

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405
(610) 275-1750

Whoever does not
accept the kingdom
of God like a child will
not enter it

Mark 10:15



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Rev. Peter J. DiMaria
Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
Pastor Emeritus

Linda Moser
Coordinator of Religious Education
lmoser@shswedesburg.org

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

Leo Brady
Sacristan

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, OCTOBER 6, 2024

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Rose for Life

Sunday, October 6, 2024 is Respect Life Sunday. At all Masses this weekend, the Knights of Columbus will be requesting your contributions and offering a Rose for Life emblem or prayer card. Your generous support benefits our area pro-life pregnancy centers such as Birthright in Coatesville & Pottstown and A Baby's Breath in Collegeville, Jeffersonville, and Phoenixville. Your gift helps these agencies provide needed baby and maternity items, plus volunteer staff will train young mothers to give care and love for their babies. These works of charity help vulnerable mothers choose life for their babies.

October is Mission Month

As we begin the month of October, we enter a special period of reflection and action for our Church's missionary efforts worldwide. World Mission Sunday, which will be celebrated on October 20th, is a vital time for all Catholics to support the spread of the Gospel in mission territories. This year's theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is "Go and invite everyone to the banquet," emphasizing our call to bring God's love and message to all corners of the world.

The contributions collected on World Mission Sunday are crucial for sustaining the Church's mission in over 1,150 territories where the Church is still young or struggling. Historically, the Church in the United States was once a beneficiary of these missionary efforts, and now we have the opportunity to give back and support our brothers and sisters around the globe. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to engage fully in this mission throughout the month.



MOTHER TERESA

"Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration."



The Forty Hours Devotion invites us to watch before the Lord, and in this extended period of adoration to offer in His presence our prayer for the Church and her mission. In these hours of prayer, we more intently implore Jesus 'Thy Kingdom come' – come in our hearts and lives, come in our Church and her life, and come in the society and land we are sent out to serve. The Forty Hours devotion begins with the celebration of the 10:15 Mass on October 20th, at the conclusion of which the Host is placed in a monstrance and set upon the altar for adoration. On Sunday and Monday night public devotions and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will occur beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday night's devotion will conclude with an outdoor procession to the school yard. The Verdi band will join us that night. A reception with light refreshments will take place in the school hall after the procession. Next weekend there will be sign-up sheets in the back of the church for people to volunteer for a period of personal prayer time to assure that the Blessed Sacrament is not left unattended.

"In the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration we meet the merciful love of God that passes through the Heart of Jesus Christ."

~ Pope John Paul II



Vision 26: Maintenance Update

The year 2026 will mark the 100th anniversary of the erection of Sacred Heart Church. In preparation for this important milestone, various projects have been undertaken over the course of the last several years to maintain, beautify, and improve the House of the Lord.

Most recently the marble statues of Saints Maria Goretti and Anthony of Padua, which flank the interior doors of the church as well as the statues of the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph at the side altar have been professionally cleaned. The cleaning has brought out the magnificent details of these beautiful works of art which were chosen by the late Father Sokol who was the pastor of Sacred Heart from 1944 to 1970.

The rose window located in the choir loft was removed from the church in May to be restored. The glass has been completely restored and now the craftsman will work on the restoration and painting of the wooden frame. The protective glass which encased the entire window will be removed exposing once again the magnificent wooden frame which will be repainted and will now be visible after more than forty years. Individual pieces of protective glass will be installed in each of the “petals” of the frame. It promises to be quite beautiful.

Thank you for your care and support of our parish.



Join our Caring for Friends Ministry this Wednesday, October 9th at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. 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 16 oz. container. It needs to be able to be frozen so extra sauce or broth should be brought!



**Friday,
October 11th**
Doors open 6:00 PM
Games at 7:00 PM

Parish Hall

Chance to win up to \$500.00

Sponsored by:



PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE

In The Secret of the Rosary, Saint Louis de Montfort said: “Public prayer is far more powerful than private prayer to appease the anger of God and call down

His mercy, and Holy Mother Church, guided by the Holy Ghost, has always advocated public prayer in times of public tragedy and suffering.”

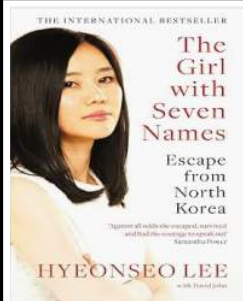
Please join us in praying for our nation. We ask God to save America through the Rosary of His most Holy Mother.

What: The Holy Rosary

Where: St. John the Baptist Church at Ford St. & Union Avenue

When: 12:00 PM., Saturday, October 12th

For more information, contact: Sal DiNenna 610-275-4403



You are cordially invited to join the “Book Club”. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 15th and will be held in the Rectory Meeting Room beginning at 1:30pm.

