



September 24, 2023



**25th Sunday
in Ordinary
Time**

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, September 23 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Charles Urbanowicz by Dorothy

Sunday, September 24 — 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Mary Gelli by Joyce & Bill Eger

10:30 AM † Angela, Fiore & John Sacco & Frank, Marie & Frank J. Dolessandro & Mary Lou Loulis by Julia Cain

Monday, September 25

No Mass

Tuesday, September 26

No Mass

Wednesday, September 27

No Mass

Thursday, September 28

No Mass

Friday, September 29

No Mass

Saturday, September 30 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Thomas Burger by sister-in-law, Betty & Bertha

Sunday, October 1 — 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Edward J. Billick by The Billick Family

10:30 AM † William & Lena (DeMarino) Greco by Children

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. 30 —Oct. 1

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	A. Punturiero	S. Punturiero
8:30 a.m.	F. Petrosky	S. Campus	J. Smith G. Smith
10:30 a.m.	M. Sacco	K. Byron	C. Blatnik

Money Counters

Monday, September 26—Team #6— M. Smith

Prayer & Perfect Pairings — Registration is now open for our Prayer and Perfect Pairings event on **Friday, Oct. 20**, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. This **five-course dinner** features delicious recipes from local priests paired perfectly with wine. Reserve your sponsorship and seat today! Seating is limited. Visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/PrayerandPerfectPairings for tickets and information. Proceeds will be used to support Eucharistic Revival efforts in the Diocese of Greensburg

My Ways Are Not Your Ways...

“My thoughts are not your thought, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.” This one sentence sums up today’s Scriptures. The readings put together are a warning against reducing God to our comfortable images and assumptions.



As you hear the words of the Gospel, whose side are you on? It is easy for us to look at justice and fair labor from our own experience. Most of us have a strong sense of fairness, not only in seeking employment and being hired, but also in the gospel’s terms of jobs and labor and wages and getting hired. However, if God were to treat us fairly, only giving us what we deserve, we would be poor, indeed! Mercifully, God does not treat us fairly, but with superabundant generosity. The parable is ultimately about God’s generosity in granting salvation, something we can never deserve but are given because of God’s holiness and God’s ways above our ways. Salvation can never be measured; it is a most generous gift of our holy God.

By today’s standards the land owner in the gospel was wrong for the way he settled accounts. However, Jesus is quick to tell us that it was his money and he was free to do with it as he pleased. Isn’t this how we look at life? We live almost like we are earning God’s grace and that we are entitled to it. When someone comes along who doesn’t live as we feel they ought, and things go well for them, we don’t always share in their joy. We ask our self how God can give so much to someone who does so little.

Isaiah is so right in reminding us that God’s ways and thoughts are not ours, and we should all be thankful for that. God simply cannot be confined to human understanding and thought. The whole purpose behind the scriptures is making us aware of the richness of God’s mystery. Every author in every book of the Bible testifies to their own understanding of God’s mystery and divine presence in life. We need the bigger picture. We ought to remain open to the different and at times conflicting viewpoints about God. It is clear from our readings today that the mystery of God can never be completely understood. We ought to be humble about what we know about God. We ought to hold that God is the Almighty and the Holy One, but at the same time the All-Humble and All-Loving God who walks with us on our daily journey and wishes to communicate with us in the secret of our hearts. God keeps reaching out and calling us to work in the vineyard and God will always surprise us by being overwhelmingly generous and merciful to each one of us. Let us not pretend that we know everything that can be known about God, and let us make room in our lives to be wonder-filled by the thoughts and the ways of God.

If this parable teaches us something about how great God is and how generous, then we are called to this same greatness and generosity. Wouldn’t nations be different if debts could be forgiven and those who have were generous to those who have not? Wouldn’t families be different if hurtful behavior ceased and was forgiven generously? Wouldn’t individuals be different if we measured another only by their goodness? Ultimately, God’s ways are not ours, and that is something we all need to work on.

Inspiration of the week — Let us never make the grave mistake of assuming we earn our salvation in the same way we earn a wage. It is a gift lavished upon us by a God who does not count the hours of our labor or measure the amount of our output.

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

Stewardship

Mission Co-Op...

