

THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 30, 2015

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 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 FOR THE WEEK
MAIN CHURCH**

Saturday, August 29—Vigil

4:00 pm +Daniele Family by Gene & Janet

Sunday, August 30—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 am +Edward Monaghan by Rita Cocca

Monday, August 31

8:00 am +Joanne Matush by Laurie Beres & Phil Mikan

Tuesday, September 1

8:00 am +Robert Yannitto by M/M Mike Kozar

Wednesday, September 2

No Mass Today

Thursday, September 3—Pope St. Gregory the Great

8:00 am +Elvira Altomari by Epiphany Ladies

Friday, September 4

8:00 am +Anthony, Alex & Mary Petaccia by Lia & Children

Saturday, September 5—Vigil

4:00 pm +Trimarkie Family by Daniele Family

Sunday, September 6—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 am +Gloria Salotti Dawson & Ella & Joseph Salotti by John, Sharie, Frank & Family

CHAPEL

Sunday, August 30—22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am +Michael Lupoli & Family by Frank & Lucille Biseda

Sunday, September 6—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am +Lawrence Babinski by Mom, Dad & Family

Sunday Offerings: \$5,172.11

The **Second Collection this weekend** is the annual collection for the Catholic University in Washington DC and our Diocesan Catholic Schools collection.

Eternal Rest—Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: **LAWRENCE (LARRY) VITALE, CHARLES A. McGOVERN, ANTHONY MASCETTA and LYDIA TODD.** We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, September 5, 2015 and Sunday, September 6, 2015

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm	J. Buggy	R. Sassak A. Frolo S. Stein S. Surdyn	K. Chavez Volunteer
8:30 am	R. Godla	J. Elias L. Mandarin D. Jozwiak	B. Speicher S. Billy
10:30 am	M.A. Gallo	S. McCarthy P. Fantauzzi M. Hasch M.A. Kostolansky	B. & Q. Zboyovsky

Money Counters - Monday, August 31, 2015

R. Croushore—Finance Committee Member
J. Dudas, L. Dudas, B. Geis

Sacrament of the Sick



On Sunday October 4th at 2:00 p.m. we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick. We will have the service in the chapel. Anyone who wants to be anointed is welcome to come and share in this wonderful gift the church offers to us. If anyone would like to help with a reception afterwards, please give me a call at the office.

Pathways 2015-2016: Adult Faith Formation

Announcing the Holy Year of Mercy, Pope Francis writes: “Life itself is a pilgrimage, and [each of us] is a pilgrim traveling along the road.” Accept the invitation to choose Pathways as a step on your pilgrim journey of faith “to find the road that leads to the Father.” Each session is an opportunity to grow in faith; to awaken your mind and refresh your spirit so that you are better able to share in the mission of Jesus Christ. Our host parishes are St. Agnes Church, North Huntingdon on Tuesday evenings and St. John Baptist de La Salle Church, Delmont on Thursday evenings. Brochures and information cards are available at your parish. Financial assistance is available. For more information about the sessions or to register online, visit us at <http://goo.gl/QdAWsg> or contact The Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry, 724-552-2598, paths@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Westmoreland County Youth Commission...

Is looking for volunteers who are interested in helping youth in our community and would in some way like to make a difference in a youths life. All that is required is a few hours per month. The Commission will provide all of the training and information that you will need. Mentoring can help youth, ages 10-17 years. The supportive, healthy relationships formed between mentors and mentees are both immediate and long term and contribute to a host of benefits. If you are interested you can call 724-830-4203 or email Casey Miller at cmiller@co.westmoreland.pa.us.

Getting “Real” About Drugs

Reality Tour (RT) is a national parent and child drug education and prevention program open to all Mon Valley residents, targeting children ages 10-17. In this evening program, they learn the life and death consequences of a teen on drugs. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, go to realitytour.org. To volunteer or make a donation, call Belle Vernon Area Reality Tour Director, Celeste Trilli Palamara, at 724-797-0955 or email celestepalamara@gmail.com or bellevonarearealitytour.org

Cash Bingo!

The Donora Christian Mothers/Women’s Guild will hold a Bingo today, Sunday, August 30, at Our Lady of the Valley Church social hall. Doors open at noon, bingo will begin at 1:30, and the \$10 admission fee includes 2 4-way boards and packet of specials. Please know that all are welcome to come!



