

Love



December 21, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
4th Sunday of Advent

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

DAILY MASS:

Monday: 8:00am

Tuesday: 8:00am

Wednesday: 4:00pm, 7:00pm &
9:00pm (Candlelight)

Thursday: 10:30am, no 6:00pm

Friday: 8:00am

Saturday: 8:00am

SUNDAY MASS:

Saturday: 4:30pm

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

CONFESSIONS:

Thursday: NO confessions

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

ADORATION: (in the Chapel)

Monday: 9:00am-10pm

Tuesday: 9:00am-Noon

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: Closed

Friday: Closed



— O Holy — *Night!*

The Word became Flesh and dwelt among us.

John 1:14

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm (Candlelight)

Christmas Day Mass

10:30am

Rectory Hours

The Parish office will be closed on
Wednesday, December 24th and re-open on
Monday, December 29th @ 9:00am

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,

Last weekend, we celebrated Gaudete Sunday, the weekend in which we get a glimpse of the joy of Christmas. It's been a long winter, and maybe a long Advent, and this Sunday is meant to give us a glimmer of joy that we'll feel on Christmas, so it keeps us patiently waiting for that great Feast!

As part of that, we asked you to bring the baby Jesus from your home nativity sets, so that they could be blessed. So many of you did! Pope John Paul the Second started this tradition, and he asked everyone to then take baby Jesus home and wrap Him and place Him under the tree, so that Jesus is the first gift you unwrap on Christmas morning.

How awesome is that? Perhaps even if you didn't have Him blessed last weekend, you can still do that with your family!

Part of the fun of this is that I get to see the many versions of Jesus that have been created. One of our parishioners has over 40 Nativity displays from all over the world! I look forward to seeing them. But one, in particular, stuck out. Steve and Karen Dubransky brought their Baby Jesus to be blessed. Thanks for letting me put this in the bulletin! Take a look for yourself (pictured to the left).



I've never seen this before. Jesus is an adult in a baby's body!

After scaring me for a second, I really loved it. Why? Because everyone who tries to picture Jesus, has a different reason that He looks the way He does. In most cultures, Jesus has the features or the race of that culture. In others, He just doesn't look like we'd think He'd look like.

People will ask what Jesus really looked like when they see a representation that doesn't look real. The answer is, of course, that Jesus was a real person and took on the characteristics of his mother, Mary, as well as any characteristics of His Divine nature that God allowed be communicated through His Human nature. He had definitive characteristics that were real.

But it is awesome that everyone sees Jesus as a member of their own culture. Why? Because Jesus gives His life to us. We are created in His image. All of us are sons and daughters of God. We are another Jesus.

This Christmas, as we see different versions of baby Jesus, know that the greatest image of Jesus is YOU! Thanks be to God for such an awesome Savior!

Warm Welcome on Christmas

As we know, our Christmas Masses will be crowded, and many celebrating here will be visitors and those who don't normally come to Mass. Please welcome you and are so glad you are here!

It is always hard to come into someone else's home, and feel, well, "at home." That is especially true about coming into a church, where we feel everyone may be looking at us and wondering, "what are you doing here?" I've felt that before in many places, and even in Catholic churches where I've visited. It can feel very cold.

People tell me that, when they are visiting our parish, Seven Sorrows feels like home! Do you know how unusual that is for someone to say about a Catholic Church? That's a testament to your Faith and generosity.

I pray that we are welcoming to all who are worshipping Jesus at His Birth in our parish. It's such an awesome time, and everyone deserves to feel "at home" when being with Him in the Catholic Church.

Please continue to show everyone the warmth of Jesus' love! Have a great "short week" leading up to the great Feast!
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 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, DECEMBER 21, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am +Tom Misheck
10:30 am +Shawn Maydak
6:00 pm Our Parish Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025

8:00 am +Phyllis Ziats

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2025 St. John of Kanty

8:00 am +Fred Gravino

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 2025

8:00 am +Deceased Members of the Veet
and Degatis Family
4:00 pm Our Parish Family
7:00 pm Special Intentions
9:00 pm Special Intentions (Candlelight)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2025 CHRISTMAS

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

10:30 am Special Intentions
NO CONFESSION
NO EVENING MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2025 St. Steven

8:00 am +Anne Diem

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025 St. John

7:15 am -7:50 am CONFESSION
8:00 am +Marie Bartone
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm CONFESSION
4:30 pm Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 am +Eileen and Bob Seaker
10:30 am +Albert Schmeltzer
6:00 pm +Cathy Benson



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Dec 21	Isa 7:10-14(10A) / Rom1:1-7 / Matt 1:18-24
Mon. Dec 22	1 Sam1:24-28 / Luke 1:46-56
Tue. Dec. 23	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 / Luke 1:57-66
Wed. Dec. 24	2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 / Luke 1:67-79
Thu. Dec. 25	Isa 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,9-14
Fri. Dec. 26	Apos 6:8-10, 7:54-59 / Matt 10:17-22
Sat. Dec. 27	1 John 1:1-4 / John 20:1a and 2-8
Sun. Dec. 28	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14(17ABC)/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12 – 17 /Matt 2:13-15, 19-23 (17A)

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.

