



August 24, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

DAILY MASS:

Monday, Tuesday, Friday and
Saturday: 8:00am

Wednesday: 8:30am (School Mass)

Thursday, 6:00pm

SUNDAY MASS:

Saturday: 4:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

CONFESSIONS:

Thursday 5:00pm-5:45pm

Saturday 7:15am-7:50am and
3:30pm-4:15pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-10pm

Friday: 9:00am-Noon



Our Daily Mass

Our daily Mass on Wednesdays will
return to 8:30am starting August
27th as we welcome back our
students for another school year.

For all students returning to school:
Please know of our love and prayers
for your learning and success!

PARISH: 280 N. Race Street; Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-3133 Phone | 717-944-1170 Fax | ssbvm.org

RECTORY HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm, Friday 9:00am-1:00pm

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are quickly winding down the "school is out" part of summer, and I'm kind of sad about it. I love when our kids are back in our school, because I get to see them and interact with them much more. But the less crazy days of summer are always nice. I hope your family enjoyed them a bit!

But we are leaving the "less crazy" days behind. We have a ton coming up in our parish these next few weeks and months, and please mark your calendar!

- **Sunday-Tuesday, Sept. 14-16:** Forty Hours! Adore the Lord in the Eucharist! We'll have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 40+ hours (including overnight) on these days, starting after our 10:30AM Sunday Mass. Please sign up! In addition, Bishop Gainer will preach our Mass on Sunday night and services on Monday and Tuesday. Please join us for these three awesome days!

- **Sunday, Sept. 21:** Our 3rd **parish breakfast and ministry fair** after the 8 and 10:30AM Masses. Come for the free breakfast and find volunteer opportunities for service to those less fortunate or for our Masses. We always need more help, and you'd be surprised what we have to offer.

Sunday, Oct. 5: Outdoor 10:30AM Mass and picnic at Hoffer Park. This is always such an awesome morning. Meet your fellow parishioners for Mass and a great lunch (of course, it's free of charge).

These are just some upcoming parish-wide events. Our homes are where our Faith grows and gets lived out, but our parish is where the heartbeat of these efforts start. Please, if you want to grow your Faith in your Family, come to these events to feel the heartbeat of Our Lord that runs through our parish.

Why I Love Being Catholic

We had a few parishioners take up my offer to write why they love being Catholic. But an awesome parishioner, a young man, sent me seven reasons. Here are a few of his! If you are inspired to write why you love being Catholic, let me know and I'll publish them, and hopefully others will be inspired by you! I was inspired by his!

He wrote this about why he loves being Catholic:

1. Because we're universal: you can go to Mass anywhere in the world and have a sense of what is going on. Not many churches can say this!
2. Because we're built on such a solid foundation: we're not just built on the words found in the Bible, but on traditions and church teaching that has been passed on before the Bible was even canonized. I love that we cherish things not just written down, but shared and expressed and lived together over the years. It's like family memories.
3. Because of our history: we can trace the roots of our church all the way back to St. Peter, our first Pope. I love that it's stood the test of time! It's not just a fad, it's here to stay forever.
4. Because our church fathers and saints are so incredibly smart: I love that everything we believe is so well thought out. So many of the saints and church fathers have thought through so many of the deepest questions about our faith, about how we ought to live, and how we can be good people. If you really get in the weeds of philosophy and theology, there is so much, and it can exhaust you. I love being Catholic because we have so many great thinkers on our side (whose ideas are super formidable when put to the test in a debate!), like St. Thomas Aquinas. Being Catholic can be made simple because our church fathers and saints have deeply explored/investigated the most complex aspects!

God bless you!
Fr. Sahd

PARISH STAFF



SCHOOL STAFF

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. J. Weaver, Vocations Director - Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org

PARISH MANAGER

Carole Larry - clarry@ssbvm.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS / BULLETIN CONTACT

Tina D'Angelo - tdangelo@ssbvm.org
Kristin Stetler - kstetler@ssbvm.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lisa Fortunato - lfortunato@ssbvm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Joe Trojcek - joetrojcek@gmail.com

PARISH SCHOOL

School Phone - 717-944-5371
Mrs. Angela Warner, Principal

HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop McDevitt - 717-236-7973



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Our Parish Family
10:30 am +Colby Hall
6:00 pm +Thomas Lanni

MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025 St. Louis

8:00 am +Linda Tritch

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025

8:00 am +Helen Ostrowski

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025 St. Monica

8:30 am +Charles Stare

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 St. Augustine

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**
6:00 pm +Stephen Hoyle

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2025 The Passion of St. John

