



September 28, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

DAILY MASS:

Monday: 8:00am

Tuesday: 8:00am

Wednesday: 8:30am

Thursday: 6:00pm

Friday: 8:00am

Saturday: 8:00am

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: (in the Chapel)

Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-10pm

Friday: 9:00am-Noon



Outdoor Mass & Picnic

Sunday, October 5, 2025

10:30AM @ Hoffer Park

Bring your own chair.

Meet your fellow parishioners and
enjoy a FREE lunch afterwards!

Pet Blessing

Saturday, October 4, 2025

10:00AM under the SS Portico

Join us as we give a special blessing over your pets,
through the intercession of St. Francis.

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,

One of our best events of the year is next weekend: our outdoor Mass and picnic will take place next Sunday (Oct. 5) at 10:30AM at Hoffer Park. Please come and enjoy the beautiful park and the gift of Our Savior in the Eucharist.

I really look forward to this day, because it's so simple, but not irreverent. In fact, just the opposite. I think I experience the beauty of the Mass in a deeper way outside with all of you during this special day. Afterward, we'll have a free picnic lunch for everyone. Please come and bring chairs or a blanket for your family. If it rains, we'll have indoor plans, but let's count on great weather!

Looking forward to celebrating our awesome Faith and parish with you next Sunday at 10:30AM at Hoffer Park.

Ministry Fair/Breakfast Thank You

Last week, our Parish Ministry Fair and breakfast was a great success. Thank you to all who visited, especially to all the ministries who staffed tables. In particular, thank you to the Room at Our Table group, who provided the breakfast. You did such an outstanding job and took a lot of time to prepare that for us. Thank you so much for all you do for us.

Our Faith gives us the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood at Mass. We express that gift by our lives in the work we do outside of Mass. Our ministries allow us to do just that. Thank you for giving your time and treasure to our work!

The Monstrance Explained

Every weekday, the Eucharist is exposed for public prayer in our Adoration Chapel. The Eucharist is held in the monstrance, which -- in our parish -- is a large golden vessel. Some people have asked who the figurines are surrounding the Sacred Host.

Well, above the Eucharist, in the middle, is the Blessed Mother, with a crown, holding the baby Jesus. On either side of her are two angels. To the left of the Eucharist is St. Peter (recognized by holding the keys to the Kingdom that Jesus gave to him), and to the right is St. Paul (holding a sword, which is how he was martyred). On either side of each is an angel. The images on the monstrance symbolize some important things: Mary, holding Jesus, just like we hold Jesus in us when we receive the Eucharist; and Peter and Paul, the leaders in Rome of the early Catholic Church, which is the symbol of our unity!



The Devil Is Not Entertainment

I heard a good deal about a rock concert at Hersheypark last weekend that was very heavily attended, and apparently with some really popular groups. During the concert, there was a lot of music and merchandise that featured the devil. It was almost like it was glorifying him.

I strongly encourage you to not wear clothing, listen to music, or otherwise use Satan for entertainment purposes. He is not funny. He is not to be messed with. The culture has a strange fascination with the devil, and likes to put him in popular entertainment. It will then just say, "well, it's just for fun...he's not really real." Just because they say so doesn't mean it's the case. Jesus talks about Satan a lot in Sacred Scripture. He doesn't really make small talk or talk about things that don't exist. So believe Jesus when He warns us about Satan. In fact, He died so that we might be free of Satan and sin.

So, this Halloween, when considering costumes, avoid the devil and avoid things that deal with him. There are so many other great costumes to wear. When we invite the devil into our life, we are playing with fire. Let's embrace Christ and the awesome life He gives us, which destroys the power of the enemy!

God bless you, Fr. Sahd

PARISH 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

SCHOOL STAFF

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lisa Fortunato - lfortunato@ssbvm.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Joe Trojcak - joetrojcak@gmail.com

PARISH SCHOOL

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

HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop McDevitt - 717-236-7973



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Twenty - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Mario Corradi
10:30 am +Linda Tritch
6:00 pm Our Parish Family

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2025

Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

8:00 am +Charles Steven Gerhards

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 St. Jerome

8:00 am +Nancy Jean Klinger

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025 St Therese

8:30 am +Mario Corradi

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025 The Holy Guardian Angels

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**

6:00 pm +Donald Jennings

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025

8:00 am +Joe Rakus

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025 St Francis of Assisi

7:15 am -7:50 am **CONFESSION**

8:00 am +Special Intentions of Bill and Iva Mae Young

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**

4:30 pm Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

Twenty - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Johnny and Francie Gofhus

10:30 am +Bob Dobosh

6:00 pm +Joe Souders



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Sept. 28	Amos 6:1a,4-7(138C) / 1 Tim 6:11-16 / Lk 16:19-31
Mon. Sept. 29	Dan 7:9-10,13-14 / John 1:47-51
Tue. Sept. 30	Zech 8:20-23 / Lk 9:51-56
Wed. Oct. 1	Neh 2:1-8 / Lk 9:57-62
Thu. Oct. 2	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12 / Matt 18:1-5, 10
Fri. Oct. 3	Bar 1:15-22 / Lk 10:13-16
Sat. Oct. 4	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Lk 10:17-24
Sun. Oct. 5	Hab.1:2-3;2:2-4(141C)/2Tim.1:6-8,13-14/Lk17:5-10

PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar and pulpit this weekend are in honor of the 40th wedding anniversary of JOAN and TOM SCOTT. Congratulations and may God bless you with many more wonderful years together.

