

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



A good tree does not bear
rotten fruit, nor does a rotten
tree bear good fruit.

Luke 6:43

© JPPC

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James A. Lyons

*Pastor Emeritus - Our Lady of Charity
Weekend Assistant*

FOCUS Missionaries:

Caitlyn Sechuk

csechuk@shswedesburg.org

Thomas Horlander

thorlander@shswedesburg.org

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Sunday: 9:30 to 9:50 am

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Valerie DiFilippo

*Parish Bookkeeper/
Cemetery Manager*

Cemetery Manager

vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

Director of

Liturgical Music

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish

& Cemetery Facilities

MARCH 2, 2025
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Lenten Spiritual Practices worthy of consideration:

Daily Mass: Mass is offered Monday through Friday at 8 a.m. What a perfect way to begin your day!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Each Wednesday during Lent there will be Eucharistic Adoration from Noon until 7:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament: On the Wednesdays of Lent, beginning on **March 12th**, there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction at 7:30 p.m.

Spiritual Reading: In the back of the church are Magnificat Lenten reflection booklets. Please take one home with you.

Best Lent Ever: The Dynamic Catholic Institute has a short daily Lenten video series which has been emailed to you.

The Shroud Experience: Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. in Church.



*Lent begins on **March 5th** with the observance of Ash Wednesday. Holy Mass and the distribution of ashes will occur at 8:00 a.m.*

Liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes will take place at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed next Saturday, March 8th!

Shroud Encounter

An Unforgettable Big Screen Experience

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
120 Jefferson St. Bridgeport
Tuesday March 11 7:00 PM Free Adm

Explore the Mystery of **The Shroud of Turin**
With International Expert Russ Breault

SHROUD ENCOUNTER
ShroudEncounter.com
Shroud of Turin Education Project, Inc.



DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX

Sacred Heart Parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ in our parish community. Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

The very first step in this process involves **assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities**, and that is where the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** comes in! The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at Sacred Heart. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:

- Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.
- Help parishioners grow in their faith.

The 10 - 15 minute survey can be accessed through an online link from March 5, 2025 - April 10, 2025 and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish’s efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. For the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link, please visit: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/x72ta6>.

Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be place for others to grow together in faith.



Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.



Giving Hope
TO ALL

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG

DID YOU KNOW THAT 1 IN 5 PEOPLE ACROSS THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA AREA RELY ON THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL FOR HELP AND HOPE EACH YEAR?

They are our neighbors, and they are our brothers and sisters in Christ. They are seeking comfort, support, and dignity in the face of challenges many of us cannot imagine. Your generosity touches their lives in profound ways because you embody Christ’s compassionate love and mercy by coming to their aid.

My recent pastoral letter, reflected on our shared call to renewal and to become Missionary Disciples. We are called to rebuild trust, extend Christ’s love to those distant from the Church, and invite everyone into a deeper encounter with Him.

You are living out this mission through your support of the Catholic Charities Appeal—bringing hope to the vulnerable, comfort to the suffering, and light to those in darkness. Together, as Missionary Disciples, we can ensure that everyone in our community knows they have a home in the Church and that God loves them beyond measure.

– Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

Scan the code to make a gift today!



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i @catholiccharitiesphila
x @catholicapped

CatholicCharitiesAppeal.org
215.587.5650
cca@thecfcp.org

If you don’t behave as you believe, you will end up believing as you behave. Far better it is for you to say: “I am a sinner,” than to say: “I have no need for religion.” The empty can be filled, but the self-intoxicated have no room for God. You must remember to love people and use things, rather than to love things and use people.

~Bishop Fulton Sheen

Save the Dates
Lenten Dinners

Lent

WHEN

MARCH 7, 14, 21, 28 AND APRIL 4, 11, 18

WHERE

SWEDESBURG FIRE CO SOCIAL ROOM
310 JEFFERSON STREET, SWEDESBURG, PA

TIME

5PM TO 8PM

**COME ENJOY GOOD FOOD WITH
GOOD FREINDS**



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 1

4:00pm Barbara Bores

Birthday Remembrance

Requested by The Bores & Stalker Families

Sunday, March 2

8:00am Michael Dudas

Requested by Patrick Dudas

10:15am Eleanor & John Toth

*Requested by Daughters, LeeAnn & Shelly
and Their Families*

Monday, March 3

8:00am Living & Deceased Members of the
Kunda Family

Requested by Bill & Bridget Maruszczak

Tuesday, March 4

8:00am Kerry Link

Requested by Caring for Friends Ministry

Wednesday, March 5

8:00am For the Intentions of
Alexander Kalivas, Jr.