8:00 am Special Intentions of Jeni Justice

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2025

7:15 am - 7:50 am **CONFESSION**
8:00 am +Alec Matincheck
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**
4:30 pm +Patrick Michael Campbell

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Agnes Bering
10:30 am Our Parish Family
6:00 pm +Charles Steven Gerhards



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Aug. 24	Is 66:18-21 (123C) / Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Mon. Aug. 25	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 / Matt 23:13-22
Tue. Aug. 26	1 Thes 2:1-8 / Matt 23:23-26
Wed. Aug. 27	1 Thes 2:9-13 / Matt 23:27-32
Thu. Aug. 28	1 Thes 3:7-13 / Matt 24:42-51
Fri. Aug. 29	1 Thes 4:1-8 / Mark 6:17-29
Sat. Aug. 30	1 Thes 4:9-11 / Matt 25:14-30
Sun. Aug. 31	Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29(126C) / Heb 12:18-19,22-24a Lk 14:1,7-14



PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar and pulpit this weekend are dedicated to

ALL THE TEACHERS OF THE PARISH.

Through their dedication a new generation is prepared to meet life's challenges.

Flowers may be placed in the sanctuary for special occasions or in memory of a loved one. Call Deborah Breon at 717-986-1959 for details.



SUNDAY OFFERING

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 8-17-25



SUNDAY GIVING \$11,441.00
ONLINE GIVING \$ 4,888.00
**QCD \$ 3,000.00
TOTAL \$19,329.00

Scan for Online Giving

ASSUMPTION COLLECTION \$1,964.00
MISSIONARY CO-OP COLLECTION \$8,672.00

DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)
2025 DAC GOAL: \$187,283
COLLECTED & PLEDGED: \$187,621 (100%)

****QCD - Qualified Charitable Distribution is a withdrawal from an individual retirement account (IRA) that's made directly to an eligible charity, such as our parish. In many cases, IRA account holders can contribute some or all to a charity. This strategy allows one to transfer funds from their IRA directly to a charity without being counted as taxable income**



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
11:30 am Back to School/Star Council Awards
Outside Event (Gym in case of rain)
1:00 pm Bible Study Drexel Room

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

6:00 pm Boys Varsity Basketball (open gym) Gym
6:00 pm Legion of Mary Legion of Mary Room
6:30 pm Bible Study (make up session) Drexel Room

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

5:30 pm Youth Girls Basketball (open gym) Gym

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #4

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making School's Art Room



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

ROSE O'CONNOR

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER OUR MILITARY

We would like to keep our parishioners and loved ones on **active** military in our thoughts and prayers. Please provide the following information & call the parish office.

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>BRANCH</u>
MAJ	Sam Herbert	Army
GYSGT	Brendon J. Parkhill	Marines
	Mackenzie Mehalick	Navy
1st Lt.	Luke Mrakovich	Marines
Sgt.	Corbin Stetler	ARNG
AG1	Stephen Boyland	Navy
CPT	Noah Bamert	Army
CPT	Andrew T. Lavelle	Army
2nd Lt.	Mark E. Lavelle	Army
1st Lt.	Phillip Bertovic	Army
Lt Col	Todd Campbell	Air Force
CPT	Edward C. Stene	USAR
1st Lt	Nicholas Campbell	Marines

SENIOR MINISTRY

Signups at the Purple-Covered Table in the Narthex. August 23-31 - for St. Ann Tour, Potluck Anniversary Picnic & September Game Night.

Senior Ministry EVENTS PAMPHLET - Pick up a copy from the Flyer Rack in the Narthex. Details of the following & all remaining events for 2025 are available.

NOAH at Sight & Sound - Registration & Payment are due by 10 am on September 12. Forms are available on flyer rack in Narthex.

St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church Tour. Tuesday, September 9 at 10:30 am. Carpool from Seven Sorrows lot at 9:30 am.

OFF THE STREETS

GOLF TOURNEY!

OTS annual fundraiser is set for Friday 9/5/25. Great fun, fantastic food and free beverages! Hurry...forms due 8/29. Forms available on parish website (dig deep into ministries tab/OTS) and in the narthex. Or Call/Text Dennis May 717-919-9225. Plan the perfect way to start your day!!!

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed:

Please consider volunteering for the Meals on Wheels Program!