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



SUNDAY OFFERING

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 9 - 21 - 2025

SUNDAY GIVING \$12,555.00
ONLINE GIVING \$ 4,732.00
TOTAL \$17,286.00



Scan for Online Giving

DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

2025 DAC GOAL: \$187,283

COLLECTED & PLEDGED: \$188,598 (101%)

Tuition Angel Donation

Designate your Tuition Angel donation to a relative or family in need. Your donation can go to a school family or Religious Ed family. Mark the designated family's name on the envelope.



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28

9:15 am Religious Ed School
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
11:30am Parish Rosary Making School's Art Room
1:00 pm Bible Study Drexel Room
4:00 pm Youth Open Gym Gym

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 29

6:00 pm Legion of Mary Legion of Mary Room
6:00 pm Varsity Basketball Gym
6:30 pm Bible Study Drexel Room

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

6:30 pm Scout Meeting/Campfire Shank's Park

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1

5:30 pm Youth Girls Basketball Gym
6:30 pm Choir Practice Church

THURSDAY OCTOBER 2

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #1

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4

6:45 am TMIY Cafeteria
10:00 am Pet Blessing Church Portico
4:30 pm Photo Directory Appointments Narthex

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5

8:00 am Photo Directory Appointments Narthex
9:15 am Religious Ed School (early dismissal at 10am)
10:30 am Outdoor Mass Hoffer Park
1:00 pm Bible Study Drexel Room
4:00 pm Youth Open Gym Gym



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Art Gutierrez

Jack Gill

(Brother of Shirley Parkhill)

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



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
TSgt.	Brittany MacBlane	USAF

SENIOR MINISTRY

Historic Walking Tour. October 6 at 10 am at the Middletown Cemetery. Meet at the Monument/Cannon. We'll explore the past & discuss the influence on today. Dining to follow at the Brownstone.

Senior Ministry Committee Meeting - October 15 at 5:30 pm. Drexel Room.

Senior Ministry EVENTS PAMPHLET - Pick up a copy at Flyer Rack in the Narthex. Includes details of all remaining events for 2025.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

**Psych
Facts**

Did You Know?

When you write
your feelings down,
your brain sees them
as processed.

That's why journaling
actually reduces stress - the
mind feels "heard"

Write
down
what ways
on your
heart

"BEHOLD! A Conference for the Family of God"

Everyone is invited to an exciting new event in October. Whether you are young or old, new to the faith, rooted in our Catholic traditions, or even feel yourself drifting away, BEHOLD! has something for you.

Join Bishop Senior and our keynote, Bishop Frank Caggiano, along with our dynamic breakout speakers, and musical entertainment, The Scally Brothers, for a full day of faith, fellowship, and fun on Saturday, October 18th, at Holy Name of Jesus parish in Harrisburg. Register today at hbgdiocese.org/behold.

Extra Ordinary and Lector Schedule October 4/5

4:30pm - C. Kovalchik, W. Biedrzycki, R. Horney, E. Lushko
Lector - C. Samarin
8:00am - P. Bradford, L. Christner, J. Hinkson, K. Neely
Lector - L. Breisch
10:30am - M. Blanch, J. Fornadly, A. and R. Warner
Lector - T. Blanch

Schedule is on the website and posted in the Alb Room

NEED TO KNOW

Church Directory Update! We would love for you to be a part of it! Our scheduling process has begun. You will be able to choose a date and time for your private photo session.



The sessions will run Nov. 4 - 8, and the weekend of Nov 28-29. Everyone that is photographed will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory. Sign up for your photo session after masses in the Narthex or scan the QR code.

Blessing of Religious Articles

Blessings of religious articles (rosaries, crucifixes, religious gifts, etc) will take place at the end of the 8:00AM Mass on October 4 (First Sat. of the month).



Adoration Chapel

Adorers needed for Fridays 11am to 12 noon. Please contact Anna Dale at annajdale@gmail.com or phone 717-944-6014.

Join us to pray for our family and friends who are distanced from our faith to return

St. Monica

Holy Hour of Petition and Hope

The Holy Hour is a powerful and moving devotion, in which we gather to worship Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament, to ask for His Mercy, and to invoke St. Monica's intercession for the return of our brothers and sisters to the Faith.

Wednesday, October 8th, 7pm

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

09/28/25
9:15-10:15 am Class

10/05/25
9:15-10:00 am Class (Early Dismissal)
10:30 Outdoor Mass & Picnic @ Hoffer Park

10/12/25
Columbus Day - No Class



SSBVM Catholic School
Principal - Angela Warner

Sevensorrowsschool.com
awarner@ssbvm.org

Substitute Teachers - experienced Teachers needed for substitute days.
After School Aide 3:30pm - 5:30pm any day Monday - Friday
Cafeteria - We need help serving lunches between 10:30am - 12:30pm 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.

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

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead." (Luke 16:31)

This Priesthood Sunday, pray for vocations and for those who have answered the call to be witnesses to the Gospel. Write a letter or send a message to a priest who has inspired you, letting them know that you are praying for them, and ask them to pray for you as you discern your vocation.

Talk to Father Sahd or reach out to Father Weaver at the Vocations Office: Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org



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