

THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

JANUARY 11, 2015—BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

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–3:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am–1:00 pm

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, January 10—Vigil
4:00 pm +Joe & Ida Dematteo by Grandson, Richard & Lucille

Sunday, January 11—Baptism of the Lord
10:30 am +Charles Vlastic by Wayne & Kathy Vlastic

Monday, January 12
8:00 am +Robert Leone by Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, January 13—St. Hilary
8:00 am +Kathleen Wood by Denise Watson

Wednesday, January 14
No Mass Today

Thursday, January 15
8:00 am +Patsy Keffel by Joan Torok and Kristy & Kaylene Chavez

Friday, January 16
8:00 am +Eleanore Vlanich by Michael Remm Family

Saturday, January 17—Vigil
4:00 pm +Chris Campana by Mary Ann & Joe Gallo

Sunday, January 18—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:30 am +Mitchell & Sop(h)?ie Semich by Children & Grandchildren

CHAPEL

Sunday, January 11—Baptism of the Lord
8:30 am +Leo Janol by Sarah & Nick

Sunday, January 18—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am +Helen Kamenicky by Beatrice & Myron Ciepley

Last Sunday collection—\$7,947.00

Solemnity of Mary collection—\$1,725.00

Tax Statements

As you prepare all of your paperwork necessary to file this year, know that you will be getting a statement from the church listing all of your contributions. We will have this mailing go out about the third week of January. If you would need a copy sooner, please give us a call and we will get one to you.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 17, 2015 and Sunday, January 18, 2015

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm	S. Stein	L. Micenko S. Beneccio B. Anders R. Croushore	B. DuBreucq B. Rizzuto
8:30 am	M.A. Gallo	J. Petritis K. Imbrescia D. Jozwiak	S. Billy B. Speicher
10:30 am	M. Sacco	J. Elias S. McCarthy P. Fantauzzi V. Saunders	M. & J. Sacco

Money Counters - Monday, January 12, 2015

V. Saunders—Finance Committee Member
W. Anders, G. Ezzo, P. Jackson

Evangelization Meeting

We are planning to have a meeting for anyone interested in Evangelization. Our Holy Father has asked that evangelization be a priority for every baptized catholic. If you have an interest or would like to know more about evangelization, the meeting will be on the 29th of January at the Chapel Hall at 6:00. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office.

Committee for 25th celebration

Next year we celebrate 25 years as a parish family. Over those years we have shared many gifts and blessings. It is fitting that we celebrate this anniversary in a “grand” way. I will have a meeting for anyone interested in helping with this on February 5th in the Chapel hall at 6:00 pm; it would be nice if all of our parish organizations be represented.

A new ministry...



Our Holy Father has called each of us to become more aware of the New

Evangelization and the many ways we can touch the people we share this world with. We already do many wonderful things throughout the year to help people who are in need, but it seems that we can do more. I am hoping to begin a new ministry called “Brown Bag Sunday.” How this will operate is that every other month we will designate a specific Sunday for a specific cause. For example one month we will help a nursing home with personal items, or a school with pencils etc. Everyone will bring in what they are able and we will distribute them to a local organization. We are trying to keep this local so, we will be offering service to people in our own community. This will not take a lot of time to put together so if anyone is interested in helping, please give me a call at the office. I will schedule a meeting towards the end of January for all who might want to be a part of this. This is just one more opportunity for all of us to be a part of this New Evangelization in sharing our faith and our goodness.

Perogie Making—We will be making perogies in the Main Church Hall beginning at 7:30 a.m. Helpers are always needed. The dates are:

January 19 & 26; February 2, 9 (not 16) 23; and March 2, 9, 16, and 23.

We are all God's Beloved

Our celebration of the Baptism of the Lord finishes off the season of Christmas and leads us into Ordinary Time. Today our readings speak about how Jesus was looked at through the eyes of the Gospel writers. It is clear that for the author of Matthew's gospel Jesus fits the identity of the "suffering servant" Isaiah speaks of in the first reading. We learn from the gospel that Jesus was the one who was commissioned by God to remind the people of God the very heart of scripture. He is God's servant with whom God is pleased and upon whom God put the divine spirit.

As we read all the versions of Jesus' baptism by John, it is clear that there was a lot of discussion about why Jesus had to be baptized in the first place. If baptism was meant to be "for the remission of sins," why should Jesus, who was sinless, be baptized at all? We clearly see that from John's baptism of Jesus there are no doubts about who is the greater between Jesus and John. This was a debate between many of the followers of John for a long time. They were not clear as to who was of greater importance. We hear from John himself what he perceives to be true; namely that Jesus is the Messiah.

In our highly secularized society and with the increasing number of people who view themselves as non-practicing Catholics, we may ask ourselves "What has become of baptism?" What is at issue here deals with meaning and relevance of what Baptism really is. One question that we all need to ask is: why would parents who not only have quit "religious practice" but have also dropped any form of faith education, want their children to be baptized? Baptism seems to be very much at odds with our modern society.

One thing that the baptism of Jesus did was define who He was. It is because Jesus knows who He is that He does what He did. We need to realize that because of our baptism we have been defined as being God's beloved as well. We are reminded today that we all need to revisit both our practice and our theology of baptism. An overemphasis on baptism as a means of purification from original sin limits our understanding of the sacrament.

There is more to baptism than simply purification. Baptism is the revelation of our true identity as children of God. We are baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." This makes a world of difference; it tells us how great our dignity and our vocation are. Imagine what our parish would be like if every member took the baptismal commission seriously? What might happen in families, in the neighborhood and its schools, in people's workplaces? What pain might be relieved, what suffering made meaningful?

Baptism identifies us as God's beloved children and our mission is to follow Jesus. The dying and rising is the "stuff" our Christian living is all about. We are living justly when we die to selfishness and rise to the needs of others. Like Jesus, we are "showing no partiality" when we die to judgments and categorizing or labeling others and rise to seeing all people as beloved children of God. Like Jesus, we do good when we forgive; we heal others when we offer kind words instead of words that tear down, or help another without being asked. Try to imagine a world where all baptized people live this way!



Mardi Gras

On February the 18th Lent begins which means our Mardi gras will be set for the 17th. I am going to have a meeting for anyone who might want to help with this year's celebration. The meeting will be on Monday the 12th of January at 6:00 pm in the Chapel Hall. Bring your ideas so that this year's celebration will be better than last year.

Epiphany Ladies News:

CAPS OF LOVE CAMPAIGN: The Epiphany Ladies, CD of A and CBPW are joining the National Council of Catholic Women to collect HARD PLASTIC CAPS. Recycling plastic caps raises money to buy wheelchairs for disabled children. So, save your caps and place them in the containers which are in the back of the Church and Chapel.

Getting "Real" About Drugs

Reality Tour (RT) is a national parent and child drug education and prevention program. For more information, 724-797-0955 or email bellevnonarearealitytour.org.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

"Pray for Life" with Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women on Thursday, January 22, at Bishop Connare Center, beginning with Rosary at 11:30 AM, Mass at Noon, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary for Life, Stations of the Cross for Life, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Litany for Life and concluding at 4:30 PM with Prayer and Benediction. All are welcome to attend and pray for all life.

Got this in a Christmas card:

Do you know what would have happened If it had been Three Wise Women Instead of Three Wise Men? They would have arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, brought practical gifts and there would be peace on earth!