

# THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord

ROMAN  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST  
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—MAY 10, 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](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 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, May 9—Vigil**

4:00 pm +Living & Deceased Mothers

**Sunday, May 10—Sixth Sunday of Easter**

10:30 am +Living & Deceased Mothers

**Monday, May 11**

8:00 am +Stacy Maione by Art & Harriet  
Buccigrossi

**Tuesday, May 12—Ss. Nereus and Achilleus**

8:00 am +Eugene A. Cipriani by Wife & Children

**Wednesday, May 13—Our Lady of Fatima**

No Mass Today

**Thursday, May 14—Ascension of the Lord**

8:00 am +Chad Fertall by Family  
12:00 pm +Leonard Sassak by Rose & Barto Ferrara

**Friday, May 15**

8:00 am +Mary & Ted Monaghan by Family

**Saturday, May 16—Vigil**

4:00 pm +Jesse Balogh by Brother, John Zawicki

**Sunday, May 17—Seventh Sunday of Easter**

8:30 am +Jennie & Anthony Caruso by Antoinette  
Caruso  
10:30 am +Raymond Coccioline by Knights of  
Columbus

**CHAPEL**

**Sunday, May 10—Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:30 am +Living & Deceased Mothers

**Sunday's Offerings: \$6,468.00**

**Second Collection** next Sunday is the annual  
Communication Media collection.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers on the altar this weekend are in memory of  
JAMES ALTOMARI donated by Nick Francia and family.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, May 16, 2015 and Sunday, May 17, 2015

<u>Time</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
4:00 pm	J. Buggy	L. Henry A. Frolo S. Stein S. Beneccio	B. & B. DuBreucq
8:30 am	B. Hughes, JR.	J. Petritis K. Zimmaro D. Jozwiak	M. & M. Blatnik
10:30 am	M. Sacco	R. Sassak M.A. Kostolansky M. Gigliotti W. White	M. & J. Sacco

Money Counters - Monday, May 11, 2015

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

**ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**

**Thursday, May 14**

On Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. This is a holy day of obligation. We will have a Mass on Thursday morning at 8:00 and at 12-Noon.

The Church of St. Anne has Mass at 8:00 am & 7:00 pm  
St. Sebastian has Mass at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13  
and at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 14.

**Brown Bag Sunday**



Our next Brown Bag Sunday will be on the weekend of June 20 – 21. We have designated this weekend to be dedicated to helping the people living in group homes here in Monessen. It has been suggested that they will be able to use gift cards. If you have any gift cards for restaurants or Wal-Mart, they will be able to put them to good use. This gives us another opportunity to help people in our community with our generosity.

Holy Name Society

Mothers and Fathers Day Breakfast

The Holy Name Society will sponsor a combined Mothers and Fathers Day Breakfast next Sunday, May 17, 2015 after the 8:30 am Mass **which will be at the Main Church**. Following the breakfast, the Man of the year award will take place, also the Senior Boy of the year award. The breakfast this year will be **Free** at no cost to those who attend.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION MASS**

The 2015 graduation Mass will be held on Sunday, May 31, during the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy in the Main Church.

**SUPER SENIOR CELEBRATION**

Last Sunday we gathered with our Super Seniors (those 90 years old and above.) We had a wonderful celebration and it was so nice to see so many people get reacquainted. I am grateful to the Epiphany Ladies for the efforts they shared for this celebration, it was a wonderful time for all of those who came.

**A Grateful Anniversary Celebration!**

Last Week I celebrated my 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the Priesthood. In looking back over all of those years, the most monumental memories come from the people I served with. I find it overwhelming how good and wonderful people are. We are all called to serve one another by virtue of our Baptism; however my priesthood has enabled me to share in a special way this call from God.

I am touched by the generosity of the people making up our Parish Family. I am grateful and sincerely thank everyone who sent cards and offered prayers. Although it was my anniversary, I truly believe that it was a celebration shared by so many wonderful people, Thank You!

