



December 28, 2025

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

DAILY MASS:

Monday: 8:00am

Tuesday: 8:00am

Wednesday: 8:00am & 5:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am

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: Closed

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: Closed

Friday: Closed



— Solemnity of — *Mary*

A Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 31st

5:00pm

Thursday, January 1st

9:00am

Rectory Hours

The Parish Office will close at NOON on
Wednesday, December 31 and re-open
Monday, January 5 at 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,

Merry Christmas! I pray you had a great holiday with our parish family, your family and friends. It is such a beautiful time to be with Our Lord and His People!

I'd like to thank everyone who helped us celebrate Christmas as a parish family at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. First of all, I'd like to thank Joe Trojcek and our choir, as well as the Cyran family, and all musicians, who provided our music to worship the Newborn King! Also, to all servers, lectors, ushers and Extraordinary ministers who helped to serve you and Him. Also, I'd like to thank our sacristans who prepare for Mass.

Finally, I'd like to thank our parish staff, including in the rectory office and our maintenance team, for helping to prepare for these magnificent days. Thank you so much for all of your work for all of us!

Actually, one more thank you: to all of you! Thank you for worshipping Our Lord with us, and for inviting your family and friends to Mass to experience His Love and goodness! What a great gift! You are a great gift to Fr. Josh and I. God bless you and THANK YOU!

A Blue Christmas?

Of course, we know that the holidays – or any day – is not always perfect or how we imagined it would be. There are always let downs and disappointments. Maybe Christmas wasn't all you hoped or prayed it would be. Maybe the letdown after the Feast Day was too much.

Jesus knew that we wouldn't always feel His presence, and we would need visible ways to know He was with us. That is why we were given the Sacraments! Especially His Body and Blood in Holy Communion – These are daily and weekly reminders of His Real Presence!

But miracles were also Jesus' way of showing us that He is still here. He needed them even when He walked the earth to prove that He was not of this world, but of Heaven. Miracles still exist. Remember Al Michaels' famous call in the 1980 Olympics, after the US beat the Soviet Union in hockey ("Do you believe in miracles?").

The sad truth is, many of us don't! Miracles, we think, are for fairy tales or for children. But not for serious adults.

At night, when I'm relaxing a bit but also trying to get some work done, I'll put on my favorite tv shows (game shows) and have them play in the background. But while watching one of the greatest game shows (Card Sharks!), this question came up...

"We asked 100 priests, do you believe that miracles still happen today? How many priests said they do?" What do you think the answer would be? I was hoping it'd be 100. But I was worried. The answer:



WHEW! I was so glad. 98/100! Do I wish it was 100? Yes, but in a world that doesn't think it's "the adult thing to do" to believe in miracles, that's great! YES, miracles still happen! How could a priest not believe so? At his command, by the command of Jesus, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus! A MIRACLE!

But every day, I see miracles. Healings, yes, but also personal triumphs, family divisions repaired, people coming back to the Faith, employment found, joy returning to life. EVERY DAY is this witnessed. These are miracles, and also signs of Jesus' presence.

In these days, if you are feeling a bit blue, know that HE is with you, and these miracles that we all see, are signs to us of Jesus' continued presence in your life and mine! God bless you, and see you on New Years' Eve or Day for Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God!

Fr. Sahn

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 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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am Special Intentions of Joseph Licata

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am +Ann Ritchey

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am +Franklin and Helen Brodnick

5:00 pm Special Intentions

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 am Anthony and Ann Krastek Sr.

NO CONFESSION

NO EVENING MASS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

St. Basil

8:00 am +Verna Shipkowski

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

7:15 am -7:50 am CONFESSION

8:00 am +Bob Potochick

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm CONFESSION

4:30 pm +Mark Plesic

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 am Our Parish Family

10:30 am +Alexander and Pauline Loutinsky

6:00 pm +Dolores Sashko



DAILY READINGS

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)
Mon. Dec 29	1 John 2:3-11 / Luke 2:22-35
Tue. Dec. 30	1 John 2:12-17 / Luke 2:36-40
Wed. Dec 31	1 John 2:18-21?John 1:1-18
Thu. Jan 1	Num 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21
Fri. Jan 2	1 John 2: 22-28/ John 1:19-28
Sat. Jan. 3	John 2:29-3:6/ John 1:29-34
Sun. Jan 4	Isa. 60:1-6/Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6/Matt 2:1-12

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

Due to the deadline for the bulletin the Collection will be included in the next bulletin



Scan for Online Giving

THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28

No Religious Education Classes

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement

11:30 am Parish Rosary Making School's Art Room

MONDAY DECEMBER 29

6:00 pm Legion of Mary

7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball Gym

TUESDAY DECEMBER 30

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #3

10:00 am JV Girls Basketball Gym

5:00 pm Novice Boys Basketball Gym

6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball Gym

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31

Parish Office Closes at Noon

THURSDAY JANUARY 1

Parish Office Closed

FRIDAY JANUARY 2

Parish Office Closed

5:30 pm Novice Boys Basketball Gym

7:00 pm Varsity Girls Basketball Gym

SATURDAY JANUARY 3

SUNDAY JANUARY 4

9:15 am NO Religious Education Class

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement

11:30 am Children's Rosary Church Cry Room

1:00 pm Little Dribblers Gym



BAPTISM

Our Parish Family rejoices and welcomes

Ellarose Avangeline Johnson

Ava Kelly Keim

who were baptized by Water and the Spirit.

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
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

Hope through Surrender

If God can change the world with the simple
Surrender of a young woman,
imagine what He can do with yours.
God's power is immense.
His love and mercy are endless.
Hand Him your *Surrender* and
watch your world change.



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

NEED TO KNOW

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.**



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 (January 4) ANY CHILD can voluntarily lead a decade of the Rosary. Everyone is invited to join in prayer to support the children.



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.



Missed the Photo session?

You may submit digital or printed image for inclusion in directory for \$15 fee.

Include names of everyone included in photo. If submitting a copyrighted photo, include copy of permission to reproduce image. You will receive copy of directory but no 8x10 portrait.

\$15 check payable to "Seven Sorrows" and photo must be received in parish office no later than January 19th.

To submit printed image (will NOT be returned) Mail photo (with permission to reproduce, if applicable) with check to:

Seven Sorrows Parish
280 Race Street
Middletown, PA 17057

To submit digital image (at least 300 dpi)
Email to: clarry@ssbvm.org
Include permission to reproduce, if applicable

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

CALENDAR:

12/21/25 - Class Christmas Party
12/28/25 - No Class
01/04/26 - No Class

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

01/17/26 - 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



"Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel." (Matthew 2:20)

Joseph's obedience to God protected the Holy Family. In marriage, spouses are called to protect and nurture each other in faith. Reflect on how God might be guiding you to build a family rooted in His love. Pray and ask God how you can better serve and protect your family this week.



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