

THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 13, 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, December 12—Vigil
4:00 pm +Nazareth & Susan Victoria by Jim & Carol Sepesky Family

Sunday, December 13—Third Sunday of Advent
10:30 am +Joseph Mancini by Wife Adina & Family

Monday, December 14—St. John of the Cross
8:00 am +In Honor of St. Lucy

Tuesday, December 15
8:00 am +Evelyn Kowell by Woody & Cathy Carroto

Wednesday, December 16
No Mass Today
7:00 pm Advent Penance Service
St. John Baptist, Perryopolis

Thursday, December 17
8:00 am +Marie Valente by Family
7:00 pm Advent Penance Service
Church of St. Anne, Rostraver

Friday, December 18
8:00 am +Pete Minniti by Judi & Lou Gigliotti

Saturday, December 19—Vigil
4:00 pm +John & Ann Ciepley by Daughters, Jackie, Andrea & Son, Myron

Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:30 am +Charles Sungala by Wife, Children & Grandchildren

CHAPEL

Sunday, December 13—Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 am +Mary Diamante by Kelly Sepesky

Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 am +James & Mary Zimmaro by Ken & Linda

Last Sundays Offerings—\$8,857.00

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will pray their monthly Rosary this Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Knights Council Hall. Light refreshments will follow. All are invited to come and pray.

Ministry Schedule

Sat., December 19, and Sun., December 20, 2015

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic Min.</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm	S. Surdyn	R. Kozar L. Micenko L. & J. Dudas	A. & A. Mauro
8:30 am	J. Petritis	K. Imbrescia B. Hughes, Jr. K. Zimmaro	Q. & B. Zboyovsky
10:30 am	J. Olup	W. White T. Mazzei P. Fantauzzi M.A. Kostolansky	K. & S. DeCurtis

Money Counters - Monday, December 14, 2015

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

Christmas Mass Schedule

The schedule for Masses on Christmas will be 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass and 10:00 am on Christmas day (at the Chapel). Please make a note that there will be only one Mass on Christmas Day.



Epiphany of Our Lord celebrates 25 Years!

Our Holy Father has designated this coming year as a year of Mercy, and what better time to celebrate our Silver Jubilee. It is hard to believe that 25 years has gone by since the inception of our parish. Through those years we have seen many hard times, but through it all we as a parish have remained a solid and unified parish family.

There are so many people over the years who have given so very much of their time and talent to help create the Parish Family we celebrate. You will be getting a letter after Christmas with an outline of the many celebrations we will be having throughout the year. I do hope that you will be able to make this joyous occasion a priority in your scheduling.

Our kick off for the years celebrations will be on the Feast of the Epiphany which is January third this year. The 10:30 a.m. Mass will be the kick off for the year and we will have a reception after Mass. Mark your calendars for January 3rd so that you can come and begin with your Parish Family a year of celebrations!



Our Holy Father has declared the coming Church Year as a year of Mercy. Throughout this year we will reflect on the many ways that God's mercy is a part of our lives. During this advent

season we focus on the Mercy of God we share through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below are listed the dates and times for our Regional Penance Services. All services begin at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16, St. John, Perryopolis
Thursday, December 17, St. Anne, Rostraver
Tuesday, December 22, St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon

There is no penance service scheduled for our parish. For some reason we do not get people to come out to the services we have here at Epiphany. During Advent I will hear confessions after the 8:00 daily mass and also on Thursday mornings at 11:00 as well as on Saturday mornings at 11. I hope that you will be able to fit one of these times into your schedule and share in the Mercy of God during this season of waiting.

Gaudete...Rejoice!

This week we celebrate the Third Sunday of the Advent Season which is traditionally referred to as *Gaudete* or “let us rejoice” Sunday. Our readings speak to us of life as it was meant to be lived, rejoicing! In the first reading the prophet Zephaniah is speaking to a liberated people who were living with many freedoms. After years of being persecuted and enslaved, the people had many things to rejoice about. He told the people that God has forgiven them and their future is one of bright promise and peace. Zephaniah indicated that the “Divine presence” is in their midst, reminding that people that there was no room for pride and arrogance.

St. Paul also speaks of such joy that can be found in the peace of Christ. The kind of joy that he speaks of can lead us to be unselfish, to overcome anxiety and to live with a peace that only God can give. He speaks of a peace that can bring “well-being” and be “life giving.” It is no wonder that in the midst of this season of preparation that we stop and rejoice in the Lord’s peace.

This week we are all called to live lives of peace and justice. The crowds of people asked John “what should we do?” We need to ask ourselves that same question. What should we do to bring about that peace and sense of rejoicing that our liturgy speaks of today? If we listen to what we are being reminded of today, we are told that God changes not only our minds but also our hearts. If we find the love of God, no matter what is going on around us, we can rejoice. If we have that deep faith and trust in God we can rejoice and we are not afraid in life.

Our faith calls us to be in relationship with one another. It calls us to break out of ourselves and live for others. During these weeks before Christmas it is easy for us to see the needs of others. During this season, people do tend to be very generous. But, once Christmas is over, we fall back into our routines of living and become blind to the wants and needs of others. If we are to take seriously the justice that Jesus calls us to live, we need to make an effort to become more aware of others.

John the Baptist is telling us basically to live our lives being honest with who we are and what we have. Listen to the needs of others and help whenever we are able. There are so many ways that we can live out of Jesus’ justice. If we rejoice in what we have and who we are in the way that we are asked to, we can’t help but be people of peace; it is easy.

This week look at what you have in life, and open yourself to sharing whatever you have with the less fortunate. Do not exploit people. Do not threaten people you are supposed to protect. Work to overcome the multiple injustices of our society. Do not abuse the position of authority which you might have. Advent is a time of conversion, as good a time as any to reflect on our lives and the ways in which we translate our faith into action. People need to know us by our actions and not by our pious assertions. When we know God, we will Rejoice!

**Angel Tree**

I am very proud of our parish for the support that was shown with the Angel Tree project this year. The generosity that you have shown will certainly touch the lives of many people in our community. Because of your goodness, Christmas will be just a little “brighter” for many children. I am grateful

to all of you who participated and I thank you all in the name of our parish.

ATTENTION ALL MINISTERS

The Winter/Spring schedule for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers is being prepared. Please call the Parish Office with your preferences or contact Darleen Koury (dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org) if you will not be available from January 1 thru April 30. The schedule for Christmas, Easter, and Holydays will be announced in the bulletin.

Eternal Rest—Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: **CHARLES DALFONSO** and **JOSEPH RIBOVICH**. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.



LESSONS & CAROLS
Today, Sunday, December 13
6:30 p.m.

St. Sebastian Church

Choir members from several local churches will celebrate Advent with a program of Lessons (Readings) and Carols. Members of the Epiphany of Our Lord choir will be participating in this yearly presentation. All are most cordially invited to attend.

Catholic Calendars for 2016!

There are still some calendars available for 2016. Once again through the generosity of very generous sponsors we are able to provide these calendars. I encourage you to patronize these sponsors to show our appreciation. We thank the following for their generosity: Janosik’s Pharmacy, Dalfonso – Billick Funeral Home, Franks Service Garage, INC, James A Billick Funeral Home. We are grateful for your sponsoring this year’s calendars, Thank You!

Pierogi's for the Holidays are on sale at the church office while supplies last. Bags of two dozen for \$14.00.