

Hope



November 30, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
1st Sunday of Advent

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: Closed
Tuesday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am-10:00pm
Thursday: 9:00am - 10:00pm
Friday: 9:00am-Noon



— 3rd Annual Live — *Nativity*

Friday, December 5th
5:30-7:30PM



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, animals and new this year... Cassius the camel!

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 in Christ,

Happy Thanksgiving! Happy First Sunday of Advent!

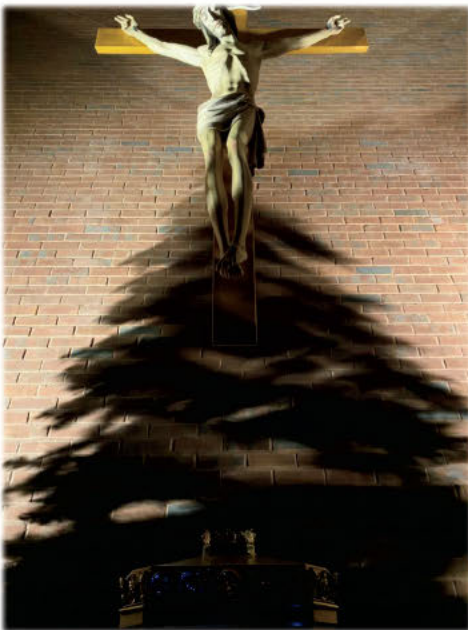
It's real. It's on.

Do you feel the weight of the season? I do. This weekend always makes me feel like we're leaving the Junior Varsity team and moving to Varsity. Like the slow-paced summer is over, and we're moving into the busy-ness of Fall.

And it's true. Not just because of Black Friday or all of the Christmas movies and music. It is really different because the season is weighty. We are preparing for God to become man, and to come and rescue us!

Talk about serious! It is because of our Faith that we celebrate Christmas. And Christmas DEMANDS a serious preparation. That preparation is Advent.

If Jesus comes to save us, He is saving us from sin, so that we can be with Him forever in Heaven. There is no sin in Heaven, and the Father sent His Son to become one of us, so that He can purify. When we are purified by the Body and Blood of Christ – through all of the Sacraments – we are ready for Heaven.



Without Him, we are not. We have no entrance into Heaven.

So Advent is preparing for that saving work of Jesus! The best preparation is **CONFES-SION**, where we are purified and cleansed from sin – no matter what that sin may be.

That great Sacrament will be offered on our normal times of Thursdays from 5-5:45PM and Saturday from 7:15-7:50AM and 3:30-4:15PM. Also, on Sunday, Dec. 14, we'll have our parish-wide time of confessions, which will feature many priests, starting at 2PM.

Please take advantage of the greatest preparation for our salvation: The Sacrament of Con-fession.

We have other preparations as well, including our great Live Nativity, on Dec. 5, from 5:30-7:30PM. This year's theme is "From Sin and Chaos to Savior," and will feature beautiful scenery, live music, the Bible story, free soft pretzels, s'mores and cookies, and of course, our beautiful and real-life Nativity scene. We'll also have live animals, including a camel.

You'll want to bring your family and friends for this very awesome and family-friendly event. It will help motivate you to prepare for Christmas during this Advent season! It's free, and open to everyone. Invite everyone to our parish for this great event!

Even more, see you on Sundays to worship our God to prepare our hearts for the awesome day when we celebrate our Savior's Birth as one of us! God bless you, and I pray you have a great beginning of Advent!

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, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am +James Egenrieder
10:30 am +Albert Schmeltzer
6:00 pm +Cathy Benson

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025

8:00 am +Gary O'Brien

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025

8:00 am +Claire Kostyak

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025 St. Francis Xavier

8:30 am +Ray Zanzinger

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025 St. John Damascene

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

6:00 pm +Richard Baril

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2025

8:00 am +Ed Fox

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025 St. Nicholas

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

8:00 am +Annarose and Joseph Hepner

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

4:30 pm +Steven Mennen

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

The Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Our Parish Family

10:30 am +Mae Licata

6:00 pm +Anna Schmeltzer



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Nov 30	Isa 2:1-5(1A) / Rom13:11-14 / Matt 24:37-44
Mon. Dec 1	Isa 4:2-6 / Matt 8:5-11
Tue. Dec. 2	Isa 11:1-10 / Luke 10:21-24
Wed. Dec. 3	Isa 25:6-10a / Matt 15:29-37
Thu. Dec. 4	Isa 26:1-6 / Matt 7: 21,24-27
Fri. Dec. 5	Isa 29: 17-24 / Matt 9:27-31
Sat. Dec. 6	Isa 30:19-21, 23-26 / Matt 9 :35-10:1,5a,6-8
Sun. Dec. 7	Isa 11:1-10(4A) / Rom 15:4-9 / Matt 3:1-12



BAPTISM

Our Parish Family rejoices and welcomes

Hallie Anne Homoki
Child of Michael and Susan Homoki

who was baptized by Water and the Spirit.



