how we can best manage the support and coverage of our parishes.

We are all called!

Jesus reminds us in the gospel this week that “Many are invited, but few are chosen.” If this is taken out of context, one can easily conclude that only a small number of people are to be saved. We must be careful to look at the entire picture before we come to such erroneous conclusions.



Both the first reading as well as the gospel speaks to us about banquets reminding us about the gift of eternal life that lies at the end of our time on this earth. In both instances, attending these festive occasions or not has serious ramifications: the judgment about who enters eternal life.

It is easy for us to identify with the Kings disappointment when he went to such great lengths to prepare a banquet and have the invited guests refuse to come. How disappointing for us to plan any “party” awaiting with anticipation and joy only to have our hopes dashed when people do not show up. In the invitation issued from Jesus’ story the invitation is extraordinary: it comes from a king, it involves a lavish feast for the wedding of his son, it is issued several times. Who could refuse? Yet, people foolishly do and with tragic consequences. But in fact, even more is at stake for us than a royal dinner. The first reading reveals the wedding feast to be nothing less than the messianic banquet of eternal life. The wedding feast is obviously a symbol of God’s covenant. This is the invitation that is issued to us; our response is either to receive or reject eternal life. This is what is at stake in accepting the invitation: eternal life!

How we respond to God’s gifts, or fail to, is the thread running through these stories. What we need to do is look into our own hearts and determines in what ways do we “ignore the invitation.” How do we forget the invitation to “come to the feast,” not just about Sunday Mass, but about the life God gives at every moment? What God wants is the wedding feast to take place and the house to be filled with guests. Yet, god cannot force anyone into it, nor can God spare anyone from a free and full response.

Instead of spending time speculating about the number of people who are to be saved, we should see to it that we respond properly to God’s call, which is an invitation to salvation for all. We are called to change our lives to be in accordance with our commitment to be a disciple. In today’s gospel, the main thrust of the parable is that God’s salvation, symbolized here by the wedding feast, is actually offered to an ever increasing number. Ultimately, many do accept the invitation and come to the feast. Out of the great number of guests attending, only one is in fact rejected, because he does not wear the wedding garment. Therefore we can clearly see that many found salvation and only one was rejected.

There is no doubt that God wills that all be saved, but Jesus warns us as well. Whoever wants to enter God’s kingdom and have a share in the wedding feast has to go through the narrow gate or to wear the wedding garment. That is, we have to go through the paschal mystery. Salvation is free but remains demanding and implies changes in our lives for us to produce fruits that are worthy of God’s kingdom.

Weekly Collection Oct. 8

Votive Candles:	163
Utility & Energy:	80
Accent:	0
All Souls:	10
All Saints:	10
Children & Adult Collection:	4,808
Online Collection:	838
Total Collection:	\$5,909
Seminary	25
World Mission	15
Total Collection:	\$5,949

Stewardship

World Mission Sunday



Next weekend, **October 21-22**, the Universal Church celebrates World Mission Sunday. This global Eucharistic celebration for the Church's missions is a reminder that we are all called to be missionary disciples. Contributions go to CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association), aiding the Oriental Churches in need, Latin America, mission territories in Africa, Asia, the poorest jurisdictions in South America and the Caribbean, and our own sister Diocese of Sicutani, Peru.

Support for World Mission Sunday truly touches the poorest people around the globe, enabling them to hear the gospel and celebrate the sacraments. "Some give by going — others go by giving."

Cheese Ball Sale

CDA World Famous Cheese Balls

It's that time of year! Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Monessen are again selling their "World Famous Cheese Balls" for the Holidays. They are wrapped to freeze well and nuts are bagged separately. Cost is \$10.00 each. **Orders are due by Tuesday, November 17** by calling Regent Debbie Genemore at 724-708-8335. **Pick up date: Tuesday, November 28** between 1:00 to 3:00 in the Church Hall. Thank you, in advance, for your support to our projects.

