

THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD - JANUARY 3, 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

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, January 2—Vigil

4:00 pm +Walter & Stella Anders by Sons

Sunday, January 3—Epiphany of Our Lord

10:30 am +William Kyle by Pauline Kosko

Monday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 am +Anthony Crisi by Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, January 5—St. John Neumann

8:00 am +Walter Bianchi by Toni & Gregg Bucci

Wednesday, January 6—St. André Bessette

No Mass Today

Thursday, January 7—St. Raymond of Penyafort

8:00 am +Eleanor Snyder by M/M Louis Falbo

Friday, January 8

8:00 a m +John Catanzaro by Mary Aloisi

Saturday, January 9—Vigil

4:00 pm +Leo Janol by Wife, Sophia

Sunday, —January 10—The Baptism of the Lord

10:30 am +Robert Brovey by Wife & Family

CHAPEL

Sunday, January 3—Epiphany of Our Lord

8:30 am +Joseph Barch by Sophie Latta

Sunday, January 10—The Baptism of the Lord

8:30 am +John Yurkovich by Aunt Lil Taylor

Due to the early transmission of this bulletin, the Christmas & New Years collection and last Sundays offerings will be in a future bulletin.

Ministry Schedule

Sat., January 9 and Sun., January 10, 2016

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic Min.</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm	F. Petrosky	L. Henry J. & L. Dudas S. Surdyn	B. & B. DuBreucq
8:30 am	M.A. Gallo	L. DeFelices. K. Imbrescia K. Zimmaro	D. DeFelices M. Blatnik
10:30 am	V. Saunders	R. Sassak W. White T. Mazzei M.A. Kostolansky	S. & K. DeCurtis

Money Counters - Monday, January 4, 2016

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

***Epiphany of Our Lord
Church's 25th
Anniversary Kick Off***

The Epiphany of Our Lord Church's 25th anniversary kick off celebration will begin this weekend at the 10:30 liturgy. The children will be there to enrich the celebration. A reception in the church hall will follow. Hostess' for this event will be the Epiphany Ladies.

Help get the 25th year at Epiphany off to a joyous start!

HOLY NAME SUNDAY

Next Sunday, January 10, 2016 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.

Holy Name Society members are reminded that their Dues for **2016** should be paid at this time. **Please place your (Blue) envelope in the regular church collection.**

THANK YOU, HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEMBERS

Once again, for the 24th year in a row, may we take this opportunity to thank the men of the Holy Name Society for their kind expression of faith and good fellowship in distributing fruit baskets to the shut-ins of our parish during the Christmas holiday season. This year 50 baskets of fruit were delivered throughout the Mon-Valley. Taking part in the purchasing, route setting and deliveries were the following Holy Name members:

John Perozzi	Ken Zimmaro
Joe Gallo	Ron Croushore
Dave Mandarino	Robert Gilotty
Walter Anders	Bernard Anders
Bill Hughes	

TAX STATEMENTS

Since we are beginning a new year, it is time to start thinking about those dreaded "Taxes". 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.

“...but upon you the Lord shines.”

Each of the readings for this celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord echoes both the joy and gratitude that arise when God’s light appears in the midst of human cares. Isaiah in the first reading speaks of a people reflecting the joy and enthusiasm of the return to Jerusalem and Judah after some seventy years of exile to Babylon. Epiphany is from a Greek word which means “manifestation.” This reading is filled with references to light, splendor, radiance and glory. God is Light, not only for His own people but also for all nations. The Epiphany is about the universality of salvation, as exemplified by the pilgrim journey of the magi as told in the gospel. Isaiah speaks to us about the joy that can be found when we are able to recognize the light that God brings to the problems of life.

St. Paul in the second reading addresses a community of people who were distraught over many challenges that confronted them in life. They were exposed to many different religious cultures and “mystery cults.” It was difficult to stay true to the message of Jesus. Paul gives us a clear statement on the church and its mission. He looked at the Gentiles as being on equal footing with believers coming from Jewish backgrounds, and did not have any problem viewing them as “co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise of Christ Jesus through the gospel.” Like Isaiah, Paul gives us a strong example of the universality of salvation.

The gospel presents us with the all too familiar story of the Three Kings or the Magi. For centuries now people have been fascinated with the story of the Magi. Eastern Rite and Orthodox churches celebrate the Epiphany, rather than Christmas as the time of gift-giving in imitation of the Magi bringing gifts to Jesus. The star, along with the manger, has been the most popular image on Christmas cards. Ultimately this feast points to the wonder of God’s plan for all people. It deals with life and all of the divisions we are faced with in our world, as well as in our hearts.

Like Isaiah, it is light that guides the Magi to the Christ child, bringing them into the presence of God. These Magi are not ordinary men. The Greek word “magi” refers to a priestly cast known for their wisdom and ability to interpret dreams and decipher astrological phenomena. The gifts that they brought; gold for a king, frankincense which is a symbol of prayer rising to God and myrrh, a symbol of one who will die, suggests that these men have received a special revelation or epiphany from God as to who the child Jesus was. The Magi’s journey symbolizes for us our own human experience, our journeys both physical and spiritual. In celebrating this feast today we all give witness to a universal truth based on the experience of all people and their quest to find God. Their journey reflects our own lives, our own stories, our own gifts which we bring to God.

Salvation is meant for all, if we are willing to follow God’s signs of the gift. Although we may not abandon everything in life just to follow a star, the story helps us to recognize that in our daily living God does lead us. We just have to have the faith and insight to recognize that guiding light. If we walk by faith following our own stars in life who knows what might be at the end of our journey.



YOU’RE INVITED TO COME AND HELP!!

Pierogi making for the Lenten fish fries will start on Monday 1/18/16 and continue on Mondays 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 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.

Grateful for a Grant...

We have been awarded a Grant from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association in the amount of \$9,000.00! We applied for the grant to redo the lighting in the parking lot up at the Chapel. We are grateful to FCSLA for not only this grant but also for the many ways that they have helped and supported our parish in the past.



MARDI GRAS...

It is hard to believe, but in a little over a month we will be starting the Lenten Season. Ash Wednesday is on February 10th. As we look towards Lent, we will celebrate a Mardi Gras on Tuesday evening February 9th. We will start the evening at 6:30. Along with food and lots of “Sweets,” there will be crafts for the children and much fun for all. The evening will conclude with a Mardi Gras Parade where we will burn the palm branches from last year and use the ashes for distribution on Ash Wednesday.

I hope that you mark your calendars and try to come and be a part of the celebration this year. We will have a meeting for everyone who is interested in helping plan this year’s celebration on **Tuesday January 6th at 6:30 in the Chapel Hall**. Know that everyone is welcome to come and help! We will need help with the decorations as well as the activities for the children.

In the meantime...start collecting all of the old palm branches you have at home and bring them to the church, there will be a box at the entrance, just drop them off.