

# St Sebastian Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

801 Broad Avenue · Belle Vernon, PA 15012

June 13, 2021

## Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:30 PM	Tuesday, 8:00 AM
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Friday, 8:00 AM

## Parish Staff

**Rev. Michael J. Crookston Pastor**  
[mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Daniel F. Lisovich Business Manager**  
[dlisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dlisovich@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Scott J. Martin Director of Faith Formation**  
[smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mr. Dean Dellamalva Coordinator of Liturgical Music**  
[ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ddellamalva@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Linda Drury Parish Secretary**  
[ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:ldrury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Darleen Koury Bulletin/Faith Formation Secretary**  
[dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dkoury@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

## Religious Education/Formation

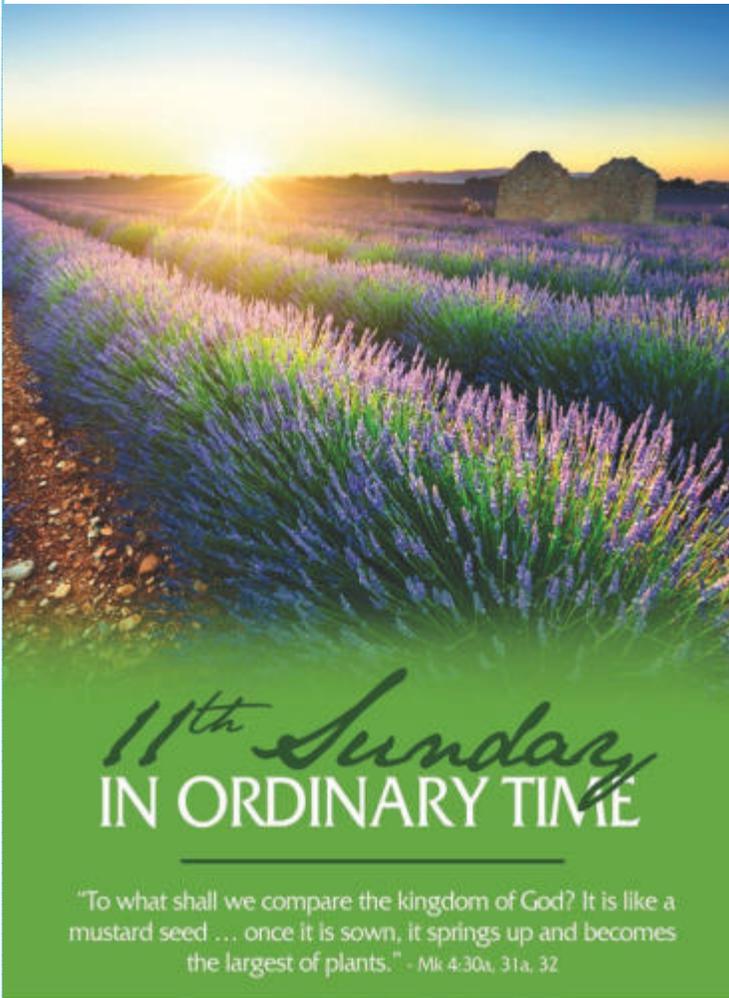
Please call the Faith Formation Office, 724-929-9300.

## (RCIA) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, please call the Faith Formation Office.

## Reconciliation

Confessions are on Tuesdays, at Epiphany, from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. You may also call at any time for an appointment for confession.



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School

**Mrs. Carol Aiello: Principal**  
[caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:caiello@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Mrs. Tiffany Miller: School Business Manager**  
[tmiller@sssbv.org](mailto:tmiller@sssbv.org)

**School Telephone ~ 724-929-5143**

**School Website ~ [sssbv.org](http://sssbv.org)**



**From the Pastor**  
**The Mystery of Life**



All of life is a mystery and it changes right before our very eyes every day without our being aware of it. Today we look at the Mystery of God’s presence throughout all of history and try to understand how God works. We are left with the reality that the Kingdom of God is the greatest mystery of all.

Our Liturgy of the Word starts out with God asserting his sovereignty leaving no doubt about the power God has over the earth. If we let our imagination run with the first reading, try to imagine the image of a majestic tree which brings shelter for all the birds of heaven. In a land that is arid, this image brings a sense of comfort and peace. Ezekiel is relating to the people of Israel a message of hope for restoration in this exiled nation. Ezekiel wants to impress upon the people that God will do everything that is promised.

Ezekiel’s message of God fulfilling the promise with the sheltering of majestic trees aligns itself with the parable we find in today’s gospel. It seems significant that, when Jesus wanted to speak of the great mystery of the kingdom of God, what he turned to were these same every day, taken-for-granted mysteries of growth and fruitfulness. So often, the stories Jesus tells are drawn from the world of planting, harvesting, shepherding, pruning. It is a wonder how “timeless” these parables are. As the story today of the man scattering the seed touched the minds of its first listeners, so too do we get the same message, two thousand years later. Jesus wants us to know that like the mysterious growth of new life happening without our understanding, so too is the Kingdom of God ever growing in our midst. It is the humble, almost unnoticeable beginnings resulting in fruitful harvests that get our attention. To preach the kingdom, as Jesus did, always carries with it an element of risk. Indeed, in Jesus’ own time it sounded to some – both friends and enemies – like a call to action, even a call to arms. But this constant referring to the mystery of life itself warns against such an action-oriented reading of the kingdom. Just like the prophets before him, Jesus urges his followers to trust not in their own efforts or plans, but in the mystery of God’s powerful, ever-creative love for them. The sower still has to prepare the land, and sow the seed; but the real work of new life happens in God’s secret ways, while the sower sleeps, and gets on with the rest of life.

**MONTHLY OVERVIEW**—Listed below is a breakdown of what our monthly expenses were as opposed to the amount of money taken in. We will be providing this to you on a monthly basis.

