



**Sept. 11, 2022**



**24th 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



### OUR LOCATION

#### Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

44 Pennsylvania Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062

📞 724-684-7661

🌐 [www.eolparish.com](http://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](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

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Saturday, September 10 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Deceased Members of Anders Family by Family

### Sunday, September 11 — 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Pauline DeRose by Mr & Mrs Joe Gallo

10:30 AM † Patty Bisceglia by Sophia & Lawrence

### Monday, September 12

8:00 AM † Karen Salotti by Edwina Valdiserri

### Tuesday, September 13

No Mass

### Wednesday, September 14

No Mass

### Thursday, September 15

8:00 AM † Ron Danko by Bea & Bernie Sarra

### Friday, September 16

No Mass

### Saturday, September 17 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Helen & ValGene Veschio by the Funtal Family

### Sunday, September 18 — 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Jess Wachs by Mom & Dad

10:30 AM † Jerry Tonarelli by Patti & 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

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 — Sept. 17 & 18

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	J. Eias	B. Rizzuto
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	J. Todd	T. Todd
10:30 a.m.	M. Gallo	T. Mazzie	T. Smith

#### Money Counters

Tuesday, September 6—Team #5 — R. Croushore

## Finding Peace in Forgiveness



Mercy and Forgiveness abound throughout our readings for this week. It is a clear message of God's absolute acceptance and forgiveness that we carry with us in our lives. In the first reading we find that the people of Israel totally turned their backs on God because of their impatience. After all of the miraculous events their God showed to them, they still strayed from God's presence and love. Not only did they forget about all of God's goodness they even fashioned a false god from golden earrings and jewelry. As ridiculous as this might sound to us, it is really not all that farfetched when we look at our society and see how drawn people can be with money, power, celebrity and sex. There are many false gods in our world just as ridiculous as the one fashioned by God's chosen people.

There is yet one more lesson that we can learn from the experience at the bottom of that mountain, and it has to do with intercession. Moses speaks on behalf of the people and God relents and holds back punishment. It is the prayer and petition of just one man that saved an entire nation. We need look at what power prayers on behalf of others can have. Moses shows us that the foundations of Christian love lie in lives lived for the sake of the common good.

The Gospel gives us an even great understanding of how forgiving God's mercy and love is. We are given three parables by Jesus and each one indicates to us how important we are in God's eyes. Sometimes we have the tendency to overlook our goodness and put ourselves down for mistakes we have made and the sins that we have committed. These parables show us just how important each and every one of us are, without looking at cost. If we could only accept ourselves in the same way that God accepts us, life would certainly be a lot easier. We can see that God is more eager to welcome and receive sinners than to hold them accountable; would that we learn from that in our dealings with one another. We waste so much time keeping score in life. We can remember the things done wrong to us from years past and yet we forget the blessings received only minutes ago. Fortunately God doesn't keep score. God's love and merciful acceptance are always before us calling us to a greater conversion.

Most of the time God's forgiving mercy just doesn't make sense to us in life. God's compassion is way beyond what we will ever be able to comprehend. It is a radical gift that is offered to us every day of our lives. We need to learn from this example of forgiving love and share that with the people in our lives who need our forgiveness. It does no good to hold onto grudges and hurts of the past, it only keeps us in the past and prevents us from living in the present.

Forgiveness is never easy and so much more difficult when the hurt is intentional. Perhaps one way to approach this is to consider the good in the other who needs our forgiveness. Everyone has goodness in them, we just have to take the time and make the effort to find it. When we are angry, recite a "litany" of positive virtues. When we want to strike back, think of the dignity of the other because he or she is a baptized son or daughter of God. Maybe we also need to consider our own goodness!

## Councils Meeting

### Pastoral / Finance council meeting

On Monday, **September 12 at 6:30 p.m.** we will have a meeting of both the Pastoral and Finance Councils. The meeting will be held in the church hall. Please mark your calendars for this meeting.

**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the family of NATHAN DZIMIERA. May God grant him eternal rest, and comfort to his family. We commend his soul to rest in the peace of Christ.



## Stewardship

### Shoe Box Project



Every year St. Vincent de Paul conducts a **Shoe Box Gift Project**. Various personal items for both men and women are collected and then packed into shoe boxes. They are wrapped and shipped off to Appalachia where they are distributed to needy families.