**Eternal Rest**—Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently: **MARY JO GARBART and JOHN A. ZUPAN**. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

## Love, Friendship and a new Law

When we think of the Commandments that God has asked us to live by, we usually think of them in terms of telling us what we are not supposed to do. Things such as you shall not kill, lie or cheat represent our traditional thoughts of God's commands. Today we are presented with a more positive look at God's commands; we are told simply to love. Could there be any easier way to live our lives, and yet this can be the hardest of all the commands to make a part of our life. Love in the Gospel sense is a double edged sword; God's love for us is both free and costly. It is free in that God chose us as we hear from the First letter of John; it is costly in that being loved requires us to love one another as we have been loved.

When Jesus refers to love it is in a different sense than what the Hebrew Scriptures means when it speaks of love. In the Old Testament "love" is a standard terminology used to describe the loyalty that partners in a covenant owe one another. In turn, love/ loyalty is measured by the lesser partner in the covenant obeying the commands of the greater partner; in other words, to love is to be loyal, and to be loyal is to obey.

Jesus moves way beyond this original concept of love. Jesus tells the disciples "I have called you friends." This love of friendship is different from the Old Testament notion of covenant love. Jesus goes so far as even to describe what He means by friendship. Friends do not keep secrets: "I have told you everything I have heard from God." Friends share the same values; what is important to one is important to the other: "keep my commandments." Friends sacrifice for one another; they "lay down one's life for one's friend." Friendship with Jesus is essentially directed towards others, embracing even those who are radically unlike us – as we are told in the first reading. And so, Jesus joins love with friendship in giving us a new law by which we are to live our lives.

Life would be so much easier if everyone would listen to this law and embrace it as a way of living. It is disheartening when we hear stories of parents and children, brothers and sisters, former good friends estranged and in some cases, literally hating each other. This is not how it is supposed to be! Jesus does call us friends and we may be friends with Jesus, but how often and how much we can't stand those other friends of Jesus!

So then, what does this new command of love ask of those who profess to believe? Quite simply put we are being called upon to go out of our way for others, acting for their good and well being, coming to their aid when they need help, even at our own personal expense. A lot has to happen to our world and to ourselves before this kind of love can be experienced and we can all become friends and love as Jesus loved. Discipleship means loving when loving is difficult and there are barriers to be overcome. This week think of what barriers you have to overcome in your life and in your relationships with one another, and then through the grace and love of God, do whatever you are able, to love as we are asked.

### Cash Bash Extravaganza

Last Saturday evening we celebrated our annual Cash Bash Extravaganza. It was a wonderful evening and all that attended shared a lot of laughter and good times. I would like to thank the people who worked so hard to make this happen for our parish.

Without the help of: Tim Billick, Wayne Vlastic, Doreen Smith, Shirley Vaccaro, Rosalie Nicksich and Don Hayes the evening would not have happened. I am grateful to all of you for your efforts and all of the many people who helped during the evening. As I said, a good time was had by all! I am looking forward to next year's celebration.



### St. Sebastian Travel Group

On August 27 & 28 we will travel to Lancaster PA to see "Joseph" at the Sight & Sound Theatre. This overnight stay will also include a visit to the American Music Theatre to see the show "Inspire." Sign-up deadline is extended to June 15. Flyers can be found in the back of the church/chapel. For more information, call Sandy Wawro at 724-938-0865.

**Epiphany Ladies** will meet this Tuesday, May 12, at 7:00 pm in the main church hall.

### Diocesan Lenten Appeal

There are only two more weeks for this year's Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Maybe the goal that was set for our parish was a little ambitious. We have only achieved 70% of our parish goal thus far. I believe that there will be one more reminder sent this week to those who have not responded. For all that have contributed to this year's campaign, I am grateful for your generosity. If you have not yet responded, won't you consider doing so? If there are any questions or concerns that you might have over this campaign, please feel free to give me a call at the office.

### FCSL Scholarship Awards!

The following students are recipients of the 2015 scholarship program of First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association being members of Sr. Branch 88 and Jr. Branch 157 in Monessen. Chelsey R. Billick- College Senior, Mia Nicole Mahalko - College Freshman, Brooke N. Martin - College Freshman, Katic Moscalink - College Freshman and Ella Machusko-St. Sebastian Grade 4. We congratulate these winners and wish them only the very best in their future!

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S COLLEGE CLUB**—If you are a practicing Catholic woman with a college degree, Catholic Women's College Club invites you to become a member and join them in reaching out to touch others through charitable acts. If interested, please call 724-684-3542 for an application.