May Expenses	Amount
Maintenance	\$ 167.86
Phone	\$ 300.12
Electric	\$ 733.16
Gas	\$ 425.36
Other Utilities	\$ 201.79
Misc. Office	\$ 1,814.25
Church/Liturgy	\$ 3,385.88
Loan Payment	\$ 930.22
Payroll	\$ 23,960.24
Diocesan Expenses	\$ 14,705.95
(Breakdown)	
Accent	\$ 1,097.56
Ed. Assessment	\$ 7,017.74
Dio. Assessment	\$ 4,068.25
Insurance	\$ 2,451.15
Other	\$ 71.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 46,624.83</b>

Week	Collection
May 2	\$ 7,730.71
May 9	\$ 8,307.00
May 16	\$ 8,064.01
May 23	\$ 7,221.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 31,322.72</b>

**Consider Electronic Giving.**

**Call Dan Lisovich,  
724.929.9300.**

**Stewardship of Treasure—May 30, 2021**

Regular Offertory:	\$ 6,787.55
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$ 130.00
Votives:	\$ 330.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$ 70.00
Catholic Accent:	\$ 399.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$ 10.00
Ascension:	\$ 10.00
Catholic Communications:	\$ 20.00
<b>Total May 29/30</b>	<b>\$ 7,756.55</b>

**Stewardship of Treasure—June 6, 2021**

Regular Offertory:	\$ 6,582.00
Utilities & Maintenance:	\$ 1,220.00
Votives:	\$ 168.00
Cap. Project/Roof Fund:	\$ 313.00
Catholic Accent:	\$ 256.00
Sanctuary Flowers:	\$ 32.00
Ascension:	\$ 25.00
Catholic Communication:	\$ 30.00
<b>Total June 5/6</b>	<b>\$ 8,626.00</b>

**Grateful Thanks**

I would like to thank Terri Gardner and her committee for the wonderful job they did in preparing a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser last Sunday. With the restrictions being lifted, it was nice to have something to come out for. The food was delicious and the turn out was great! Thanks again to all who supported the Spaghetti Dinner. The event netted \$1,776 for the benefit of St. Sebastian Parish.

## RCIA – What is it?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the usual way that adults and children over the age of about 7 are brought into full communion with the Catholic Church. Although it may seem new, this practice actually dates back to the very first days of Christianity, when those who had been Jews or pagans became Christian. The idea was that those who wished to join the Christians in this new way of life would live and pray with them, and in this way learn to be one of them. This process could go on for several years, while the catechumens as they were called, gradually became familiar with the ways of praying, celebrating, and sharing with the community. Finally, after the community leaders were satisfied that they had sufficiently become familiar with this new life in Christ, they were initiated at the Easter Vigil, then for the entire Easter Season, until Pentecost, they were identified with great celebration by wearing their white baptismal garments for the entire 50 days.

The ancient way of bringing people into the community gradually gave way over the years to a more individualized model, whereby those who wished to become Catholic were given instruction by a priest or religious; and while this was fine in terms of the information they received, it really did not give the new person the sense of belonging to a community of faith. Oftentimes, those who joined the Church really didn't get to know others, and as a result, the sense of belonging to a group was lost. If you think that you might be interested in such a ministry, please give me a call in the office.

## St. Sebastian's Junque Sale

We will be collecting every Monday and Wednesday from 10-12 and 6-8 or by appointments, just follow the signs. This year we will not be accepting magazines, college books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, or clothing. We are in desperate need of volunteers to collect, sort, and price. If you are able to help, please contact Bonnie Halinka at 724-322-0355. Our Event will be held **July 29, 30, 31**.

## Previously Scheduled Masses

Some of you may have Masses scheduled on a day when Fr. Mike is not here. For those Masses to be fulfilled you have two options: We can have the Mass sent elsewhere, or you may opt to have the Mass retained in the parish and it will be said at a later date. Whether or not we will have someone later in the year is unknown at this time. Please contact the office and let us know what your preference is for the scheduled Mass. These would be Masses scheduled on Tuesdays and Fridays. We are not rescheduling Masses for this year.

## Liturgies of the Week

### June 12—Vigil

4:30 pm (Date of Birth) Edwin Popelas—Wife, Mary Alice

### June 13—Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

11:00 am Edgar & Mary Delbarre—Gloria Kuhn & Family

### Monday, June 14

No Mass Today

### Tuesday, June 15

8:00 am Mildred Koury—Family

### Wednesday, June 16

No Mass Today

### Thursday, June 17

No Mass Today

### Friday, June 18

8:00 am (Death Anniv) Gene Lancas—Kim & John Bednar

### Saturday, June 19—Vigil

4:30 pm Intention of All Fathers

### June 20—Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Intention of All Fathers

11:00 am For All the People of Saint Sebastian Parish

### Liturgical Ministers: Lectors Lit. Coordinator

Saturday, June 19 4:30 pm C. Gorski S. Wawro

Sunday, June 20 9:00 am M. Shaughnessy B. Moskovitz

11:00 am C. Rhodes C. Korber

## Sympathy and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: **Doris Fal and Melba Mitchell**. We extend our sympathy to their families. May they rest in peace.

### Readings for the week of June 13, 2021

**Sunday:** Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34

**Monday:** 2 Cor 6:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday:** 2 Cor 8:1-9/Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a [1b]/Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday:** 2 Cor 9:6-11/Ps 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 9 [1b]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 11:1-11/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 7-8 [7a]/Mt 6:7-15

**Friday:** 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [cf. 18b]/Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday:** 2 Cor 12:1-10/Ps 34:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [9a]/Mt 6:24-34

**Next Sunday:** Jb 38:1, 8-11/ Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 [1b]/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41



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