**We are going to help fill those boxes this year.** I am asking that you bring to

Church **personal items** that can be used by men and women to Church, we will collect them and pack up the boxes. If you have any empty shoe boxes, we can use them as well. There is a listing of items you may purchase in the back of the church.

**The list is also on the website.** I ask that you **return your items to the church or office by the weekend of September 24 – 25.**

This is just one more way we share our blessings with people who have so much less. I am always grateful for your generosity with these collections!

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

## Groups

**Epiphany Ladies** will meet on **Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m.** in the church hall. There will be installation of new officers. All women of the parish are welcome to join.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**, Court Monessen #776, will meet on **Tuesday, September 20** at Epiphany Church Hall starting at 7:00 p.m. with the recitation of the rosary. Installation of Officers will be held. Members are reminded to make their reservations for the Court's 100th Anniversary celebration which will be held on Sunday, October 16. All Catholic women are welcome to attend and learn about our mission and purpose of the organization. For additional information, contact Regent Debbie Genemore at 724-708-8335.



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on **Monday, September 12** at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall. Come and participate! If you



don't know how to crochet, but would like to learn, someone will teach you. For more information, contact Barb Mandarino, 724-684-5547; Betty Geis, 724-684-5037 or Evie Yatchyshyn, 724-84-9294.

## Oktoberfest Dinner



Celebrate Oktoberfest! We are holding a special halupki (Or kielbassa) dinner on **Sunday, September 25**. The dinner runs from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes either 2 halupki **or** 2 pieces kielbassa, mashed potatoes, green beans, garlic bread, cake and a beverage. You may eat in or take out. Dinner cost is \$15.00. Please purchase tickets before Tuesday, September 20 by calling Betty Geis at 724-684-5037 or the church office at 724-684-7661.

## Faith

### Gathering of Catholic Men September 24<sup>th</sup>

The **Catholic Men's Fellowship** of Western Pennsylvania is inviting all men to attend the Annual Gathering of Catholic Men, Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at the **Gateway High School in Monroeville, PA**. Come for a time of Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, uplifting music, and popular Catholic speakers including Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Jeff Joaquin, Matthew Leonard and Bishop William Waltersheid, who will also celebrate the closing Mass. **Doors open at 11:30 a.m.**, Adoration begins at 12:30 p.m., the first speaker starts at 1:30 p.m., and Mass begins at 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person, \$20 per person with group of 10 or more, and \$10 for College Students. Priests are free. For more information or to register, please go to the website at [www.cmfwpa.org](http://www.cmfwpa.org)



### Catholic Men's Retreat

The Diocese of Greensburg Men's Ministry Team is planning a Catholic Men's Retreat from **7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, until 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1** at **Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg**. For those staying both days, the cost is \$100 for a single room, \$80 for a double room, with all meals included. There are also options for those not staying overnight or only attending one day. For more information, contact Jim Pencola at 724-726-5315 or Dan Lieberum at 724-787-1797. **Registration is due by Thursday, Sept. 15.**

## Photo Directory



We will be doing our Photo Directory this fall. We can always use more volunteers. We will hold an organizational meeting for all volunteers on Monday, September 19 at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall. A representative from the company will be on hand to inform us of what we need to know to make this a successful endeavor. Volunteers are needed to greet people, make phone calls, and numerous other tasks. If you are interested in helping out in any way, please let us know. We will begin to take pictures on **November 8 – 12**, but need to line up helpers before then.

## Monthly Rosary

The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly rosary on Wednesday, **September 21 at 7 p.m.** They will meet in the Knights' Council Hall on Grand Blvd., Monessen. All parishioners are invited. Light refreshments will follow.



## Festival Wrap Up

Last week we had our Festival Wrap up meeting and the results of the festival are now complete.

We took in a little more income than last year: \$60,387.85, however our expenses were more this year than last (no surprise!): \$33,635.96. This gave us a **profit of \$26,751.89!** I am grateful to everyone who helped, came out to enjoy the festival this year. We are already looking forward to next year's event. We will have our festival **On Friday and Saturday** rather than on Sunday. The dates will be: August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, and we are looking at doing a "sock-hop" theme! So, mark your calendars for next year's festival!