Drivers and runners are needed for the month of September. Meals are picked up in Middletown and delivered to shut-ins each weekday morning in September. Four volunteers are needed for each day. Any help would be appreciated, even if you can assist for one day.

Please sign up on the calendar in the narthex or email Mickey with any questions: mzinger@verizon.net



Middletown Food Pantry are in need of the following personal care items: bar soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes. Thank you for your donations.

Extra Ordinary and Lector Schedule August 30/31

4:30pm - K. & T. Wilson, C.Kovalchik

Lector - R. Connelly

8:00am - D. & E. Reigner, M. Zanzinger, C. Stambaugh

Lector - J. Lawruk

10:30am - R. Seltzer, T. & M. Blanch, R. Angelucci

Lector - T. Cooper

Schedule is on the website and posted in the Alb Room

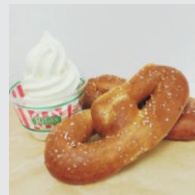
NEED TO KNOW

Parish Rosary Making

Join us to make rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room Sun. August 31 from 11:30AM to 4:30PM. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

Seven Sorrows School and the Knights of

Columbus cordially invite you to a special social event celebrating Back to School and Our Council's achievement of the prestigious Star Council Award! Enjoy Rita's Water Ice and Philly Soft Pretzel after Sunday's 10:30am Mass Come celebrate with us - and don't forget to bring a friend!



Seven Sorrows Family,

My heart is full of gratitude for your prayers for my healing from a long-term sickness. You've brought comfort and healing by your kindness in keeping me in your heart. Your thoughts and prayers have been a true gift. Every prayer you sent was like a healing touch, lifting me up when I couldn't stand. I am so thankful for your support. Prayers really work!!!

Your sister in faith,
Lillian Drayer



THAT MAN IS YOU

Attention Men of Seven Sorrows: New TMIY sessions begin September 6, in the cafeteria, 6:45am - 8:30am. Join us for coffee & donuts, fellowship and faith on Saturday, September 6 at 6:45 am in the cafeteria. All men are welcome. Learn more at tmiy.org or email Martin Ciccocioppo at martincicc@verizon.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

The Knights of Columbus in partnership with the Adult Trauma Team from the Penn State Hershey Medical Center are sponsoring a "Stop the Bleed" class on Wednesday September 17th from 6-8pm in the school gymnasium.

Stop the Bleed equips individuals with lifesaving skills to control severe bleeding in emergencies. The class is free and limited to 35 participants. For more information and/or to register please contact: Matt Sheaffer at 717-319-9065

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education ssbvm.org/Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato lfortunato@ssbvm.org

Online Enrollment Open

1st - 8th grade @ssbvm.org/Education/Religious Ed

9/21/25 - Opening/Meet Your Catechist

8:00am Mass

9:00am Free Breakfast & Parent Folder Pick up

9/28/25 - Classes Begin

9:15am Arrival

Open Enrollment at Seven Sorrows BVM School!

We have a few openings left in our preschool through 8th grade classroom for the upcoming school year. Current SSBVM school families are encouraged to share the gift of Catholic education-refer a friend and receive a \$250 tuition credit. Want to learn more about the SSBVM Difference? Schedule a tour today! <https://bit.ly/SSBVMTOUR>. For more information, visit www.sevensorrowsschool.com

SSBVM Catholic School Sevensorrowsschool.com
Principal - Angela Warner awarner@ssbvm.org

School Help Needed:

After School 3:30pm - 5:30pm any day Mon. - Fri.

Substitute Teachers - experienced Teachers needed for substitute days.

Cafeteria - We need help serving lunches. Between 10:30am - 12:30am any day of the week, No experience necessary. **Diocesan Clearances are needed for all positions.** Contact principal Angela Warner if interested in any of the positions.

Apple Tree Harvest Our Apple Tree is ready to harvest with items that are needed to support our Teachers and Students. Please visit the Apple Tree located in the Narthex and "pick" an Apple marked with specific items for certain grades. Gift cards can be purchased through our Scrip program which also supports our school. The Apple Tree will be available with items through September. Please return the wanted items to the School or Parish Office. Thank you in advance for your support of our school and Catholic education.



RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

"Strive to enter through the narrow gate." (Luke 13:24)

A vocation to the priesthood or religious life is a challenging but rewarding path. If you feel called to follow Christ through this narrow gate, embrace it with courage.

Talk to Fr Sahd or reach out to the Vocations Office via email: Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org


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