

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Friday:

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday
NO MASS

December 1, 2019

THE *Epiphany* OF OUR Lord



A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD. • MONESSEN, PA 15062

www.eolparish.com • facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord

PREPARE



“So too, you also must be
prepared, for at an hour you
do not expect, the Son of
Man will come.”

MATTHEW 24:44

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.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Michael Crookston
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Joel Boco
jboco@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Music Director: Gina Brandt
gbrandt@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Faith Formation:
Scott Martin

smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bulletin Sec.: Tara Manderino
tmanderino@dioceseofhgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Any article for the bulletin must be
in the office by Monday noon.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 30 —Vigil

4:00 PM † John B. Harhai by Wife, Dolores & Family

Sunday, December 1— First Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Saverio & Maria Gigliotti by Tom Ggliotti

10:30 AM † Reno Moncini by Wife, Rene

Monday, December 2

8:00 AM † Barto Ferrara by Wife & Children

Tuesday, December 3

8:00 AM † Irene Hlatky by The Harhai Family

Wednesday, December 4

No Mass

Thursday, December 5

8:00 AM † Roxanne Russell by Edward & Family

Friday, December 6

8:00 AM † Romeo Bucci by Rosalie Nicksich

Saturday, December 7—Vigil

4:00 PM † Deceased Members of the Dastolfo / Brandt Family by Gina & Mike Brandt

Sunday, December 8—Second Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Michael Matush by Wife, Dolores

10:30 AM † Nick, Irene & Nicholas, Jr. Mascetta by Family

Parish Office:

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD

MONESSEN, PA 15062

Parish Office: 724-684-7661 • Fax: 724-684-8981

Church Hall: 724-684-5512

Religious Education: 724-929-9300

OFFICE HOURS

Monday –Thursday: 8:30 a.m. –12; 1 p.m.– 3 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Ministry Schedule — Dec. 7 & 8

Time	Lector	Eucharistic	Altar Servers
4:00 p.m.	B. DuBreucq	J. Gigliotti S. Stein M. Gallo	B. DuBreucq B. DuBreucq
8:30 a.m.	K. Miller	S. Campus N. Campus L. DeFelices	B. Speicher N. Speicher
10:30 a.m.	P. Fantauzzi LWC- P. Alcorn	T. Mazzei W. White S. Polomoscanik	C. Blatnik A. Blatnik

Money Counters - Monday, Dec. 2—Team #1 P. Pettko

Advent: A Time to Hope

Today we begin the season of Advent which is a time of preparation and planning to once again celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Advent is full of promise and hope reminding us of our unique relationship and commitment to

God. Often in life we humans can find it very difficult to be true to our commitments. We may have the very best of intentions when making those commitments but if something better comes along we too easily let them go. This time of preparation and waiting can be full with the many trappings that Christmas is swallowed up by. We also can be swallowed by those trappings and find that Advent is nothing more than a reminder that we only have four weeks to get everything done. As the countdown begins where do our thoughts turn? Most often we lose ourselves on what we have to get done, and how we are going to “cram” everything into such a short period of time.

Our readings for this First Sunday of Advent present us with a contrast between lives lived in faithful commitment to God’s covenant and lives which have strayed from that covenant. In the first reading Jeremiah is preaching to a people in exile. Because of their lack of fidelity to God’s covenant they brought upon themselves lives of captivity and longing for their homeland. The gospel presents a similar contrast but in a context to choices that we need to make. We are reminded that we need to choose to be faithful to our covenant and promises made to God; we are to live our lives out of this constant awareness which will give us hope.

Advent is a season in which we look both backward and forward, it reflects on the rhythm of our lives. We know that we continually move into the future, yet we feel the need to look to the past to see how it has shaped our lives. Our readings today are filled with hope; they encourage us to look to our past and learn from it without allowing it to drag us down. We are given a promise of hope and new life despite our past. Hope then becomes a reason to embrace the future with confidence.

I suppose the real question we need to ask ourselves is: what do you hope for? In answering this question we need to look at hope as it is expressed throughout the scriptures as a belief that at some time what we desire now, deep down inside of us will actually happen. Hope is different from dreams, which can be momentary and forgotten. We do not build our lives on dreams; they are built on hopes. Hope gives us strength to continue even when our dreams are shattered. For many people living on this earth, hope is their only food. Advent reminds us that we remember in order to make the promises of the past come true now. The past is our teacher. The future is our hope. With hopeful faith, we continually prepare for the arrival of the Son of God.