Parents—Do you have a child entering Kindergarten or the 1st Grade this coming school year? All Catholic parents promised, on the day of their child's Baptism, to raise their child in the Catholic Faith. Your child should be prepared to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist by attending formal Religious Education. If your child is entering kindergarten or the first grade and is not attending a Catholic School, please call the Faith Formation Office (724-930-8504) that we may enter his/her name to the class roster. Registration forms are available on the parish webpage: www.eolparish.weebly.com, or in the Church and Chapel.

Attention Parents: Religious Education Classes

Begin September 21. Faith Formation classes for Public School children in *Kindergarten thru Grade 8* will begin on Monday, September 21 from 6:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Registration forms are available on our parish web page and in the church and chapel.

Special Note: Your child's registration form must be turned in prior to September 21. Your child cannot attend class unless his/her registration form is on file.

Festival Sponsors

Once again this year we are grateful to all of our sponsors for this year's festival. I am pleased to list those sponsors who gave so generously for this year's festival. It would be a nice gesture if we do all that we can to patronize these businesses in our community.

PLATINUM: \$400.00 and ABOVE

Dr. Martin Dudas; El Grande Industries;

GOLD: \$250.00 - \$399

St. Vincent DePaul; Bart's Tire & Auto Service;
Knights of Columbus;

SILVER: \$100.00 - \$249.00

Naccarato Auto Parts; Eastgate Exxon;
Hallsworth House; Hill Top Bus Line;
Ted Harhai; Valley 1st Community F.C.U.;
Richard R. Victoria (Attorney);
Michael E. Mermingas, DDS;
Ukrainian Literary & Beneficial Assn.;
Daltonso – Billick Funeral Home INC;
La Eda's; Epiphany Ladies;
Roberts Auto Body; First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assn.;
Robert A. Billick Funeral Home;
Highway Appliance; Douglas Education Center;
Frank M. Godla Mechanical Inc.;
Joseph's Nursery & Garden Center, LLC;
Grandview Cemetery Assn.;

BRONZE \$50.00 - \$99.00

Monessen Aerie 2399 FOEI;
Italian Society of Mutual Aid;
Janet Daniele (Berkshire Hathaway);
Franks Service Garage INC; For Your Health, LLC;
Holy Name Society; Italian Heritage SOC/MNSN;
CD of A; Joe Daltonso; Monessen Lions Club;
Libby's Dairy Bar; Dzimiera Flour Company.

The Letter of the Law!

No matter where we look, our actions and attitudes are dictated by law. At a very early age in life we learn what we can and cannot do. Our families lay down the foundations of behavior based on laws that need to be followed. As we grow and move beyond the boundaries of our own homes we step into a world that has its own set of rules. Hopefully what we learn at home will coincide with what is expected from us in society, but this is not always the case. Faith and religion bring yet another dimension of rules and laws and one can only hope that all of the laws will come together.



Laws can be funny things. They may dictate behavior but they do not necessarily help to form our hearts. In order for that to happen, we need to make laws something more than just a roadmap on behavior. The laws which we follow need to become a part of who and what we are in life. This is what Jesus is reminding us of in our Gospel today. Jesus calls us to look deep inside of ourselves and determine just what it means to honor God.

In the first reading Moses reminds the people of Israel that they must follow the law of God without any deviations. They are not permitted to add anything to it or take anything away from it. In the Gospel Jesus is confronted by the Jewish leaders who specify religious purity in largely external terms. Jesus quickly points out that it is not external behaviors that define religious fidelity, but the internal dispositions of heart from which behavior flows. This is a vital lesson in life. Sometimes we need to live more out of our hearts and just merely following the precepts or teachings of law. Ultimately purity before God flows from a heart turned to God. We cannot afford only to pay lip service to God.

Jesus puts an emphasis not on external prescriptions of the law, but on interior dispositions and on virtues like justice, mercy, and forgiveness. Jesus teaches that it is necessary to get to the heart of the matter. His emphasis on "the heart," the very core of the human being, teaches that observance of the law is much more than attention to its external demands. It is much easier to clean the pots and pans than to clean one's heart. We need to figure out what traditions we blindly cling to. Perhaps it is enough for us just to go to Mass on Sunday; after all, this is what most of us grew up doing; this is what makes us Catholics. Or perhaps we cling to rote prayers that we learned as a child rather than stretch our relationship with God to find new prayer expressions. Perhaps we relegate God in our lives to only an hour on Sunday.

The Pharisees were so concerned with following the law that they did not allow the law to penetrate their hearts so that they would be more merciful and forgiving of others. Faithful observance of the law demands that the law be internalized, a fact which they neglected and sorry to say so do we sometimes in life.