Requested by Mom & Pop



Thursday, March 6

8:00am Stanislaw Niebora

Requested by The Babicz Family

Friday, March 7

8:00am Lorraine McDermott

Requested by Barbara Pupek & Family

Saturday, March 8

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm Henry Balza

Birthday Remembrance

Requested by The Bores & Stalker Families

Sunday, March 9

8:00am Dolores Simmons

Requested by The Shannon Family

10:15am Rosemary Giovinco

Requested by Rich & Patty Custer



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Ash Wednesday, March 5:

8:00am Andy Moletzsky

4:00pm Joan Koeck

7:00pm Larry Kilian

Lector:

8:00am Helen Keller Surman

Saturday evening, March 8:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Larry Kilian

Lector: Walt Fromm, Jr.

Sunday morning, March 9:

8:00am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Marjorie Pruskowski

Lector: Tony Viggiano

10:15am

Lector: John Keidel



Stewardship

a way of life

Weekly Report

February 15 - 16, 2025

\$6,875.00

February 22 - 23, 2025

\$7,041.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

**ETERNAL REST,
GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD!**

*In your kindness,
please pray for the happy repose of the soul of*

Eleanor L. Palaszewski

*Who was called from this life on
February 21, 2025*

*"May Her soul and all the souls of the
faithful departed Rest in peace."*



Caring & Friends **Wednesday, March 12th**, at 6:00pm
 come out and join our Caring for Friends Ministry at the Parish Hall.
 We are more than just soup!
 All you need to do is make a pot of your favorite homemade soup, a hearty batch of chili, some mac & cheese, hot dogs and beans, beef stew. Prepare your specialty at home and we will provide containers and labels. We ask that you prepare enough for 10 or more servings. All are welcome to join us!
 Any questions contact: Lisa at 610-639-7704.

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO
Friday, March 14th
 Doors open 6:00 PM
 Games at 7:00 PM
 Parish Hall
Chance to win up to \$500.00
 Sponsored by: 

Sunday Funday
March 30th. 3 - 5 p.m.

CRAZY BINGO

ADMISSION PER PERSON:
 Bring one "crazy" wrapped gift valued about \$5

Munchies BYOB
 Soft drinks
 50/50 Raffle

The more imaginative, the better!!
 Get creative!!

SCHOOL HALL



 Members of the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council # 3327 will be present after Mass on the weekend of March 15/16 to collect money for the **PA State "Special Olympics."** Our members challenge you to be generous as our Council has decided to match any amount collected - at the three parishes in Bridgeport - Dollar for Dollar to support this event. Thank you for your generosity in advance.



Fiddler on the Roof
DINNER THEATER BUS TRIP LANCASTER

WHEN: Tuesday, April 15
WHERE: Dutch Apple Dinner Theater

SHOW: Fiddler on the Roof

COST: \$119.41 Per Person (due upon making reservation)

TIME: Departs 9:30 AM Sacred Heart Church parking lot promptly
 Returns 4 PM (buffet lunch 11:30, show 1PM)

For more information, contact:
 June @ 610-247-4398



Register Now!

Please plan to attend the Third Annual

Life Advocate Resource Conference

Saturday, April 5, 2025
9 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

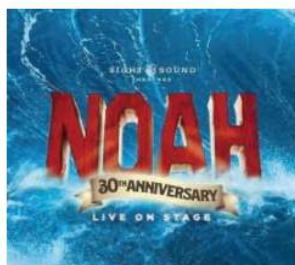
St. Matthew Church Hall
219 Fayette Street
Conshohocken, PA 19428

Join us as we once again bring the area pro-life community together. At the Conference, you can learn how to be more effective in your pro-life activities, meet with great organizations that save lives and serve moms and children and get to network with friends and associates who are all committed to building a Culture of Life.