Weekly Collection Nov. 17

Votive Candles:	243
Utility & Energy:	65
Accent	5
Advent Folder	10
Children & Adult	
Collection:	\$5,739
Total Collection:	\$6,062

Due to the bulletin deadline, the collection for Nov. 24 will be listed in next week's bulletin

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of ROSE JOSEPHINE DIGREGORIO. May God grant her eternal rest, and comfort to her family. We commend her soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stewardship

Christmas Giving Tree

For those who took a name from our giving tree, remember that your gifts need to be brought to church during the weekend of **December 14th and 15th**. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact the office. All you need to do is wrap your gift and attach the card from the tree on the package. Bring the package with the card attached and we will make sure it gets delivered.



Breakfast

Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Next Sunday, **December 15** from 10 – 12:30 we will once again celebrate Breakfast with

Santa and Mrs. Claus. The Holy Name Society will provide breakfast consisting of pancakes and sausage, juice and coffee. The cost is **\$5.00 per adult and all children will be free**. There will be treats for all the children along with a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus! I hope that you will be able to schedule this into your calendars and spend some time with us.



Accent

If you are a member of Epiphany Church, you should be receiving the Catholic Accent. If you are not, and would like to do so, please call the office, or email Tara at tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org and we'll get you on the list.

Around the Diocese

Lessons and Carols

The Belle Vernon Magisterium will hold Lessons and Carols on Friday, **December 15** at St. Sebastian Church, Belle Vernon. The event will start at **6:30 p.m.** and will feature Scripture and song.

Lessons and Carols

The annual Lessons and Carols with Bishop Edward C. Malesic and the Diocesan and Blessed

Sacrament Cathedral Choirs will be held **Friday, Dec. 6** at 7 p.m. at the cathedral. The evening features Scripture and song in preparation for Christmas. Admission is free.



Football Knight in Perryopolis Dec. 8

The Knights of Columbus Council #4427 will host Football Knight Dec. 8 from 4-8 p.m. at the **St. John the Baptist Parish** Social Center in Perryopolis. Tickets are \$12 and include a roasted chicken dinner during the Steelers-Cardinals game and a drawing for a flat screen TV at the conclusion of the game. Tickets are available before and after Mass at the parish and at the door. Dinner will be served 4-7 p.m. and takeouts are available. Evening includes gift baskets, silent auctions and a 50/50 drawing. Call 724-326-8206 for additional information.

Faith

New Liturgical Year

This First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the new liturgical year. This is the first in the three-year cycle of the church. In 2020, Cycle A, most of the gospel readings will be from Matthew.

The liturgical, or church, year determines which portions of Scripture are to be read as well as when feast days are observed. There are six seasons of the church year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter and Ordinary Time.

Faith Formation

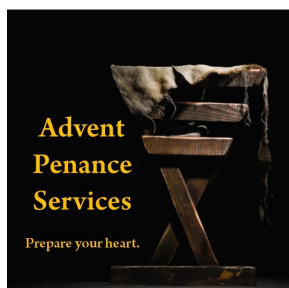
There will be no Faith Formation for Children classes on Monday, December 2. Classes will resume on Monday, December 9.

Sacrament of Anointing

On Sunday December the 8th we will celebrate the Sacrament of anointing at 2:00 p.m. in the church. This Sacrament is a powerful gift that Jesus has given to our Church to help us with the sickness and emotional stress that life brings. I hope that you will be able to come and share in this wonderful Sacrament.



Advent Penance Services



Advent is meant to be a time when we “prepare” for the Birth of Christ. One way that we traditionally get ready is by **sharing the gift of God’s forgiveness** through the sacrament of Reconciliation. The first service will be held at Epiphany. All services will start at **7:00 p.m.** The dates for the Penance Services in the area are:

December 12 – Epiphany of Our Lord

December 16 – St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon

December 17 – Church of St. Anne, Rostraver

December 18 – St. John the Baptist, Perryopolis

Groups

Holy Name Sunday is next week, December 8. Corporate Communion will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. The regular monthly meeting will follow in the Church hall. Coffee and donuts will be served.

Student Contests

Missionary Childhood Association

Christmas Artwork Contest Guidelines can be picked up in the office or found at www.eolparish.com. The contest has several categories and is open to young Catholics in grades K-8. Entries must be postmarked or received at the diocese or the MCA online form at <http://info.missio.org/2019entryform> no later than **January 31, 2020**.

Artwork must be original. Media includes crayons pastels, markers, tempera or watercolor paint. No lead or color pencils. Subjects include: The Nativity, Three Wise Men, Shepherds, Mother & Child, and more. Details are on the website.