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.



SUNDAY OFFERING

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 12- 14- 2025

Sunday Giving \$13,177.00
Online Giving \$ 3,089.00
Total \$16,266.00



Scan for Online Giving

THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21

8:00 am Off the Streets Donation House **Narthex**
(after all Masses)
8:00 am CCW Bake Sale **Narthex**
(after all Masses)
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

MONDAY DECEMBER 22

6:00 pm Legion of Mary
6:30 pm Choir Practice
7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball **Gym**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 23

1:30 pm Church Cleaners **Team #1**
5:30 pm Novice Boys Basketball **Gym**
6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball **Gym**

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24

Parish Office Closed

THURSDAY DECEMBER 25

Parish Office Closed

FRIDAY DECEMBER 26

Parish Office Closed
5:30 pm Novice Boys Basketball **Gym**
7:00 pm Varsity Girls Basketball **Gym**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 27

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28

No Religious Education Classes
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making **School's Art Room**



BAPTISM

Our Parish Family rejoices and welcomes

Zoey Rose Onorato
(child of Steven and Kelsey Onorato)

Stevie Marie Scullion
(child of John and Noelle Scullion)

who was baptized by Water and the Spirit.



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
MGST	Daniel Brought	Marines
A1C	Nicolas A. Corradi	USAF

SENIOR MINISTRY

HOLY MASS & GAME NIGHT - January 22 Thursday
Evening Mass at 6 pm & Game Night immediately following in the Upper School Cafeteria, weather permitting. Bring some snacks to share & your favorite soft drink to enjoy!

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION DINNER - Gilligan's Bar & Grill. January 24, 2026, after Saturday Evening Mass. Sign-ups will be in the narthex January 3-11, to provide the restaurant with an anticipated number of diners. A special menu will be available with separate checks.

SENIOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETINGS - 2nd Tuesday of each Month at 6 pm in the Drexel Room, unless otherwise advertised.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Everything is harder during the Holidays
when someone is missing.



What if when we are sitting alone thinking of them
they are *dancing* in Heaven thinking of us.
May you feel Christ's peace as He joins
your dance to theirs. 🕊️



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart" - Proverbs 3:5-6

If you or a loved one would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please reach out to:

Donna Jennings at 717-566-3184
or via email
at djennings2095@comcast.net.

NEED TO KNOW

DON'T MISS OUT!

Church Photo 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**



Parish Rosary Making

Join us to make Rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room., Sunday, December 28 anytime from 11:30AM to 4:00PM. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

Adoration Chapel closes at 12 noon on Tuesday, December 23 and reopens on Monday, January 5 at 9am.

Overnight Adoration in the Church will take place following the 5pm Mass on December 31 until January 1 at 9am. Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex.

Parish Playroom

Babysitters are on duty to provide care for little ones during the 10:30am mass. The Playroom is located in the church basement. Entry is to the left of the Narthex down the stairs.

The Playroom will also be open for the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass.



THE EPIPHANY ITALIAN MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026 AT 12:15 PM

SAINT PATRICK CATHEDRAL

212 State Street, Harrisburg

Reverend Joshua Brommer, Celebrant

Please join us for the Holy Mass, Italian reception after Mass.

For information please contact: Maria DiSanto at 717-554-5698
disanto1@comcast.net or Mariella Amato at 717-278-9420

EGG Season 2026

Thank you for your donations of 40 & 48oz Jif Creamy PB
Goal: 1000 To Date: 325



RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

CALENDAR:

12/14/25 - Class/Advent Penance Svc 6, 7 & 8th
12/21/25 - Class Christmas Party
12/28/25 - No Class
01/04/26 - No Class

SACRAMENT FORMS DUE

12/15/25 - 2nd & 8th Grade Sacrament Forms Due

JR. HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY (6th, 7th & 8th)

01/17/25 - Paramount Sports Complex (Saturday 4:00pm - 9:00pm)

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

SSBVM Catholic School
Principal - Angela Warner

Sevensorrowsschool.com
awarner@ssbvm.org

Seven Sorrows Distinguished Graduate Award Alumni of Seven Sorrows and other supporters of our school are invited to nominate school alumni for the annual Seven Sorrows Distinguished Graduate Award. Award recipients are notified during Catholic Schools Week and will be recognized and honored at the School Gala on March 21, 2026. Nominations are due by January 5, 2026 via the online form where you will also find a description of suggested nomination criteria. <https://forms.gle/CgdDuvRooCmrqFrt9>



Support the Heart of Mary Fund

The Heart of Mary Fund helps Seven Sorrows BVM School provide tuition assistance, improve academic programs, and enhance the spiritual and educational experience for every student. Your generosity directly strengthens our parish school and supports families who desire a Catholic education.



To make a gift, scan the QR code or visit SevensorrowsSchool.com and click "Donate."
Thank you for investing in the future of our children!

