

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.

Weekend Assistant

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM

Parish Services Director

srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday 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

FOCUS Missionary:

Caitlyn Sechuk

csechuk@shswedesburg.org

Valerie DiFilippo

*Parish Bookkeeper/
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*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



A Word of Thanks.....

Our second annual spaghetti dinner was a smashing success! Thanks are extended to the kitchen crew: Frank and Liz Houseal as well as Joe Maggio. They did an excellent job of preparing the meal. We also would like to thank the serving and decorating

crew who also did a spectacular job: Kelly Reid, Nadine Dennis, MaryCatherine Murphy, Joan McKernan, Kitty Ritrovato, Julie Razin, Beth Fabrizio, Joanne Hector, Elisa Pagnotti, Karen Hinchey, Pat and Andy Moletzsky.

When the Bell Rings...

Just a reminder... on Saturdays and Sundays as the priest consumes the Precious Blood the bell will ring signaling that the communion procession is to begin. As soon as you hear the bell, please begin processing to the sanctuary area. Please do not wait for the priest to leave the altar to begin approaching the sanctuary. You should already be in place awaiting the priest to distribute Holy Communion. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Members of the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council # 3327 will be present after Mass on the weekend of March 16/17 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.



"Companions in Prayer and Ministry"

will meet in the Convent Meeting Room on Sunday, March 3rd after the 10:15 Mass. Sister Elenore will be our guest speaker. Sister's topic: "Saints from Around the World." Mark your calendars.

Sister MaryAnne



Lenten Eucharistic Adoration & Stations of the Cross

Join us each Wednesday of Lent there will be Eucharistic Adoration starting at 6:00 p.m. and ending with Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m. each week.



COME JOIN SACRED HEART PREP FOR INTERACTIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS in PARISH HALL on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.

Our seven (7) interactive stations are a wonderful way to reflect upon Jesus' Passion as you participate in the actions and prayers.

We would love for members of the Parish to join us. Please sign up using the QR code for this wonderful activity by Sunday, March 3, 2024.





CARING FOR FRIENDS

It's time to get cooking!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 13th, at 6:00pm and come out and join our Caring for Friends Ministry. Do God's work and at the same time make new friends from our parish.

All you need to do is make a pot of your favorite homemade soup, a hearty batch of chili, some mac and cheese or your favorite "comfort food" that can be scooped into a 16oz container. It needs to be able to be frozen so extra sauce or broth should be brought to keep it juicy!

Hope to see you Wednesday!

Your CFF Team,

Pat, Nadine, Karen and Lisa



First Saturday Devotions

We invite you to join us on Saturday, March 2 for the 8:00AM at Mother of Divine Providence parish in King of Prussia to continue our usual First Saturday Devotions as requested by Our Lady at Fatima. Some of us who regularly recite the Rosary after Mass on First Saturdays will be attending the 8:00 a.m. Mass at MDP on March 2 to join their parishioners in praying the Rosary following Mass and Miraculous Medal Novena prayers. We hope to see you there!



Any questions? Please contact:

lindaskorpel@gmail.com



THE LORD'S REAL PRESENCE

We are fortunate enough to worship in a Church in which the **Body of Christ is reserved**. It is right to acknowledge the **Lord's Real Presence** with a brief act of worship on entering or leaving the Church and every time passing by the Sanctuary.

Normally, a **genuflection** in the direction of the place of Reservation is enough. One who is physically unable to genuflect may substitute a **profound bow** at the waist.



If You Cannot Be On Time,
Then Be EARLY.

Making Time For Prayer
Strengthens Our
Connection With God!



Swedesburg Fire Co's LENT DINNERS!

*Fridays from: February 16 to March 29
5:00 to 8:00 PM*

Swedesburg Fire Co's Social Hall

**TO PLACE AN ORDER CALL
610.272.9853**



ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY EASTER FOOD SALE

St. Mary Polish American Society Easter Food Sale.