The book for October is The Girl with Seven Names by Hyeonseo Lee. It is the true story of a girl, who at age 17, decided to escape North Korea. Please consider joining us for a great discussion.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 5

4:00pm Henry Palaszewski

*Requested by Wife, Eleanor,
Daughter, Lucille & Family*

Sunday, October 6

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

**10:15am Irmgard Scheurle Balza
Birthday Remembrance**

Requested by The Bores & Stalker Families

Monday, October 7

8:00am Joseph Marker

Requested by Daughter & Family

Tuesday, October 8

8:00am For the Intentions of Beverly Kalivas

Requested by Mom & Pop

Wednesday, October 9

8:00am Jack Guziewicz

Requested by Ed & Lisa Lachowicz & Family

Thursday, October 10

8:00am Emily Palladino

Birthday Remembrance
Niece, Brenda & Tom

Friday, October 11

8:00am Health Blessings for Babka Bobok

Requested by Jozef, Denise & Anna

Saturday, October 12

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm Barbara Bores

Requested by The Peluso Family

Sunday, October 13

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

**10:15am Phillip J. Giovinco, Sr. &
Phillip J. Giovinco, Jr.
Birthday Remembrances**

Requested by Rosemary Giovinco & Family



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, October 12:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Barbara JanFrancisco

Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou

Sunday morning, October 13:

8:00am

Lector: Rich McVoy

10:15am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Andy Moletsky

Lector: Sal DiNenna



Weekly Report

September 28 - 29, 2024

\$5,598.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

“Successful evangelists are persons of the Eucharist. They are immersed in the rhythms of the Mass; they practice Eucharistic Adoration; they draw the evangelized to a participation in the body and blood of Jesus. They know that bringing sinners to Jesus Christ is never primarily a matter of personal witness, or inspiring sermonizing, or even exposure to the patterns of the Scripture. It is primarily a matter of seeing the broken heart of God through the broken bread of the Eucharist.”



~Bishop Robert Barron



*This week the bread
and wine for the
celebration of the Holy
Sacrifice of the Mass as
well as the Sanctuary
Lamp in the Church burns in honor of*



***Health Blessings for Babka Bobok**
at the Request of Jozef, Denise & Anna Bobok*



"When the
Holy Rosary
is said well, it gives
Jesus and Mary more glory
and is more meritorious
than any other prayer."
St. Louis de Montfort

***Monday Night Rosary**
will be recited in church
each Monday at 7 p.m.*

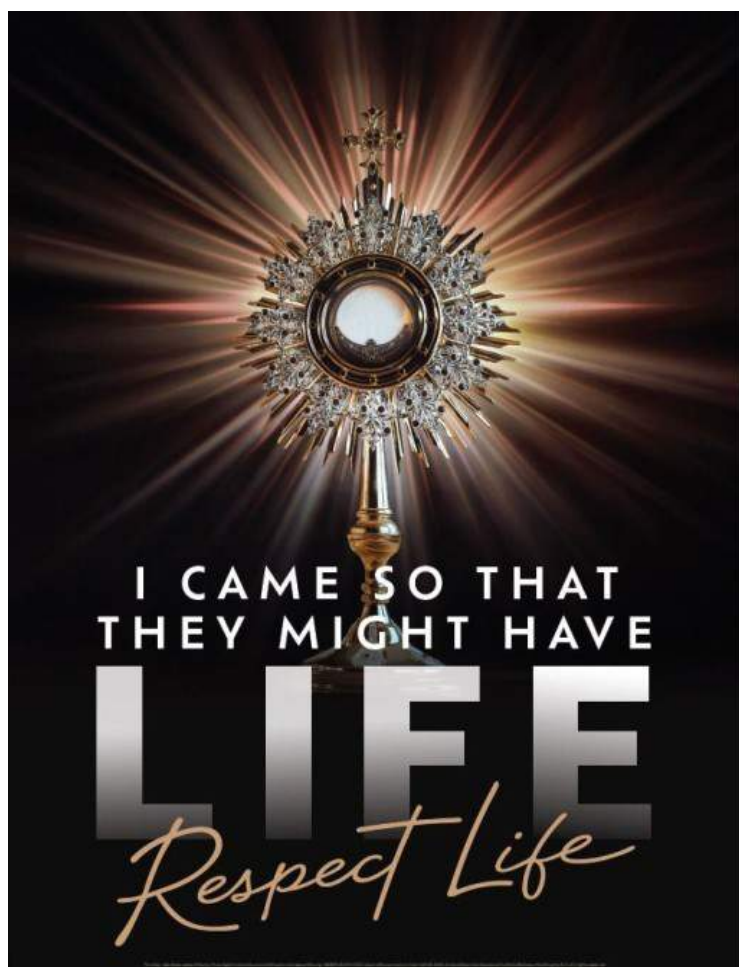
***Pro Life Holy Hour** at
12:00 noon each
Wednesday
in church.*

All are welcome!



*Please Pray For All Who Protect Our
Country, especially...*

John F. K. Benedict (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen Brandt; **Matthew J. Capaldo** (Commander, U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (LCpl, U.S.M.C.), grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry** (Specialist, U.S. Army), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant U.S. Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 4 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton; **Stephanie Zugay** (National Guard), granddaughter of Greg & Grace Zugay.



