

3rd ANNUAL LIVE NATIVITY

...from sin and chaos to Savior.

Friday, December 5, 2025

5:30-7:30pm



November 16, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

33rd 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



Come
Let us Adore Him!

Leave 2025 and travel back in time to when Mary said yes, the shepherds rejoiced, the wise men followed, and Christ became man.

Once beyond the Nativity scene, step back into 2025 where all are encouraged to visit the real Presence of Jesus Christ on the Altar.

FREE attendance, star-shaped soft
pretzel and S'more Treat!
Live music and animals!

For Sale:

Hot Dogs, Chips, Water & Hot Chocolate



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,

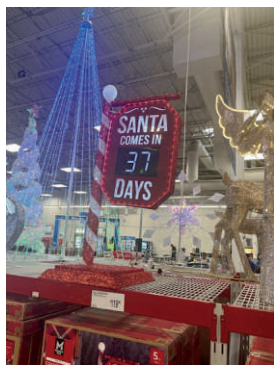
I hope you are well! Earlier this week, you received a letter from the parish regarding our proposed plan for a renovation of the gym and cafeteria. As we mention in the letter, there is a great need to replace the heating and air conditioning units, the roof, and structural and electrical upgrades.

Please take the time to look the letter over carefully, and also to complete the survey that is included. Both will give us a better understanding of your desires for our parish moving forward.

The necessity for a renovation hit home this week, as our electrical panel in the rectory failed, and needed to be replaced. All of the electrical systems in the gym and cafeteria are older than the one in the rectory, and need attention.

Thank you so much for your careful consideration of the project, and for your feedback. We need it if we are to move forward in any capacity as a parish. May God bless you and thank you for your participation in the life of our parish!

Headline for Christmas sub-story: Too Soon?!



Driving around last weekend, I noticed that many people used the nice weather to put up their Christmas decorations.

It was Nov. 9! A month and a half from Christmas!

I'm having a hard time wrapping my mind around the fact that we're even close to Christmas. Of course, about a month ago I snapped this picture at a big box store. I immediately started to freak out, since I thought we were that close! But I realized it wasn't correct. Now, it's almost dead-on. We're getting close.

Are you ready? How much more do you have to do? If Christmas came tomorrow, would you be ready?

Now, I'd like to raise an even more important matter. If we were to meet our judge – Jesus Christ – tomorrow, would we be ready?

Of course we do not know the day nor the hour of that meeting, but we must live in order to be prepared for that unknown moment. Because while the time and date are undecided, the fact that it will happen is not. It WILL happen.

This weekend's readings point to that fact. As we get closer to Advent, all of the readings will focus on the "end times." They are not the "end," though. We will enter eternity at the end of our earthly lives. But we will be judged, and be sent to eternal life or eternal death. Those are the options.

This Advent, I strongly encourage all of our parish to take advantage of the confession times we offer here, whether the regularly scheduled times, or our parish time of confessions in December. Confession is the ONLY way to prepare.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that, once we reach seven years of age, we must confess mortal (serious) sins at least once a year. However, if we have mortal sins on our soul, we should confess them as soon as possible. If we were to die with these sins on our soul, we will be lost to eternal death. It is that serious.

But Jesus is merciful with the remedy. Confession is hard, but it is not impossible. We feel the freedom Jesus' desires for us once we confess whatever sins are bothering and weighing us down.