Food items will include: Babkas (cheese, cinnamon crumb, or raspberry cheese) for \$16 Pierogi (potato, potato cheese, or sauerkraut) for \$10 per dozen ; Kielbasa for \$9 per pound . The deadline to place a food order will be Wednesday March 13th. Order pick-up will be on Friday, March 22nd and Saturday March 23rd from 1 to 4 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall in Conshohocken. To place a food order please email: foodsale@stmarypolish.org or call: Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 24

4:00pm **Barbara Bores**
(Birthday Remembrance, Feb. 26th)
Requested by Peter & Linda Korpel

Sunday, February 25

8:00am **Frank Opielski**
(2nd Anniversary Remembrance &
Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Wife, Wanda & Family

10:15am For the People of Our Parish

Monday, February 26

8:00am **John Evan, Sr.**
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Eleanor & Junior

Tuesday, February 27

8:00am **John Kurcik, Sr.**
Requested by His Family

Wednesday, February 28

8:00am **Francis Coscia**
Requested by The Slutz Family

Thursday, February 29

8:00am **Deacon Joseph Owen**

Friday, March 1

8:00am **Edward Keszczyk**
*Requested by Michael & Lori Zadroga
& Family*

Saturday, March 2

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm **Christopher Chimicles**
(Birthday Remembrance)
Requested by Vince & Christine Benedict

Sunday, March 3

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am **Maria Sylawa**
Requested by Barbara Roskos



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!
The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, March 2:

4:00pm

Lector: Walt Fromm, Jr.

Sunday morning, March 3:

8:00am

Lector: Rich McVoy

10:15am

Lector: Caitlyn Sechuk



Weekly Report

February 17 - 18, 2024

\$5,952.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

Monday Night Rosary



There will be a public recitation of the rosary in church each Monday at 7:00pm. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Ed DiGinto at 610-202-0069.



Our Lenten Journey

During this season of Lent, let us take time for:

Reflection

Repentance

Renewal



CEREAL SUNDAY

DONATIONS FOR
MARTHA'S CHOICE MARKETPLACE



BRING YOUR CEREAL
DONATIONS ON THE



1ST WEEKEND
OF EACH MONTH



LEAVE THEM IN THE
BACK OF CHURCH

GENERIC CEREAL IS GREAT!
ALDI OR LIDEL ARE FANTASTIC SHOPPING OPTIONS AS WELL!

BINGO

Friday,
March 8th

Doors open 6:00 PM Games at 7:00 PM
Parish Hall

Chance to win up to \$500.00



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Spanish COR group who will meet in Bridgeport. COR exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. If you have questions please contact Carlos Medina Carlos@medinapps.com The group will meet for one hour approx. every two weeks. To sign up visit the link below. The group is open to all Catholic Men in the King of Prussia, Bridgeport, and Norristown area.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4BABA92DA3F94-47784194-spanish>

The group will meet at 502 Ford St, Bridgeport, PA 19405. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:15pm but you can arrive at 7pm to settle in. We will be done by 8:15pm.

The meeting will be held in Spanish. Some light refreshments will be provided. As of now we will meet on the following dates: (Feb 22), March 14, 28, April 11, 25 and May 9. Future dates possible. The format of the meetings will be flexible and the content will be discussed during the first meeting but the focus will always be on the spiritual needs of those in attendance. Again the group will be held in Spanish, Spanish material will be provided and all discussion will be in Spanish. All are welcome but be aware that the meeting will be conducted in Spanish.



Registration for Sacred Heart PREP
Summer Session is open!

What is Summer-Session

Parish Religious Education?



The Summer-Session Program is an intensive (5 day) Religious Education Program designed as an alternative model to the traditional weekly program. Each day your child will work on a different unit of the curriculum and complete their level text in the week. Our students will also engage in faith-based group activities.

PREP Summer Session for the 2024 will run June 17–21 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Forms are available on the parish website or can be found in the back of the church. Please return it with the applicable fee (see below) to the Rectory office, Attention PREP, Sacred Heart Parish, 120 Jefferson Street, Swedesburg, PA 19405 or place in the collection basket in an envelope marked PREP.

PREP fees for 2024-2025 are as follows: \$100 for one child, \$150 for two or more children. Any concerns, please contact the PREP Coordinator. (An additional \$15.00 late fee will apply for all registrations received after April 1.)