SUNDAY OFFERING

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 11 - 23 - 2025

Sunday Giving

Online Giving

Total Due to the Holiday the totals will be
in next week's bulletin



Scan for Online Giving



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30

8:00 am KOC Ornament Sale **Narthex**
(after all Masses)

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

10:30 am Parish Playroom **Basement**

MONDAY DECEMBER 1

PARISH OFFICE AND ADORATION CHAPEL CLOSED

7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball **Gym**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 2

5:00 pm Novice Boys Basketball **Gym**

6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball **Gym**

7:00 pm Scouts **Gym**

7:00 pm KOC Meeting **Drexel Room**

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3

5:00 pm Novice Girls Basketball **Gym**

6:00 pm JV Girls Basketball **Gym**

6:30 pm Choir Practice

7:00 pm Varsity Girls Basketball **Gym**

THURSDAY DECEMBER 4

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #3**

6:30 pm OCIA **Church**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5

5:30 pm Live Nativity

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6

6:30 am That Man is You **Cafeteria**

4:30 pm KOC Ornament Sale **Narthex**

7:00 pm KOC Christmas Trivia **Gym**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7

8:00 am KOC Ornament **Narthex**

9:00 am Advent Penance Service (gr. 3,4,5)

9:15 am Religious Education

10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

11:30 am Children's Rosary **Church**

Can't make Mass?

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 period of time or extended time, due to recuperation, age or housebound, please call the Church Office.

We have Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist dedicated to this Ministry who will call to schedule a convenient time to visit and bring the Eucharist for as long as needed.



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

December 10 at 11 am in the Oak Hill Village Chapel. Join us as we gather for Holy Mass celebrated by Father Sahd and Holiday Singing with the residents following Mass.

Christmas Friendship Dinner - December 16 at 1pm at the American Legion. Reservation/Payment is due in the Parish Office on or before Dec. 1.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Seven Sorrows BVM Christmas Ornaments and Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets will be available in the Narthex after all Masses this weekend and **December 6th**.

Christmas Ornaments are \$10.00 each

Magnets: \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00

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



**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



Children's Rosary

All children and parishioners are invited to pray in the church after the 10:30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month (December 7) ANY CHILD can voluntarily lead a decade of the Rosary. Everyone is invited to join in prayer to support the children.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Church Directory - You still can be a part of it!

December 26-27 will be the last two days the photographer will be available. Everyone that is photographed will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory. Scan the QR code to schedule your photo session.



Church Code: **pa1213**

Church Password: **photos**

Feasibility Study - Last Call For Surveys Interviews!



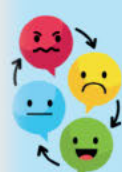
As with any major initiative, we want to touch base with our parish households to gain their feedback and insight. This is the time to review the campaign vision and respond!

Please complete the survey mailed to you or fill it out online (tinyurl.com/sevensorrowssurvey2025). There are extras available at the parish office. To sign up for an interview please visit tinyurl.com/sevensorrowssurvey2025 or contact Richie Musser at 484-364-0601 or rmusser@kirbysmith.com.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Spiritual Support Group meets the 2nd Thursday of the month (December 11) at 6:30 pm in the Parish Living Room.

Self Regulate



How to Instantly Feel Better

Angry	→	Sing
Burned Out	→	Walk
Over Thinking	→	Write
Anxious	→	Breath
Stressed	→	Exercise
Sad	→	Gratitude
Lazy	→	Cold Shower
Inpatient	→	Reflect on Progress

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Annual 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.

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

12/07/25 - Class/Advent Penance Svc 3, 4 & 5
12/15/25 - Sacrament Forms due 2nd & 8th gr.
12/14/25 - Class/Advent Penance Svc 6, 7 & 8
12/21/25 - Group Christmas Party

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matthew 24:42)

God calls us to be vigilant, ready to respond to His invitation. Could He be stirring your heart toward priesthood or consecrated life, to serve His Church with unwavering dedication? Stay awake to His call through prayer.

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

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VISIT & PHOTO OP WITH SANTA
CHILDREN'S CRAFT & CHRISTMAS TREAT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025
SSBVM SCHOOL CAFETERIA
8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

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