This weekend, Mission Co-Op **Sr. Maureen O'Brian, SC** will be introducing the Sisters of Charity newest Mission in Pedro Carbo, Guayaquil, Ecuador. These sisters can do the work only if you can help them with your prayers and donations! Your prayers and donations will bring blessings of hope and healing! God Bless you for your generosity!

Seminarian & Clergy Formation Collection

Next weekend, **Sept. 30 and Oct. 1**, we will have the annual Diocesan collection for our seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, the ongoing formation of our clergy and our International Priests. Please be generous in supporting the needs of our **seminarians and clergy** through this collection. In addition to your financial support, please pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life so that the Lord may continue providing men with Hearts for the Mission.

Weekly Collection Sept. 17

Votive Candles:	232
Utility & Energy:	85
Accent:	9
Children & Adult	
Collection:	5,294
Online Collection:	1,533
Total Collection:	\$6,827
Seminary	65
Poverty Relief	10
World Mission	10
Mission Co-op	37
Total Collection:	\$6,949

Shoe Box Project

If you are helping out with the **St. Vincent DePaul Shoe Box Gift Project** collection of personal items for men and women, items are due to the church or office by **Sunday, October 8**. These items will be packed in shoeboxes, wrapped and shipped to Appalachia where they are distributed to needy families. The list of items needed can be found in the back of the church or on the Epiphany website: www.eolparish.com.

Thank You

Dear Parishioners of the Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church,

On behalf of the administration, faculty, staff and students of the Monessen City School District, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous and much needed donation of school supplies. The teachers and students deeply appreciate your continued kindness and support during these economic times. Please know that many students benefit from the Church's yearly donation and these items help them to have a successful school year. We are looking forward to a productive year and thank you for remembering the students as part of the Epiphany's Brown Bag Sunday Program. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Rebecca A. Rizzuto

First Grade Teacher, Monessen Elementary Center

Pierogies

We will making pierogis **Sunday, October 8** after the 8:30 a.m. Mass and on **Monday, October 9** beginning at 8:00 a.m. Come when you can All help is appreciated. We will announce the sale date at a later time.



The Epiphany of Our Lord parish celebrates with **MICHAEL GARRET PAWELEC** and **KATIE RINCZKA** as they were joined in the sacrament of matrimony on September 16, 2023.

Faith

Time, Treasure & Talent

We each have a talent. Consider how you can share yours with your parish family, and worship God. If people tell you that you're friendly, or have a ready smile, think about being a Greeter. You attend church regularly; perhaps you would like to be a Eucharistic Minister. Maybe you don't want to stand in front of people, but would like to bring communion to the homebound. We are always in need of readers and cantors. Ministry is a lot more than just volunteering your time or your talents. **It is a way of living our lives with the commitments our faith asks of us.** By recognizing our talents and how we can utilize our time, we can all work together in building a stronger Kingdom of God and become Good Stewards at the same time.

There are papers in the back of the church with all of the different ministries and ways you can help listed. If there are other ways you would like to share your talents, please let us know.

Furthering Our Faith

We will begin our classes on Monday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church hall. We will be focusing on **Sermon on the Mount** series by Little Rock Scripture Study. The Beatitudes have been used as a model of spiritual and social justice from the time they were first spoken. If you have any questions, please call the office at 724-684-7661.

Murder Mystery Dinner

Fall is the time to get cozy — with a cozy mystery dinner that is! The Epiphany Ladies will host a **Murder Mystery Dinner on Saturday, November 6 at 6:00 p.m.** Put on your sleuthing cap and pull out your saddle shoes to join the 1950s themed "A Dance with Death" by the Murder Mystery Company. 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.

Vacation Time

Father Mike will be away from September 22 through September 29. If you have a Mass scheduled in that time, Father will take it with him.



Soup Sale

Jacket weather is the perfect soup weather. The Epiphany of Our Lord Ladies will once again have a soup sale. Orders will be taken this weekend, **September 23-24 through October 1**. Soup pick up and payment will be on October 7 & 8 in the church hall after Masses. The price is **\$9 per quart**. You may mail your order in to the church office or call it in to Sara Stein at 724-684-8098. Please indicate how many quarts you would like.

- Butternut Squash Beef Barley
- Potato Broccoli Cheddar

Total quarts @ \$9 each: _____

Name: _____

Best Phone Contact: _____