The conference is free, and a free lunch will be provided, but **registration is required.**

To register, please send your name, address and phone number to lifconference@prolifeunion.org.

Pro-Life Union – 88 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oreland, PA 19075 – 215-885-8150 – prolifeunion.org



SIGHT & SOUND - On Saturday, May 31, 2025, The Holy Saviour Holy Name Society is running a trip to see the 30th Anniversary production of Noah at the Sight and Sound Theatre in

Lancaster. Price is \$185 per ticket and includes round trip transportation via Klein Motorcoach, a show ticket and all you care to eat buffet style at Yoders Restaurant. The bus leaves Holy Saviour parking lot at 9:00 AM and showtime is 11:00 AM. For tickets, please contact Vicki Angelucci at 215-817-7649 or email vangelucci@verizon.net.



Palm Sunday Celebrated April 13, 2025

Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714 Decorated Palm Project

One size palm will be available at a cost of \$10.00

Orders should be placed by Friday, March 14th.

orders placed after March 14th will be subject to availability

Decorated Palms will be made Wednesday April 9th and Thursday April 10th.

*Pick up will take place on:
Thursday April 10th 11am to 6pm & Friday April 11th 10am to 4pm*

Help is always welcome: If interested contact Maureen at 484-620-2093

We offer several ways of placing orders

Call Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714 at 610-277-3810

Call Maureen DeStefano at 484-620-2093

Email: mdalvin@comcast.net

Mail the order form below to:

Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714
494 Ford Street
Bridgeport PA 19405



Name: _____

Quantity: _____

Phone# _____

Pick Up Date: _____



MARCH 2, 2025

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

I truly believe that a turning point in one's life comes when one adds a cardiologist to the list of one's doctors. I have had one for nine years now.

Call it a sign that, in golfing terms, I've come to "the back nine." So be it.

During one recent checkup, I told my man that I consider him "the archbishop" of the other medics. As a good Catholic gentleman, he chuckled at the reference but did admit that "when the motor malfunctions, the car definitely won't move."

St. Luke, an able doctor himself, cites our hearts as the locus of all our moral decisions, adding that from its "fullness the mouth speaks." He certainly knew the physical importance of the organ, albeit with nothing like an EKG machine at his disposal. It was the spiritual significance of the heart that made his case for it to be the energy and driving force behind all our moral decisions and their consequences. For example, we can see that judging other people for their faults, a perennially popular Christian sin, begins in the heart.

This late Winter Sunday finds us in the very "vestibule" of the great Lenten season that arrives this Wednesday. It's a time for serious introspection and reflection, a thorough examination of conscience. Call it a spiritual heart exam.

"In the heart's fullness," St. Luke writes, we find the source of our behavior. That means, among other things, that our heart is where all our faulty decisions emanate. About this, or that, or the other thing. About him or her, our neighbor. About our practical decisions regarding a Christian lifestyle. Ultimately about our love and loyalty to Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lent is not intended to sour our late Winter mood by a decision to deprive ourselves of desserts, or to cancel chocolate and cocktails for six weeks. However, I must add that fasting is recommended by many holy saints as a good "ammo" to shoot down selfishness.

What Lent is primarily about is our coming face to face with faults and sins we tend to ignore because they make us uncomfortable. They caused Our Lord's crucifixion. It's time for an honest appraisal of how we are doing or not doing with living a gospel-centered life. Lent asks us, in light of our Lord's suffering and death, where some personal reform is needed.

Above all, I think Lent urges us to make our partnership with God each day of our lives something real. That could be described, in the present context, as something heartfelt.

Have a good Lent, with your heart in it.

Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
Funeral Director



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Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend. Will you join us?



HOLY FAMILY COUNCIL #3327

www.kofc3327.org



RIDE FOR
LITTLE HEARTS

Saturday & Sunday
March 8-9, 2025

Help hearts like Luca's
Philly Spin-In Ambassador,
Luca, 6, dreams of becoming
a personal trainer - or
flying like Iron Man.



Scan this QR code to donate today.
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Heather M. Hughes, Supervisor
Darryl R. Bacchi

Julia K. Meyers
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James T. Meyers
Supervisor

Timothy J. Meyers
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