Giving Hope TO ALL

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Your Impact



**DID YOU KNOW
1 IN 5 PEOPLE**

in the Greater Philadelphia area count on the Catholic Charities Appeal for help and hope? We may not notice them, but they are there in every county, town, parish, and neighborhood.

It's time we focus on the women and children looking for shelter, focus on those experiencing poverty and looking for a meal, and focus on individuals with special needs looking for opportunity.

Every year, the Catholic Charities Appeal impacts nearly one million lives. But this is not possible without your help. Your gift matters more than you know.

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG

Ways to Give

The Catholic Charities Appeal is recognized as a non-profit institution. As such, all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. It has its own Employer Identification Number (EIN) and receives a separate financial audit. Besides gifts of cash, donors to the 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal may contribute in many other ways, each offering tax advantages according to their circumstances:

- Pledge Gift
- Gifts of Cash
- Matching Gifts
- Electronic Fund
- Transfer (EFT)
- Gifts of Securities
- Planned Gifts

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal, please call The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia at 215.587.5650 or email cca@thecfgp.org.



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CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG
215.587.5650

Social Services ST. MARY'S RESIDENCE

"At the age of 77, I finally decided I didn't like living alone. That brought me to St. Mary's, one of the senior residences of Catholic Housing and Community Services. Thirty-seven women live here. We have meals together, pray the rosary, play games, watch movies and so much more - together. I have so many friends, and while independent, I still feel cared for. All the staff are so helpful and look after us ladies. Some of these women have nowhere else to go, no family to turn to. **When you give to the Catholic Charities Appeal, you are keeping places like St. Mary's open so that people like me can have a safe place to call home.**"

- Barbara, Resident, St. Mary's Residence



LAST YEAR, THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL, OVER 470 SENIORS HAD A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME THANKS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FACILITIES.



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~ February 25, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Fathers and Sons. A unique dynamic. Psychologists have a field day explaining it. But even we non psychologists know that it is in contrast with the bond between fathers and daughters. It seems to me to be a straight bold line, as opposed to one softened with curlicues for the girls. At any rate, we somehow know this without ever being taught. We see it played out in the lives of our so-called “nuclear” or immediate families. It is in play in today’s Scripture Readings for the Mass of the Second Sunday in Lent.



Today the Church presents us with one of the most endearing stories of the Old Testament, manifesting the love between father and son, Abraham, and Isaac. Oh, how Abraham the father must have been conflicted at first, but he knew that what God asked of him must be done. Obedience in the raw. But that very obedience so pleased God that a higher form of Divine Father and son took over. Abraham’s reward would be numerous generations of sons and daughters in a chosen nation.

Fast forward through the ensuing centuries and we are allowed to share through Mark’s writing under the Holy Spirit’s guidance the spectacular transfiguration of Jesus of Nazareth to Son of the Most High, as the Archangel had described Him to His Mother Mary some thirty years prior.

Like Abraham on his mountain top, so Jesus on His, love between Father and Son is apparent. But this time there are five witnesses to it. Moses and Elijah, representing respectively the Old Testament Law and Prophecy now bear witness to someone who fulfills both. Peter, James and John, that favored trio of Jesus, look on baffled to see their Master in a new light, literally and figuratively. It will be in the category of something yet to come, also brought about by an incomparable obedience. The nails will be pounded in; the sword will pierce through, and no angel will stop the soldiers of Rome.

All of this puts our obligatory obedience to God in perspective. It provides not only motivation before it but a wonderful reward after it. This is why we choose our Lenten penances: we have not always obeyed God or done so grudgingly. Time for our conversion, don’t you think?

One day a little boy was riding his tricycle around the block, over and over again. Finally, a policeman stopped and asked him why he was going around and around. The boy answered that he was running away from home. Then the policeman asked why he kept going around the block. Then the boy responded, “Because my dad said that I’m not allowed to cross the street.” The point, I trust, is clear obedience will keep you close to those you love.

God love you and have a good Lent.

Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
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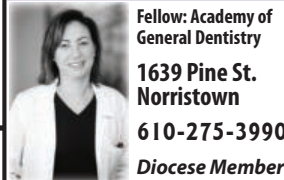
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