



January 4, 2026

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

The Epiphany of the Lord

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

ADORATION: (in the Chapel)

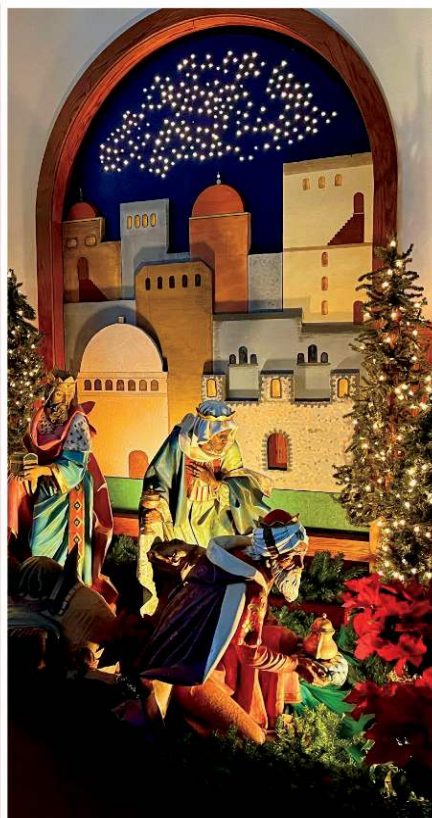
Monday: 9:00am-10:00pm

Tuesday: 9:00am-10pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-10:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am-10:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-Noon



— A Christmas —
Thank you

Sincere thanks to all who
helped us to celebrate
beautiful Masses during our
Christmas season. May Christ
reign in your homes and our
parish this New Year!

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 -- still! I pray that your soul is still feeling the power of Jesus' birth! While the Christmas decorations come down all over, we NEED our souls to continue to feel His peace and joy burning inside of us.

Speaking of decorations, a parishioner sent a picture of a Nativity scene that he thought was awesome. I agree that it looks beautiful, even if our nativity scene is still a bit better! I've never seen anything like this before. Take a look:

I've seen these garage wraps a ton this year, but none that were religiously themed or featured the crèche. I'm so glad that they sell them! You'd need a three-car garage to get everyone in, but it is great!

At the end of Mass, when Father or I say, "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life," we are sending you out to live WHO you have received in your everyday life...at work, at home, at school, at the gym...wherever.

The public witness with something as simple as our Christmas decorations is a great way to live out WHO we have received at Mass. That garage wrap of Jesus' birth is a great witness of Faith!



We never do something simply to let people know "how great we are," or "look at us and our awesome Faith," but we do live out what we believe. Thanks for the many ways you live out your Catholic Faith and your belief in the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist when you leave here!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

As a kid, I always wanted to stay up to watch Dick Clark count down and watch the ball drop in Times' Square. I always had to be woken up at 11:55PM in order to see it, though!

I hope you were able to stay up and ring in 2026 if you desired to do so!

Perhaps the start of a new year can allow us to start seeing life in a new light. A parishioner sent me this picture, taken from the choir loft. Tell me what you think this looks like:



The parishioner said that she thought it was me (because there is no hair painted on the top of his head). It really is the top of St. John Neumann's head (and he had hair, but they saved money on paint, I guess!).

I find it very hard to believe that she actually thought it was me! Impossible, actually! And I'm not really the type of guy who changes his mind on things.

Well, with our Faith in Jesus, who is the world's ONLY SAVIOR, we must follow Him. In the words of St. Peter, "to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68).

Sometimes, Jesus' Teachings, lived out through the Church, are hard to follow. Sometimes we don't even want to see the wisdom of them, and live out our own teachings, or those of our society.

This new year, we are given a fresh start. Perhaps let's start seeing Jesus' Teachings as the only way to eternity, even if we find them difficult to live out. Let's see them from a new perspective. Maybe I'll even begin to see what St. John Neumann and I have in common!