It's a win-win. Please take advantage of Advent to be ready for Jesus' birth, and also His Second Coming when we all will be judged. 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

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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, November 16, 2025

Thirty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Bob Douglass
10:30 am Our Parish Family
6:00 pm +Mary Hodorovich

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025 St. Elizabeth

8:00 am +Shawn Maydak

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul

8:00 am +Nancy Jean Klinger

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

8:30 am +All Holy Souls

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

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

6:00 pm +Ann Bilger

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2025

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am +Gary O'Brien

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025 St. Celcilia

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

8:00 am +Charlie Stare

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

4:30 pm +Dolores and Richard Stichter

SUNDAY, November 23, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

8:00 am +Phyllis Gravino

10:30 am +Joe Rakus

6:00 pm Our Parish Family



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Nov 16	Mal 3:19-20a(159c)/2Thes 3:7-12/Luke 21:5-19
Mon. Nov 17	1 Mac 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-63/Luke 18:35-43
Tue. Nov 18	2 Mac 6:18-31 / Luke 19:1-10
Wed. Nov 19	2 Mac 7:1, 20-31 / Luke 19:11-28
Thu. Nov 20	1 Mac 2:15-29 / Luke 19:41-44
Fri. Nov 21	1 Mac 4:36-37,52-59 / Luke 19:45-48
Sat. Nov 22	1 Mac 6:1-13 / Luke 20:27-40
Sun. Nov 23	2 Sam 5:1-3(162C)/Col 1:12-20 /Luke 23:35-43



PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

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

PEACE AND THE END OF CONFLICT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

May all soldiers return safely to their homes and loved ones.

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 11 - 9 - 2025

Sunday Giving \$12,676.00
Online Giving \$ 5,893.00
Total \$18,569.00



Scan for Online Giving



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16

8:00 am Off the Streets Donation Box **Narthex**
8:00 am CCW Bake /Advent Candle Sale **Narthex**
8:00 am School Poinsettia Pre Sale **Narthex**
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
1:00 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**

MONDAY NOVEMBER 17

6:00 pm Legion of Mary
6:30 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**
7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball **Gym**

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18

5:00 pm Novice Boys Basketball **Gym**
6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball **Gym**
7:00 pm Scouts **Cafeteria**

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19

6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #4**
6:30 pm OCIA **Library**
7:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball **Gym**

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 21

5:30 pm Novice Boys Basketball **Gym**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22

6:45 am TMIY **Cafeteria**
4:30 pm Christmas Card Sale **Narthex**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23

8:00 am KOC Blood Drive **Gym**
8:00 am Christmas Card Sale **Narthex**
(after all Masses)
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
1:00 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of
Richard Altimore

Ann and Donald Savidge

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

Communion for the sick and shut-ins

If you or someone you know is unable to attend Mass for a short period of time or extended time, due to recuperation, age or housebound, please call the Church Office.



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
ACI	Trey Kephart	USAF

SENIOR MINISTRY

Holy Mass and Christmas Caroling at Oak Hill Village - December 10th at 11 am in the OHV Chapel. Join us as we gather for Holy Mass celebrated by Father Sahd & then Holiday Singing with the residents immediately following Mass.

Christmas Friendship Luncheon - December 16th at 1pm at the Middletown American Legion. The cost for the Buffet Luncheon is \$26 and will feature Braised Beef, Baked Ham with Pineapple, a Variety of Sides, Dessert, Coffee/Tea. **Reservation/Payment is due in the Parish Office on or before December 1.** Join us for Food, Faith, Friendship & Fun!

Game Night - We will not gather in November/December. Next is January 22 after 6 pm Mass, weather permitting.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

The KOC are selling their **Seven Sorrows BVM Christmas Ornaments** and **Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets** in the Narthex after all Masses the weekends of **November 29th** and **December 6th**. **Christmas Ornaments** are \$10.00 each and **Magnets** \$3.00 each or **2 for \$5.00**



All proceeds benefit future Knights of Columbus projects. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Join us for a festive evening of fun and friendly competition at the 5th Annual Knights Night of Christmas Trivia Saturday, December 6th at 7:00 pm in the School Gymnasium. Cost: \$25 per team (up to 6 participants) For more details, please check out the flyer in the magazine rack or visit the Knights table. Don't miss out on the holiday cheer —gather your team and come test your Christmas knowledge.

