



**September 3, 2023**



**22nd 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



## 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 2 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Ronald Danko by Dad & Mom

### Sunday, September 3 — 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Patty Bisceglia by Edward Laatu

10:30 AM † Richard Fantauzzi by Carol Sepesky

### Monday, September 4 — Labor Day

**9:00 AM** † Victoria Dzurko by Husband, Ed

### Tuesday, September 5

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Wednesday, September 6

No Mass

### Thursday, September 7

8:00 AM † Gloria, Ella & Joseph Salotti by Sharie, John & Salotti Family

### Friday, September 8

8:00 AM Mass at St. Sebastian

### Saturday, September 9 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Lubecki Family by Family

### Sunday, September 10 — 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM † Altomari Family by Anita & Family

10:30 AM † Gene Yatchyshyn by Clemmie Malec

### 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.**

**The office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day**

### Ministry Schedule — September 9 & 10

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	D. Harkins	L. Henry	M. Smith G. Smith
8:30 a.m.	G. Pesi	J. Brown	V. Watkins
10:30 a.m.	W. Vlasic	K. Byron	S. Yatchyshyn G. Yatchyshyn

### Money Counters

**Tuesday, September 5**—Team #3 — K. Byron

### Ministry Schedule — Sept. 4, Labor Day

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
9:00 a.m.	F. Petrosky	Volunteer	B. Smith J. Smith

## Our Limits Become Our Crosses!

In a roundabout way our readings for this week speak to us about pushing to our limits. We are being asked to discern for ourselves just what are our limits and how far can we push them.

Our society today is absolutely obsessed with sports, Americans do love them. The Olympic Games attract millions of viewers. College football stadiums can seat in excess of 100,000 screaming fans. The TV schedule has more channels dedicated entirely to sports than to any other single kind of entertainment. Parents chauffeur their children to multiple games of multiples sports in any given week, often letting their own work slide in order to be spectators. A great number of college scholarships are for those gifted in sports. This list of proofs of our love of sports can go on and on. Perhaps part of our obsession rests in the sheer strength and endurance athletes' exhibit. It seems as though they reach a physical and emotional limit, and then regularly exceed that limit. Going beyond the limits of the ordinary is what makes champions.

Most of us experience limits in our lives; if not in sports, then in many other areas of life. But perhaps the one thing most of us face that pushes us to our limits is human suffering – whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. Suffering is something we simply cannot avoid because it takes us beyond the limits of human resilience, the threshold of pain, or our emotional self-control stability. People sometimes rationalize suffering as something gone wrong, as the absence of God or as being punished by God. In light of the cross and resurrection, however, suffering can become a more intense experience of God's presence and God's promise. This Sunday's gospel starkly tells us that the only way to life is through death, through suffering. The followers of Jesus must deny themselves and take up their cross; the followers must let go of their life in order to find life; unless one dies one cannot rise.

So, what are some of the "daily crosses" we must endure that push us to our limits? This will certainly be different for each of us. Maybe it has to do with patience or spreading ourselves too thin. Maybe we allow ourselves to get caught up into things that we have no business being in. This list can certainly go on and on, I am sure we can all think of many "crosses" that we must deal with every day. We are reminded today that it is not so much the crosses that become the issue, it is the way in which we accept them. Do we try to avoid them or deny that they are even there, or do we embrace them and deal with them the best we can. Eventually we all need to answer that for ourselves.

Sometimes our response to living the paschal mystery is enthusiastic because things are going well and we do not realize the demands. Then, when the going gets rough, when we are pushed to our limits, we kind of bog down and emotions tend to take over. The paschal mystery demands turning our heart toward God's love working in us, and this is not without its demands. Every day we must do all that we can to take up our crosses and deal with life!



**With Deepest Sympathy** — Condolences are extended to the family of VINCENT L. BURGER. 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

The Diocesan Mission Cooperation Appeal in our parish will be on September 23–24. Sister Maureen O’Brien, SC will share the good news of the mission works of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, in China, Korea and Ecuador. The sisters go to areas that are extremely poor. And in the area of Pedro Carbo, Ecuador there are a large number of children who are physically and mentally challenge in need of education and training. The sisters have taken on this very special work and ask that you give from the heart on Sept. 23 and 24.



### Spaghetti Dinner

The **Knights of Columbus** and the **Epiphany Ladies** will hold a Spaghetti Dinner on **Sunday, September 17** from 11 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1925 Grand Blvd., Monessen. Tickets are \$13 for adults and \$9 for children under 12. You can purchase tickets at the door, or from the Knights or the Ladies. Tickets will be sold after Masses this weekend, September 2 and 3. For more information or to purchase tickets, you can call Dan Harkins at 412-855-0022

## Groups

**Holy Name Sunday** is next Sunday, September 10. There will be Corporate Communion at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Following Mass, we will have our regular monthly meeting in the church hall.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**, Monessen Court #776 will meet on Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Epiphany of Our Lord Church Hall beginning with the rosary at 7:00 p.m. 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 **Tuesday, September 5 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.** in the church hall. Come and join us to participate. If you would like to participate but need to learn how to crochet, we can help you with that! For more info please contact Barb Mandarinio at 724-684-5547



## Festival Report

All of the bills have been paid for this year’s festival, and I am pleased to present to you the final report:

Festival Results for Friday:	\$10,990.65
Festival Results for Saturday:	\$22,555.42
Total Festival Income:	\$67,597.07
Expenses:	\$34,247.89

Grand Total combined Income minus Expenses  
**\$33,349.18**

I am very happy with this year’s results and again, I want to thank everybody who helped this year. I think that we all had a wonderful time and it was good for our parish as well as the community. If you would like to see a more detailed report, you can pick one up at the office.

## Faith

### Labor Day Mass

In the Catholic tradition, work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continued participation in God’s creative action. Mass on **Monday, September 4 will be at 9:00 a.m.** As we mark Labor Day each year, we are invited in a special way to reflect on the persistence of low wages and inequality in our workplaces.

### Prayer for Work

Creator God, thank you for providing us with the gift to share our talents.

Provide our community, our nation, our world the fortitude to provide work for all which is decent and fair.

Make us faithful stewards of your creation to enhance the human dignity of our global family.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever.  
Amen

### The Importance of Ministries

It seems like September is the month when we get back into a routine with life. The laid back schedules of summer are behind us and now we deal with the business of life and the hectic schedules it brings. **In the church, September has become the month when we look at our obligations to ministry.** 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.** Throughout this month give some thought as to how you share your Time, Talent and Treasure. Giving of ourselves means being good Stewards with the resources God gives to us. We do not often enough stop to think about how blessed we are. We may be grateful for the “things” that we have but we do not often think about the many other treasures that God has bestowed on us. If we do not appreciate the many ways that God has blessed us, how can we even begin to share with others? This month I am asking all of you to look at your life and become aware of just how blessed you really are. 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.

### Furthering Our Faith

We all have rules that we live by. When we look at the foundation of many of them, we can find many of them have their roots in the Beatitudes.

This fall, consider joining us as we work to learn more about our faith through the **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. During this four week study of the Beatitudes, we will watch a **video lecture and then break into small groups for discussion.** We will meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The exact start date TBD. Cost of the book will be \$15. To register for the program, please call the office or sign up in back of the church by Friday, September 8. If you have any questions, please call the office at 724-684-7661.

### Weekly Collection August 27

Votive Candles:	138
Utility & Energy:	22
Accent:	67
Children & Adult Collection:	3,789
Online Collection:	918
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$4,934</b>
Communication	437
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>\$5,371</b>