Barbara Fromm
Michael J. Estock
Ron Dalasio
Francis Rodenbaugh III
Karen Braithwaite
Carol Katkowski
Chester Kowalski
Elaine Fertal
Barbara Pruskowski
George Minnis
Al Cowling
Mary (Puzio) Stephenson
Mary Boyle
Fran Toth
Joan Birely
Martha Smoczylo
Kelly Benedict
Patricia Gaffney

Andrew Andreyko
Angela Desmond
Fred Zugay
Mike Piskai
Eileen Brandt
Denise Kavanagh
Tom Kavanagh
Michael Martin
Ronald Halas
Marge Leszczynski
Dolores Burton
Fran & Rob Worrall
Marion Raup
Joseph Saboe
Irene Elliott
Stanley Leszczynski
Ayden Boone
Butch Rodenbaugh
Nicholas Janicki
Michael Myers
Melissa (Myers) Sillah
George Estock
Helen Bednar
Barbara A. Burkert
John Smoczylo
Laurie Ronan



Come out to our PREP All Saints Trunk or Treat

ALL SAINTS AND ALL TREATS

When: Sunday, October 27, 2024

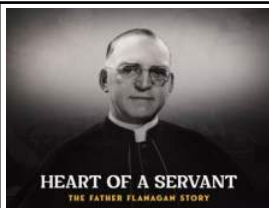
Time: following the 10:15 am Mass

Where: lower Church parking lot

Who: All families are welcome!

Make your "Traveling Saint" at home or we will have a table for you to make and color your saint before you treat. Then you will take your "Traveling Saint" on an adventure to meet some other great saints and grab some treats along the way!

We welcome you to come dressed as your favorite saint!



Be Part of This Historic Special Event

Don't miss your chance! Join us in theaters nationwide on Tuesday, October 8th for this one-time showing. Experience the moving story of Father Flanagan's life and his profound impact on the children of Boys Town. Learn about his legacy that continues to inspire generations and discover why he remains a hero, not just in his time, but in ours, as well.

Father Edward J. Flanagan is a familiar name to many Americans, often for the Oscar-winning 1938 film starring Spencer Tracy about Flanagan's groundbreaking child welfare organization. But the story extends far beyond that, to a man whose name and legacy are still well-known as far as Germany and Japan.

Flanagan gained influence and admiration over the course of his life from Presidents, CEOs, celebrities and more, but none mattered more to him than that of the children for whom he tirelessly worked. A sobering reminder of this was during WWII, as Flanagan saw droves of former Boys Town citizens go off to war. In fact, so many former Boys Town boys named Father Flanagan as their next of kin that the American War Dads Association named him as America's No. 1 War Dad.

Father Flanagan was a hero for his times, and for ours, too: his approach to child welfare remains a top influence in the field, and his frequent outspokenness against injustice showed he was always willing to tell the truth, regardless of risk.

The film will be shown on **Tuesday, October 8 at 7 p.m.** at the Regal VA King of Prussia, Goddard Blvd., King of Prussia.

40 Hours Devotion: Spending personal time with the Lord

People around the world have practiced this intimate devotion since the 16th century. Starting around the 16th century, there arose a custom of exposing a consecrated Host on the altar in a monstrance for all to adore for a period of 40 hours. Parishioners would take turns adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, dividing it up in individual hours. It began as a response to the many sins of the people during the time and to make reparation for the numerous offenses against God.

St. Philip Neri introduced the devotion in Rome around 1550 and did all that he could to promote it. St. Ignatius of Loyola also promoted the practice and the Jesuits brought it to Germany. In a letter, Pope Clement VIII encouraged the spread of this devotion, writing: “We have determined to establish publicly in this Mother City of Rome an uninterrupted course of prayer in such ways that in the different churches, on appointed days, there be observed the pious and salutary devotion of the Forty Hours, with such an arrangement of churches and times that at every hour of the day and night, the whole year round the incense of prayer shall ascend without intermission before the face of the Lord.”

The practice spread rapidly and eventually reached the US. Among its chief promoters was St. John Neumann, who struggled with much opposition from both those outside and inside the Church. It took a miraculous event to convince him to start the devotion in his diocese.

The event is narrated by Linda O’Brien in an article on [Catholic Exchange.com](http://CatholicExchange.com):

One night, he was working very late at his desk and fell asleep in his chair. The candle on the desk burnt down and charred some of the papers, but they were still readable. He awoke, surprised and thankful that a fire had not ignited. He fell on his knees to give thanks to God for protection, and heard His voice saying, “As the flames are burning here without consuming or injuring the writing, so shall I pour out my grace in the Blessed Sacrament without prejudice to my honor. Fear no profanation, therefore; hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my glory.”

The event reassured Neumann and as a result he instituted the 40 Hours Devotion in his diocese and asked that each parish host the practice every year. After the success of St. John Neumann’s, the 40 Hours Devotion became popular and spread to other dioceses in the US. It was formally approved in the US at the Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1866.

The 40 Hours Devotion is an experience centered on exposing parishioners to “face-to-face” time with Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a worthy devotion, one that helps the faithful encounter the Risen Lord in a personal way, nurturing their relationship with him. As St. Alphonsus Liguori once wrote: “Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us.”



Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
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