God bless you!
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, 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

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 St. John Neumann

8:00 am Christine De Filippo

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026 St. Andre' Bessette

8:00 am +Nick Spadone

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026 St. Raymond

8:30 am +Special Intentions of Jake Snyder

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

5:15 pm - 5:50 pm CONFESSION

6:00 pm +Richard Ostrowski

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

8:00 am +Margaret Drake

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

7:15 am -7:50 am CONFESSION

8:00 am +Jan Pilsitz

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm CONFESSION

4:30 pm +Louie Russo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 am +Andrew and Helen Hyduk
10:30 am Our Parish Family
6:00 pm +Ann Savidge



DAILY READINGS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Sun. Jan 4 | Isa 60:1-6(20ABC) / Eph 3:2-3a,5-6 / Matt 2:1-12 |
| Mon. Jan 5 | 1 John 3:22-4:6 / Matt 4:12-17,23-25 |
| Tue. Jan 6 | 1 John 4:7-10 / Mark 6:34-44 |
| Wed. Jan 7 | 1 John 4:11-18 / Mark 6:45-52 |
| Thu. Jan 8 | 1 John 4:19-5:4 / Luke 4:14-22 |
| Fri. Jan 9 | 1 John 5:5-13 / Luke 5:12-16 |
| Sat. Jan. 10 | 1 John 5:14-21 / John 3:22-30 |
| Sun. Jan 11 | Isa 42:1-4, 6-7 (21ABC) / Acts 10:34-38 / Matt 3:13-17 (21A) |



SUNDAY OFFERING

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 12-21-2025

Sunday Giving \$15,343.00
Online Giving \$ 5,038.00
Total \$20,381.00



Scan for Online Giving



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY JANUARY 4

9:15 am NO Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
11:30 am Children's Rosary Church Cry Room
1:00 pm Little Dribblers Gym

MONDAY JANUARY 5

11:30 am Rosary and Prayer Group Church
6:00 pm Legion of Mary
6:30 pm KOC Assembly Meeting Library
7:00 pm CCW Meeting Drexel Room
7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball Gym

TUESDAY JANUARY 6

5:00 pm Novice Boys Basketball Gym
6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball Gym
7:00 pm KOC Meeting Drexel Room
7:00 pm Scouts Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7

5:00 pm Novice Girls Basketball Gym
6:00 pm JV Girls Basketball Gym
6:30 pm Choir Practice
6:30 pm KOC District Meeting Drexel
7:00 pm Varsity Girls Basketball Gym

THURSDAY JANUARY 8

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #2
5:30 pm Novice Girls Basketball Gym
6:30 pm OCIA Library
6:30 pm Mental Health Ministry Rectory
7:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball Gym

FRIDAY JANUARY 9

5:30 pm Novice Boys Basketball Gym

SATURDAY JANUARY 10

9:00 am Confirmation Retreat

SUNDAY JANUARY 11

9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
1:00 pm Little Dribblers Gym



Remember Our Military In Our Prayers

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 |
| 1st 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.



Mystery of the Masquerade
A Celebration of Education

March 14, 2026
Bishop McDevitt High School, Harrisburg, PA
5:00 pm

To purchase a ticket, become a sponsor, or donate an auction item, Please visit: onecau.se/mcd or scan the QR code.



NEED TO KNOW

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



Authentic Femininity "...for such a time as this." Esther 4:14

"Fight Like a Catholic", Spiritual Warfare in the Catholic Tradition, Book Study by Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, Director of Communications and New Age Research for the Women of Grace Apostolate.

Study begins Saturday, January 17, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Middletown for Five Saturdays (also January 24, January 31, February 14, and February 21.

Study includes weekly video; cost of book \$15.95. Purchase book prior to the first meeting to begin discussion on 1/17/26.

All Catholic women are encouraged to attend! Contact Chris Arnold at 717-379-6041 or carnold@womenofgrace.com.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



Spiritual Support Group

2nd Thursday of every month.

Jan. 8th at 6:30 pm

Parish Living Room

Mental Health Ministry
Seven Sorrows BVM

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

CALENDAR:

01/04/26 - No Class

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

01/17/26 - Paramount Sports Complex
(Saturday 4:00pm - 9:00pm)

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!

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>

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

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"They prostrated themselves and did him homage." (Matthew 2:11)

The Magi offered their gifts to Christ, just as we are called to offer our own. What gifts has God given you, and how is He calling you to use them in service to Him?

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



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