NEED TO KNOW

Cleaning Volunteers:

We are looking for a couple more volunteers that would be able to help with cleaning the church once a month. Cleaning takes place on Thursday morning at 8:30 am for approximately an hour and half. You would be responsible for helping once a month. If interested please call Sue Dussinger 223-797-0032.

Adoration Chapel

Adorers needed for Tuesdays at 5:00pm to 6:00pm
Please contact Anna Dale at annajdale@gmail.com or phone 717-944-6014.



Dear Ladies of Seven Sorrows, mark your calendars for a beautiful evening of prayer, reflection, and fellowship during **Advent by Candlelight**. We will be gathering with ladies of St. Peter's from **6:30pm-8:30pm on Sunday, November 30** in St. Peter's hall for our program of inspiration and encouragement to spend the Season of Advent.

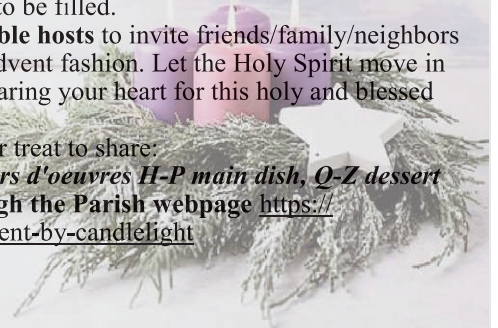
We'll have delicious food for our bellies, and food for the soul. Our theme of the evening is "The Word became Flesh" Come and sit at the feet of Christ for a while and allow your feminine heart to be filled.

We are in need of **table hosts** to invite friends/family/neighbors and to decorate in Advent fashion. Let the Holy Spirit move in you to focus on preparing your heart for this holy and blessed season.

Please bring a dish or treat to share:

Last Name: A-G Hors d'oeuvres H-P main dish, Q-Z dessert

Please RSVP through the Parish webpage <https://www.ssbvm.org/advent-by-candlelight>



EGG Season 2026

40 & 48oz Jif Creamy PB Goal: 1000 To Date: 188



COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Bake Sale and Advent Candle /Wreaths will be held after Masses on November 15/16. All donations from our parish bakers are welcome.

Annual CCW Christmas dinner at Leeds Restaurant on Tuesday, December 9th. All parish women are welcome. A flyer with meal choices, prices and other details can be found on the CCW table in the narthex. Reservations and dinner selections must be made no later than December 5th by calling Cathy Samarin at 717-919-9180. Payment will be by check to CCW the night of the dinner.

THAT MAN IS YOU

Join us for coffee & donuts, fellowship and faith every Saturday 6:45 am in the cafeteria. All men are welcome. email Martin Ciccocioppo at martincicc@verizon.net.

OFF THE STREETS

Off the Streets is once again accepting lightly used furniture to give to our recently-housed neighbors in need! If you are interested in donating, you may contact the ministry at info@offthestreetsmiddletownpa.com -- and thank you so much for your generosity!

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

11/16/25 - Class
11/23/25 - Class/Virtus Training - Use front door for arrival
11/30/25 - No Class - Happy Thanksgiving!

After School Aide 3:30pm - 5:30pm any day Mon.- Fri.
Diocesan Clearances are needed. Contact principal ,Angela Warner ,if interested.

Virtue recognition for Faithfulness Our School's Virtue recognition for the Month of October was FAITHFULNESS. Congratulations to the following SSBVM Students (K5-8th) and Teachers who were nominated by their teachers and coworkers for exemplifying Faithfulness: Zion Gurung, Brayden Desjardins, Rebekah Dale, Lily Sides, Mila Carnes, Ella Dale, Miriam Astfalk and Ms. Mary Lee Shaffer.

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"By your perseverance you will secure your lives." (Luke 21:19)

Consider the hidden yet powerful witness of those in cloistered religious life. Is God calling you to a life of prayer and contemplation?

Talk to Fr Sahd or reach out to the Vocations Office at Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org

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Principal - Angela Warner

Sevensorrowsschool.com
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