



October 19, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
29th 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:

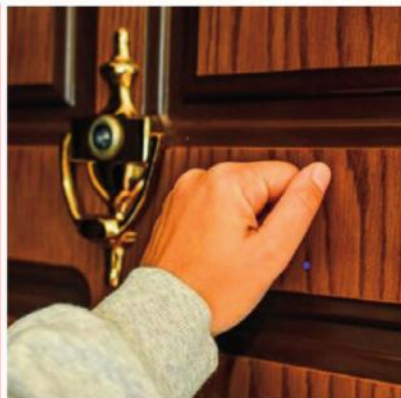
Saturday: 4:30pm
 Sunday: 8:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

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



Home Communion Ministry

The Holy Eucharist is vital to our Faith and our Spiritual, physical and emotional well being.

If you or someone you know is unable to attend Mass for a short or extended time due to recuperation, age or housebound, please call the parish office at 717-944-3133.

We have Extraordinary Ministers who will call to schedule a convenient time to visit and bring the Eucharist to you.

If you can't come to the Church, the Church will come to you. We are all valued members of the Body of Christ and we serve each other.

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,

I pray you had a great week. I spent the week in Towson, MD, at our annual priest convocation for all of the priests of the Diocese of Harrisburg. We all get together for the week for conferences, social time, dinners, and meetings.

At first glance, it doesn't sound very interesting, and I always miss being at the parish for the week. But being together with our brother priests is such a gift. I don't get to see many of them throughout the year, as we all have our own parishes and our own work. So just being together, whether playing games, cards, eating meals, or making fun of the presenters during the conferences (just joking, maybe!), is a great time.

We have so many awesome priests in our diocese. We are all so different, but then again, so are our parishioners. God truly has given many gifts to many people, including our priests. I feel so blessed to have this vocation and share this life with my brother priests.

Please pray for us; we need your help and prayers, so that we can stay strong in the Faith and help you stay strong as well, so that one day, we may all be together in Heaven with Jesus, our Savior.

Why I Love Being Catholic, Part 50!

I am blown away by the number of our parishioners who have freely shared their Catholic Faith with us. Several more have written, and here are some excerpts from a few parishioners:

"I love that no matter where we go on earth, the Faith is the same. The teachings make sense: faith and reason. The direct line from Jesus down to us in our time." - a long time parishioner

"Growing up, I read the description of the Throne Room in Revelation, that the saints would praise the Lord forever, and secretly thought it sounded kind of boring. The praise services I had attended were fine as far as they went, but I couldn't imagine one of them going on forever and not wanting to leave after only a few hours. While perhaps an understandable thought at a human level, this did, in retrospect, have a significant effect on my life. I was not really looking forward to eternity. I knew I wasn't supposed to feel that way, but I mostly felt that there was stuff I wanted to finish up here first before I gave up and went to heaven. This left me feeling somewhat ambivalent about Christ's return and afraid of my own death. I mostly just allowed myself to not think about it very much.

When I walked into Deacon St. Denis' ordination Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, I immediately felt very protestant. The entire structure was so much more ornate, grand, and beautiful than I was used to in a church. It left me feeling out of place, particularly since I had some trouble finding parking and was therefore late enough to be relegated to the standing room only in the very back of the Cathedral. But, standing in the back gave me a clear view of the scene in its entirety: The crucifix high in the center, the tabernacle, the light shining down on it through the dome, the priests gathered around the altar, and the inscriptions "Behold I Am With You All Days" and "I Am The Resurrection And The Life", the many different nationalities clearly represented among the audience. I spent the first portion of the Mass just standing there and taking it all in, getting used to it. It was definitely Catholic, and I appreciated the clear beauty of it, but the dominant feeling was still that this was a very different expression of the faith than what I had grown up accustomed to.