Halloween Party

Come on over and be "**Stranded at the Drive-in!**"—**1950s style** for our Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. This BYOB and anything else, has always been a fun event. This year, we have some new things planned. Costumes are optional but this is a good time to put on those 50's duds. Those in costume will receive a ticket for a chance at a fun prize. More details will be coming in future bulletins.

Purse Bash

Tickets are on sale for **Catholic Charities' seventh annual Designer Purse Bash & Crystal Bake Sale**, set for Sunday, Nov. 5, at the Barn at Ligonier Valley. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org or at the Catholic Charities office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays. For information, contact Heather Rady at hrrady@dioceseofgreensburg.org or 724-837-1840.

Murder Mystery Dinner

If you always fancied yourself a Columbo or Jessica Fletcher, you'll have a chance to put your sleuthing skills to work! The Epiphany Ladies will host a **Murder Mystery Dinner on Saturday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m.** The 1950s themed "A Dance with Death" by the Murder Mystery Company promises a puzzling, and fun evening. You will have the opportunity to figure out whodunit! Dressing to the theme is optional. **Tickets are \$40** and include dinner, dessert and show. BYOB. Tickets can be purchased after Masses next weekend. Credit/debit card accepted for after-Mass sales only. For more info, or to purchase tickets, call the office or Sara Stein at 724-684-8098. Tickets are limited.

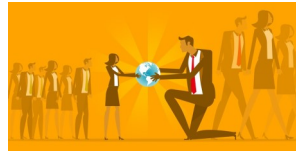


Faith

Faith Formation

Our program has started for the year, and there are several issues we must address as a parish. Faith Formation is a program for the parish, and we support our parents and children in this process. There are many parents who have not registered their children, or attended so far. There are no children registered for first grade or fourth. We also are in need of more adults to help with the program for the children we do have.

Formation is not just for the sacraments. It is a way to pattern life and it is to help build our relationship with God, Church and one another. It is our Baptismal commitment to provide the information to pass on our faith. If we are to have a future, we all need to get involved.



Reflections for the Week

First Reading: The prophet Isaiah speaks of a future when God will be fully present, and we will experience complete joy. *What gives you hope for the future?*

Second Reading: Paul shares with the Philippians that regardless of his circumstances, he has learned to draw strength and gratitude from his faith in Jesus.

How does your faith sustain you in good times and bad times?

Gospel: Jesus's parable of the wedding feast offers a warning to be open to God's invitation to answer His call.

How do you stay open to God's presence in your life?

Groups

CDA Monessen Court #776

The Court will meet on **Tuesday, October 17** in the Church Hall. The Rosary will be prayed before the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Members are reminded to bring candy treats for our participation in Trunk or Treat. **Please note:** all cheese ball orders are due by the meeting date, October 17.

All Catholic women are invited to join. Call Regent Debbie Genemore for additional information at 724-708-8335.

Columbus Day Dinner

The Knights of Columbus will hold a Columbus Day Dinner at the Knights' Hall on Grand Blvd., Monessen, on Saturday, **October 21**. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m.; doors open at 5:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be provided at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$25. For

more information or to purchase tickets, contact Ken Zimmaro at 724-929-

Parish App

If you have a cell phone or tablet, you want to download the Parish App! This tool will help you to stay up to date with what is going on in the parish, allow you to join the prayer chain (optional), read the bulletin, follow daily readings and more. Search for Parish App in the Apple Store or Google Play. Text ParishApp 1 to 555888 (Apple) / ParishApp 2 to 555888 (Android). Once you download the app, select Epiphany of Our Lord, Monessen. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to Tara at the parish office, 724-684-7661.

We will be looking to adding more things to the app. This is an easy way to stay connected with your parish family.



The Knights of Columbus will hold their **monthly rosary** on Wednesday, **October 16** at 7 p.m. They will meet in the Knights' Council Hall on Grand Blvd., Monessen. All parishioners are invited. Light refreshments will follow.