

# THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST  
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

**FEBRUARY 15, 2015—SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**618 KNOX AVE • MONESSEN, PA 15062**

**Parish Office:** 724-684-7661 • **Fax:** 724-684-8981

**Church Hall:** 724-684-9199 • **Chapel Hall:** 724-684-5512

**Religious Education:** 724-930-8504

**Parish Website:** [www.eolparish.weebly.com](http://www.eolparish.weebly.com)

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor** ..... Reverend Michael J. Crookston  
MCrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org  
**Music Director** ..... Toni Lynn Salvino  
**Parish Secretary** ..... Evelyn Winn  
**Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary** ..... Darleen Koury  
**Maintenance** ..... Patrick Frederick

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday ..... 8:30 am–12 pm & 1 pm–3 pm  
Friday ..... 8:30 am–12:00 Noon

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Epiphany of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church;  
we celebrate a long and diverse presence in Monessen,  
reflecting the true meaning of Epiphany,  
our vision is to become a beacon of hope  
through education, spiritual formation and Liturgical functions;  
proclaiming and living the Gospel Justice of Jesus Christ.

We show responsibility to one another through active  
participation, stewardship and evangelization,  
moving forward with the Spirit of the living God.  
It is our Faith that unites us as one to celebrate the Eucharist,  
the Source and Summit of our Catholic Traditions.

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm (*Main Church*)  
Sunday: 8:30 am (*Chapel Site*);  
10:30 am (*Main Church*)  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday &  
Friday: 8:00 am (*Main Church*)  
Wednesday: NO MASS

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 11:00 am 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.

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

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



**MASS  
INTENTIONS  
MAIN CHURCH**

**Saturday, February 14—Vigil**

4:00 pm +John & Jay Torok by Joan Torok and Kristy & Kaylene Chavez

**Sunday, February 15—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

10:30 am +Louis Greco by Family

**Monday, February 16**

8:00 am +Patsy Martucci by Family

**Tuesday, February 17—Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order**

8:00 am +Elizabeth (Betty) Greco by Martucci Family

**Ash Wednesday, February 18**

8:00 am +Joanne Rendos by Romeo, Dolores & Cathy Bucci

12:00 pm +Ellen Fotheringham by Lilian Taylor

6:00 pm Distribution of Ashes

**Thursday, February 19**

8:00 am +Patricia (Pallone) DiSantis by Anthony Foffi

**Friday, February 20**

8:00 am +Mary Mandzok by Joann Matush & Phil Mikan

6:00 pm +Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, February 21—Vigil**

4:00 pm +Elizabeth & Tom Dalfonso by Bernie Sarra & Family

**Sunday, February 22—First Sunday of Lent**

10:30 am +Paul & Tom Sowko by Family

**CHAPEL**

**Sunday, February 15—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am +Gary Cope by Knights of Columbus

**Sunday, February 22—First Sunday of Lent**

8:30 am +Doris Kukler by Husband, Alex & Family

**Last Sunday's Offerings: \$7,080.00**

**Pierogi Making**—We will be making pierogi in the Main Church Hall beginning at 7:30 a.m. Helpers are always needed. The dates are: February 23; and March 2, 9, 16, & 23.

**Eternal Rest**—Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: *NORMAN GILOTTY*. We commend his soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

**Ministry Schedule**

**Saturday, February 21, 2015 and Sunday, February 22, 2015**

Time	Lector	Eucharistic	Altar Servers
4:00 pm	L. Micenko	J. & L. Dudas B. & D. Mandarino	A. & A. Mauro
8:30 am	G. Pesi	L. Henry S. & N. Campus	B. & Q. Zboyovsky
10:30 am	M. A. Gallo	A. Frolo R. Sassak M. Gigliotti L. Mandarino	M. Germinario K. Bachinski

**Money Counters - Monday, February 16, 2015**

B. Geis—Council Member  
K. Byron, B. Mandarino, C. Martucci



**Lent Begins this week**

With Ash Wednesday this week we begin the Season of Lent. There are many ways that we can use these weeks to grow closer to God's goodness and become more aware of just how blessed we are. I have put together a calendar for the weeks of Lent so that you will know what programs are being offered and when. The calendar will be inserted in the bulletin and there will be extras in the back of the church /chapel.

We celebrate Ash Wednesday with Mass at 8:00 am and Noon, we will also have distribution of ashes at 6:00 pm

Mass is celebrated Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Friday at 8:00 am.

Our fish fry will start on Wednesday. From 11:00 am until 6:00 pm we will be serving our fish dinners. Take outs will be available all day.

On Friday's of Lent we will pray the stations together beginning at 6:00 pm

On Monday evenings we will gather at the Chapel at 6:00 pm for Taize prayer.

As you can see, there are many ways that we can make this season a truly spiritual one. I hope that you will be able to participate in some of our activities. **Remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence and that all of the Friday's during Lent are days of fast.**

**Stewardship**

During the Lenten season we usually share our treasure with different organizations. Over the past couple of years we went with Heifer International. This year we are going to try and do something different. Since Stewardship does not strictly pertain to Lent, we are going to stretch it out over the entire year.

We have started "*Brown Bag Sunday*" which will become the avenue by which our parish shares its Stewardship. Throughout the year we will specify different charity organizations that we will help. Throughout Lent we are going to focus on the nursing homes in our community. We will compile a list of things that you can donate and we will see that they get distributed to the nursing facilities here in Monessen. There will be more information on this throughout Lent.