But then there was a particular moment when the soloist hit the high note of a Hallelujah, the entire choir came in, the organist pulled out all the stops, and the whole place *reverberated*. I didn't hear that chord so much as I felt it in my chest. In that moment, I suddenly saw it: the Son of Man high and lifted up, in His Tabernacle, shining in the light of his Father, his elders gathered around him, God among His resurrected people, being praised by every tribe and tongue. I finally *got it*: this is the Throne Room. This Cathedral is our human attempt to build a small scale model in imitation of eternity. And then, with tears streaming down my face, I thought something I've thought only two other times in my life: Yes, I could do this forever."

- A convert to the Faith

Wow, I don't know how to put into words the beauty of the Mass better than that last testimony, or the permanence of the Faith better than the first! You are all a blessing to me, and to us! 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, OCTOBER 19, 2025

Twenty - Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Deceased Members of the
Shank & Relken Families
10:30 am Our Parish Family
6:00 pm +Lawrence Quarry

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 St. Paul of the Cross

8:00 am Special Intentions of
Bob & Diane McNulty's Grandchildren

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

8:00 am +Monica Drayer and Family

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025 St John Paul II

8:30 am Special Intentions of Ann Marie
and Kenneth Licata

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025 St. John of Capistrano

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**
6:00 pm +Colby Hall

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025 St. Anthony Mary Claret

8:00 am +Raymond F. Smith

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

7:15 am -7:50 am **CONFESSION**
8:00 am +Robert Jones
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**
4:30 pm +Ed Fox

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Mary Hodorovich
10:30 am + Steven Mennen
6:00 pm Our Parish Family



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Oct. 19	Exo 17:8-13(147C) / 2Tim 3:14-4:2 / Lk 18:1-8
Mon. Oct. 20	Rom 4:20-25 / Lk 12:13-21
Tue. Oct. 21	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 / Lk 12:35-38
Wed. Oct. 22	Rom 6:12-18 / Lk 12:39-48
Thu. Oct. 23	Rom 6:19-23 / Lk 12:49-53
Fri. Oct. 24	Rom 7:18-25a / Lk 12:54-59
Sat. Oct. 25	Rom 8: 1-11 / Lk 13:1-9
Sun. Oct. 26	Sir 35:12-14,16-18(150C) / 2Tim 4:6-8,16-18 / Lk 18:9-14

Sponsor Certificates for sacramental sponsors can be issued only to registered & active members of the parish. Please call the office.

Altar 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 10 - 12 - 2025

SUNDAY GIVING \$15,264.00
ONLINE GIVING \$ 3,390.00
TOTAL \$18,654.00



Scan for Online Giving

DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

2025 DAC GOAL: \$187,283

THANK YOU! In pledges and cash, we have surpassed our DAC goal of \$187,283! However, we have nearly \$31,000 in unpaid pledges. Thank you for continuing to pay your DAC pledges throughout the remainder of the year so that we can indeed reach our goal. God bless you



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19

8:00 am CCW Bake Sale **Narthex**
8:00 am Photo Directory Appointments **Narthex**
8:00 am Off the Streets Donation Box **Narthex**
9:00 am Confirmation Parents Meeting **Church**
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
1:00 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**

MONDAY OCTOBER 20

6:00 pm Legion of Mary
6:30 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21

7:00 pm Scout Meeting **Cafeteria**

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22

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

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #4**
6:30 pm Senior Ministry Game Night **Cafeteria**
6:30 pm OCIA **Library**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24

5:30 pm Trunk or Treat **Parking Lot (Gym and Cafeteria, in case of rain)**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

6:45 am TMIY **Cafeteria**
4:00 pm Religious Ed Corn Maze Event **School**
4:30 pm Smiles for Abby Collection **Narthex**
4:30 pm Photo Directory Appointments **Narthex**
4:30 pm Return Boxes of Joy **Narthex**

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26

8:00 am Smiles for Abby Collection **Narthex**
8:00 am Photo Directory Appointments **Narthex**
8:00 am Return Boxes of Joy **Narthex**
9:00 am First Communion Parent Meeting **Church**
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making **School's Art Room**
1:00 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**
4:00 pm Youth Open Gym **Gym**



REMEMBER IN PRAYERS 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

Holy Mass & Game Night Bash - October 23. Join us for a Great Night of Faith, Friendship & Fun! Holy Mass at 6 pm followed by a Special Game Night to end our 2025 year. We have lots of games or bring your own & teach us! Also, we invite you to bring a dessert, snack or munchies to share. Please bring appropriate service utensils with your food items. We'll have cold beverages, cups, small plates & napkins available.