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"They shall name Him Emmanuel, which means God is with us." (John 1:14)

Mary's trust in God's plan is a model for all vocations. Could God be inviting you to priesthood, consecrated life, or holy matrimony, living fully for Him to bring His presence to others? Embrace His call with courage.

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

igloo
INSURANCE
Business • Life
Home • Auto

Brian Mahon
CIC, CRM, CCIC
LIFELONG CATHOLIC
717-626-9262
www.iglooins.com
MIDDLETOWN, PA

Michele Lutz
Creations with You in mind
Flowers for all Occasions
131 Dock Street
Middletown, PA 17057
717-944-5425

Get this bulletin
emailed to you
every week.
Simply go to
www.DM.CHURCH/3275

LARRY HESS REALTOR®
ABR, THE HESS GROUP
M: 717.875.0598
O: 717.553.2500
5139 Main St. East Petersburg, PA 17520
kw ELITE
KELLER WILLIAMS
YOUR DOWNSIZING
SOLUTION!
717.468.2520
www.ALifeTransitionService.com
Working with Seniors & their families to help sell their home & the treasures in it.

VINTAGE SHOPPE
A MARKETPLACE FOR HANDMADE,
UPCYCLED, ANTIQUES & RETRO FURNITURE
717.468.2520
2 S. Union St.
Middletown, PA
FIND US ON f

ADVERTISE
HERE

Promote your Business AND support your Parish.
Lisa Sparkman ~ 717-507-3766
lsparkman@diocesan.com

EWTN.COM/RADIO
Global Catholic Radio
TUNE IN

...or scan →
DISCOVERMASS

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/goPA

The Businesses listed make this bulletin possible.
Please support them when you can.

Diocesan is proud to be printing

Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!

For opportunities to advertise, please call 800-233-8200.

717.944.7015

717.944.7024 (fax)

Zachary E. Matinchek
Owner, Supervisor, Parishioner
zac@matinchekfh.com



Martinchek

Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc.
Family Owned & Operated Since 1961

Frank E. Matinchek
Founder, Parishioner

www.matinchekanddaughterfuneralhome.com 260 E. Main St. Middletown, PA 17057

Knights of Columbus
Msgr. GV Lentocha
Council 3501
Middletown, PA
944-3133
kofc3501@sevensorrows.org

NOLL FINANCIAL SERVICES
Tim Noll CLU-ChFC
Tami N Russo CPA-CFP
*Comprehensive Financial Planning
Investment Management
Long Term Care
Life Insurance*
717-939-0968
NollFinancialServices.com

Crystal Pools, Inc.
AISP POOLS • SPAS • ACCESSORIES
www.crystalpoolsinc.com
Proudly Serving Central PA Since 1964
4175 Roundtop Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717-534-1837

Foggy Window? Need a Mirror?
Custom Glass Job?
Etching for a Special Occasion?
Time to Call **Mid Penn Glass!**
717-575-2156
Mount Joy, Pa

Locally Owned Since 1959
KARNS FOODS
Find Our Ad at
KarnsFoods.com

Pray for Peace

Joette M. Swartz, Realtor
Parishioner
RE/MAX Realty Select
Office: (717) 526-4300
Cell: (717) 319-4152
j.swartz@hhgllp.com

HARRISBURG EYE ASSOCIATES
NOW ACCEPTING *New* PATIENTS
We Accept Most Major Insurances!
• Cataract Surgery
• Diabetic Eye Exams
• Macular Degeneration
• Glaucoma Treatment
• Ophthalmology
Medical and Surgical Diseases of the Eye
4700 Union Deposit Road, Suite 220, Harrisburg, PA 17111
Phone (717) 695-6326 • Fax (717) 695-6908 • www.harrisburgeyes.com

MIDDLETOWN TIRE & ALIGNMENT
33 R Market St., Middletown
717-944-1925
Billy Stone, Owner
Seven Sorrows '89 Graduate

JK
Jacqueline A. Kelly, Esq., CELA
(717) 731-9600
Cell: (717) 649-1079
j.kelly@hhgllp.com

E.R. Lightly CO. NOW HIRING
HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • PLUMBING
WELL PUMPS • WATER TREATMENT

MIDDLETOWN TIRE & ALIGNMENT
33 R Market St., Middletown
717-944-1925
Billy Stone, Owner
Seven Sorrows '89 Graduate

Estate Planning
Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney
Living Wills, Elder Law
Estate/Trust Administration

M-F 7:30am-4:00pm
Emergency calls answered by employees 24/7
717-944-0132 • info@erlightly.com
PARISHIONERS

Korch Orthodontics
Susan M. Korch DMD, MS LLC
Let your **SKORCHING** Smile Shine!
Hershey • 717.533.7400 • skorchingsmiles.com

WHY CHOOSE US?
Trust us to provide reliable, efficient, and sustainable solutions for your home or business.
WHERE QUALITY MEETS RELIABLE SERVICE
From heating and cooling to plumbing and water systems, we ensure your peace of mind and satisfaction at every step.