

# THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST  
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—FEBRUARY 7, 2016**

**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–3:30 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 SCHEDULE

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## MAIN CHURCH

### Saturday, February 6—Vigil

4:00 pm +William Marino by Family

### Sunday, February 7—5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 am +David J. Bergstedt by John Kerekes

### Monday, February 8—St. Jerome Emiliani/St. Josephine Bakhita

8:00 am +Nora Lancaster by Nate & Susan Campus

### Tuesday, February 9

8:00 am +Mildred Tunney by Family

### Ash Wednesday, February 10

8:00 am +Josephine Kuzma by Joe Sabol  
12:00 pm +William Bielawski by Wife, Ruth & Sons  
6:00 pm Distribution of Ashes

### Thursday, February 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00 am +Alex Tretter by Laura & Jason Sulla

### Friday, February 12

8:00 am +John J. Molinatto by Steve & Sylvia Beck  
6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

### Saturday, February 13—Vigil

4:00 pm +Louis Greco by Dave, Lois, & Jill Bodnar

### Sunday, February 14—First Sunday of Lent

10:30 am +John & Sophia Bialous by Son, Jan

## CHAPEL

### Sunday, February 7—5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am +Louis Marcozzi by Ron & Mickey Campana

### Sunday, February 14—First Sunday of Lent

8:30 am +Mary & James Zimmaro by Ken & Linda

*Sunday offerings—\$8,437.96*

## Ministry Schedule

### Saturday, February 13, 2016 and Sunday, February 14, 2016

Time	Lector	Eucharistic	Altar Servers
4:00 pm	M.K. Sersen	A. Frolo R. Kozar S. Beneccio R. Croushore	B. Rizzuto K. Chavez
8:30 am	G. Pesi	J. Elias K. Zimmaro J. Petritis	Q. & B. Zboyovsky
10:30 am	M. Sacco	T. Mazzei M.A. Kostolansky P. Fantauzzi S. McCarthy	M. & J. Sacco

### Money Counters - Monday, February 8, 2016

P. Pettko—Finance Committee Member  
R. Aguilar, R. Sowko, H. Veschio

## Ash Wednesday

Just as a reminder we will have Mass at 8:00 AM and 12:00 Noon with the distribution of ashes. Also there will be a communion service with the distribution of ashes at 6:00 PM.



Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday

## 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.**

## Heifer Project

This year we will be using the Heifer International as our Lenten sacrificial offering. Heifer International is a non-profit, humanitarian organization dedicated to ending world hunger and caring for the earth by providing livestock, trees, training and other resources to help struggling families around the globe. Animals from Heifer provide milk, eggs, wool, draft power and other benefits that can mean improved nutrition, higher income, education for children, health care and improved housing – literally, a new way of life.

As we have done in the past years, our target is to purchase a whole Ark of animals that will help promote self reliance to as many as 30 families around the world.

We have six weeks to fill up our Ark. You may put your contributions in an envelope marked for Heifer. This is a wonderful way to help your children learn about good Stewardship and in the process it is helping so many needy people. Each week I will let you know which animals boarded the Ark!

## Brown Bag Sunday

Next week we will have the opportunity to help Catholic Charities in providing much needed items for infants. They are in need of diapers sizes 4, 5 and 6 and newborn to 6 months. Any articles of clothing for sizes newborn to 24 months are needed. The clothing can be gently used. They can also use baby wipes, bottles, bibs and baby blankets.

If you are able to donate any of these items you can bring them to church next week. The CD of A will see to the distribution through Catholic Charities.

## Saying Yes to God...

Sometimes we look at our faith and wonder how we ever got the notions that we have. For example, it has always been said that Catholics are notorious for their feelings of “guilt.” I can understand where guilt comes from but I can also see that notion found in many other faiths and religions. I don’t think that we have the market on guilt. This week our liturgy deals with another one of those “myths” that has always been a part of faith and belief in God namely, believing that we are not worthy of God’s love or care. Often we use this feeling of being unworthy as an excuse for not following the call God may be giving us. In all three of our readings for this week we are given an example of how this “unworthiness” ultimately worked out to God’s advantage. Isaiah in the first reading cries out: “Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips...” St. Paul in the second reading professes to be “...the least of the apostles...because I persecuted the church of God” and then St. Peter tells Jesus: “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” As we can see, weakness and fear do not have the last word, for each of these men reconcile themselves to God and do what is asked of them.

What is it that makes us feel so insignificant that we focus on our weaknesses? It becomes our task to look beyond our fears and embrace the power that God has entrusted to us. In both the first reading and the gospel it is clear that while God is present to us and calls us, our freedom is respected. We are always given a choice about answering God’s call. Just like Isaiah, we often feel afraid and unworthy to answer God’s call. But as we see today it is always the unworthy ones that are accepted by Jesus. We are all called, each one of us by name to answer the mission Jesus wants us to do. We all need to decide for ourselves what it is about us that keep us from saying yes.

Fear is a factor that cannot be denied; we are all afraid of many things. Fear is part of being human and comes in all sizes and shapes. We are afraid of things coming back from our past to haunt us. Fear of letting our failings known to anyone but God. Fear of the future. Fear of putting our fear up front so others can see it. Too often in life we live out of our fears and we never venture forward.

We are just like Peter, Isaiah and Paul! We can allow ourselves to become paralyzed by our own shortcomings and fears that we choose not to say yes to God’s call. Too often we might feel the burdens of life are solely on our own shoulders leaving us feel totally alone. The gift which the gospel brings to us today is that we are never alone when we hear and follow God’s call. Divine always abides within us and enables us both to answer the call and remain faithful to it. God meets us where we are in life. Our sinfulness should never be a stumbling block to follow God’s call. God is forever giving us the choice to say yes. God will always initiate the call; it is up to us to say yes!



### HOLY NAME SUNDAY

Next Sunday, February 14, is Holy Name Sunday. Corporate Communion will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass at the chapel. The regular monthly meeting will follow the Mass in the Chapel Social Hall. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

### Next Week Pierogi Making Resumes

Pierogi making for the Lenten fish fries is on the following Mondays: 2/15, 2/22, 2/29 and (3/7 & 3/14 - if needed). We start at 7:30 am, but you can come at any time. All are welcome.

### DLA—Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Later this week you should receive in the mail information about this year's Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Along with this mailing you will have a pledge card with your information on it. Bishop Malesic has recognized this year's campaign as a “Mission of Mercy.” There will be more information about this year's DLA in the Catholic Accent as well as in our parish bulletin. If you have any questions about DLA for this year, please know that you can ask me. Remember that our parish goal is \$41,512. Everything that we raise above that goal stays completely in our parish.

### Mardi Gras

This week on “Fat Tuesday” we will celebrate our Mardi Gras. This year we are asking that if your last name begins with letters: **N – Z could you bring one of your delicious desserts.** **If your last name begins with: A – M bring a salad.** As part of the evening's celebration you can also **B.Y.O.B.** If you could donate a case of Pop or water it would be appreciated. Remember to bring in your old Palms from previous years... we will burn them in preparation for Ash Wednesday. Hope you are able to make it to this celebration, and come in your most festive attire

### Epiphany Ladies

The Epiphany Ladies will have their monthly meeting next Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 liturgy. All women of the parish are invited to come. We will meet in the Church Hall.

### Bible Study

We are planning to start a Bible Study program here at our parish. We are going to have a meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> after the 10:30 liturgy in the Church Hall. At this informational meeting we will explain the benefits of Bible study, introduce people to an easy way to read and understand the Bible and encourage people to register for the “*Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*” study at our parish.