Sight and Sound Theatre - With Reservations Only. We will meet on Wednesday, November 12, under the church's portico for check-in at 10:30 am with bus boarding at 10:45 am. Our 1st stop will be dining at Greenfield Restaurant & then on to the performance of NOAH. The approximate return arrival at Seven Sorrows is 6:45 pm.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



Boxes of Joy – Thank you for all who are participating in the wonderful gift of giving. The filled boxes must be **returned the weekend of October 25/26.**

OFF THE STREETS

Off the Streets will be temporarily pausing all furniture donation pickups, in an effort to catch up with high move demand and to clear out space in their warehouses. Pickups will resume as soon as possible. For more information, email info@offthestreetsmiddletownpa.org.

SMILES FOR ABBY

Smiles for Abby is establishing a new quarterly narthex collection schedule. Collections will be held on the last weekend of October, January, April and July after all masses. Care package items and monetary donations will be collected at these donation drives. The next collection will be held on October 25 and 26. Desired items include new blankets, blank gender neutral hats, unscented travel sized lotions, and hand sanitizers. You can contact Nick from Smiles for Abby at smiles4abby@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your support!

Extra Ordinary and Lector Schedule October 25/26
Schedule is on the website and available for pick up in the Alb Room.

NEED TO KNOW

Parish Rosary Making

Join us to make Rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room Sun. October 26 anytime from 11:30AM to 4:00PM. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

Thursday November 6th we will host our Traditional Mass of Remembrance at 7pm. An invitation is extended to all family members who have lost someone this past year. Please call the Parish office if you lost a loved this year and would like their name added to the list that will be read during Mass.



SSBVM School's Class of 2026 is selling poinsettias to raise money for their annual field trip to Washington, DC.

Order: <https://bit.ly/XMASFLOWER25>

Dates to note: Orders Due: 11/3 | Pick up: Weekend of 12/12

Questions? Contact abolesky@ssbvm.org

Thank you for supporting our 74th graduating class!

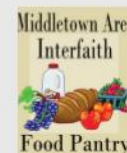


Ad Altare Dei Scouting Religious Award

There will be an Ad Altare Dei Boy Scout Religious Award program beginning on Monday, October 27 at 7:00 PM in the Holy Name of Jesus Social Hall. Catholic Scouts in grades 7 through 9 from any troop are welcome to join. The program is based on the seven sacraments and emphasizes how the sacraments are not just one-time activities but part of our daily faith life central to the spiritual growth of all Catholics. Interested Scouts should contact Glen Hair at 717-877-7148 or glenhair08@gmail.com.



Middletown Food Pantry is in need of canned soup - chicken noodle, tomato, and vegetable are the favorites, but any flavors are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.



MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

The Caregiver

Unknown and often unnoticed, you are a hero, nonetheless. For your love, sacrificial, is God at His best.

You walk by faith in the darkness of great unknown, and your courage, even in weakness, give life to your beloved.

You hold shaking hands and provide the ultimate care: Your presence, the knowing, that you are simply there.

You rise to face the giant of disease and despair, It is your finest hour, though you may be unaware.

You are resilient, amazing and beauty unexcelled, You are the caregiver, and you do it well!

Bruce McIntyre

Support
for
Caregivers



RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

10/26/25

9:00am 1st Holy Communion Mtg/Church
9:15-10:15am Class

Jr. High Corn Maze:

Permission Slips Needed.



Join us!
SEVEN SORROWS
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
TRUNK OR TREAT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24
6:00 - 7:30 PM
FOOD TRUCK, TACO STAND & MORE
Would you like to host a trunk for this event?
Register here: bit.ly/SSBVM25TRUNKS



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



"When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8)

Priests and religious brothers and sisters help to keep faith alive in the world. Could God be calling you to be one of these dedicated servants?

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


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