**Church Membership**

It is amazing how often the topic of "church membership" comes up, so every once in a while we remind people through the bulletin about joining the church. Church membership is not something that is presumed. Once a person turns 18, they are to join a church as an adult; they do not stay as members on their family census form. This is important when we start to talk about Sacraments and becoming sponsors. **You must be an active member of a church to share in the sacraments as well as becoming a sponsor.** If you are not currently registered at a church and wish to do so, you can call the office and we will take care of it. If you have any questions or concerns you can always speak to Fr. Mike.

## *We are called to touch the Lepers*

I don't know about you, but when I hear from the scriptures how some people of society were treated, it seems that God's presence is nowhere near. This week we hear about how people suffering with leprosy were shunned by the people of society and they were absolutely cut off from all that was important to them. This included not only their family and friends but also the freedom to worship God. They were considered unclean and that was how they were to live their lives. Our readings reveal a lot about the fears of the society from which it sprang. Scripture is supposed to lead us to conversion of heart and mind, not used as an excuse to exclude people in life.

It is very easy for us to look back and find fault with how people were treated in the past, but if we are to be led to conversion ourselves, we need to look at life today and see just how we treat one another. The question we need to ask ourselves today is: who are the lepers of our society, and just how do we "mark" them? It is good for us to look at what Jesus did in the gospel today. Imagine the sense of alienation and isolation that drives this leper to kneel before Jesus and beg to be made clean. Jesus responds to this outpouring of emotion with deep feelings of His own and then does the unimaginable: He reaches out and touches the leper. This touch must have required great compassion on the part of Jesus, so much so that it took precedence over the law and Jesus' own risk of ritual impurity. The leper is healed and then admonished to show himself to the priest in fulfillment of the law, in order to regain ritual purity and be restored to the worship of the community. It is through the example of both Jesus and the leper that we learn about what it means to be a true disciple. Through the actions of Jesus we learn to reach out to the outcasts in life and like the leper, we proclaim the good news of what Jesus has done.

There are few laws of legal purity in our society but still many taboos and fears surround health and cleanliness. Even in our own church many people will not receive communion from the cup for fear of germs, even though health officials say the chances of catching a disease from a shared cup are far less than taking public transportation. The same can be seen with the greeting of peace. Many simply will not shake hands with their neighbor for fear of contamination, so we cannot be too harsh on the people of Israel.

As well as making the leper well again, Jesus confronts an attitude. He defies the prejudices of society. Our society is still full of narrowness and prejudice; there is still a lot of religious elitism about who can and cannot be saved, who does and does not belong in a particular church. We are disfigured in many ways as a society. We refuse to confront the evils of poverty and lack of medical care for millions of people, capital punishment, abortion on demand, international disputes and enormous gaps between the rich and poor. These are the "sores" that infect our society. Like Jesus we are to extend that gentle touch of healing and peace. The healing presence of Jesus can touch and mend the torn fabric of our society if only we take His example and not be afraid to touch in life.



**Fat Tuesday** **Mardi Gras**—This Tuesday, February 17, we will celebrate this year's Mardi Gras. The evening will begin at 6:00 pm. In preparing for this celebration we are going to ask that you bring something. Since Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday" is all about "junk food" we will need lots of

that. This year I am going to ask that if your last name begins with letters: **A – M** could you bring one of your **delicious desserts**. If your last name begins with: **N – Z** bring a **salad**. If you are able, and choose to do so, you can bring a case of pop or water. Remember that our celebration closes with a parade leading to the burning of our old palm. Don't forget to bring in all of your old palm branches from last year so that we can burn them. The ashes from the palms will be used the next day on Ash Wednesday.

### **CDA NEWS:**

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court #776 will meet next Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Epiphany Main Church Hall after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All Women of the parish are welcome to attend and learn about the purpose of the organization. For additional information contact Regent Pat Godla at 724-684-7235.

### **CATHOLIC BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN**

There will be a meeting of the CBPW on Tuesday, February 24. The subject is "How the Liturgy came about". Watch for details in next week's bulletin.

### **First Holy Communion Workshop**

The first workshop for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist will be held on Saturday, February 21, at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel Hall. All students who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist and their parents are to attend this workshop.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROSARY will be prayed the fourth Wednesday of this Month**—The Knights will pray their monthly rosary at the Knights of Columbus Council Hall on Wednesday, February 25, at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

**HOMEMADE SAUSAGE SALE** is sponsored by Epiphany Holy Name. Orders may be placed by using the order form below, placing it in an envelope marked "Sausage Order" and depositing it in the collection basket. For each sausage of your choice, **a two-pound minimum is required**. Orders may be picked up on **Tuesday, March 24 after 1 pm** and on **March 25 from 9 am—5 pm** at the Chapel Hall. Phone orders accepted by Kenny (724-929-3464), Ron (724-684-4962) or John (724-684-7323).

#### **Sausage Order (2 lb. minimum required)**

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs. Sweet Sausage @ \$4.50/lb.

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs. Hot Sausage @ \$4.50/lb.

\_\_\_\_\_ lbs. Hot, Hot Sausage @ \$4.50/lb.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline Date to Order is March 9, 2015.**