



January 18, 2026

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

2nd 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

CONFESIONS:

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



Catholic Schools Week

Starting Sunday, January 25, 2026

Come see The Seven Sorrows Difference!

Whole-child approach through Catholic education

Preschool through 8th Grade

Financial Aid Available

Guided tours for prospective families at our
School Open House Events

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Register to attend an Open House:



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 October, we began a feasibility study to determine whether the parish would support the renovation of our gym and cafeteria. As you know, these are the two remaining parts of our original campus, built in 1950. The gym was our original church.

Both the gym and the cafeteria have several areas that need fixed and updated. Some issues need to be addressed immediately, including the roof, heating and cooling systems, and structural issues. Other areas are more cosmetic, but if we are to continue using the spaces, they need to be updated. It makes no sense to change the immediate needs without addressing the longer-term needs of both spaces.

The parish had a great response to the feasibility study, and we have received the final results.



In total, over 300 surveys were returned, and 120 conversations were conducted with parishioners! The organization helping us with this study, Kirby-Smith, said they have not really seen this kind of response from a parish our size. They believe, with this response, we have a representative sample for the entire parish.

Overall, the parish is very supportive of the plans for renovation. Over 90% are either "Very supportive" or "supportive," and another 7% is "somewhat supportive." Only 1% was not supportive. That is overwhelming support, although I value everyone's opinion, even those who do not agree, and will take their objections into consideration as plans are developed.

As for a proposed 3-year capital campaign for the estimated \$3.7M project, similarly, 90% are "Very Supportive" or "Supportive" of such a campaign.

The survey also asked, preliminarily, what people might consider giving. I can't thank you enough for your generosity throughout the year. Because of it, our parish is in very healthy financial shape. As a pastor, you have made the financial management of the parish very easy. You are so generous and always respond to any need.

And your response to this study was equally as generous. Kirby-Smith believes that, with your response and generosity, and what we could raise in addition from other sources, we will raise enough to successfully complete the project.

The next steps:

Because of the feasibility study, we are presenting the plans for our project and the completed study to the Diocese. There are several committees that need to approve them, including the Diocesan Building Commission and the College of Consultors (a board of priests who advises Bishop Senior).

Those meetings will happen this month. If we are given the go-ahead by those committees, we will begin our capital campaign. We will need your help with this campaign. Several people wrote on their survey that they'd be interested in serving on a capital campaign committee. Others will be needed for other committees. Even if you did not already state your willingness to serve, perhaps you'd like to serve as well?

I will continue to keep you updated on this exciting project. The timeline for this project has not yet been determined, but once the Diocese gives us initial approval, we will have a better idea of when we can start raising funds, and when we could potentially begin construction work.

God bless you, and thank you for your Faith. It is this Faith that you desire to continue living out here at Seven Sorrows. With this project, Seven Sorrows will be stronger and more able to live out our mission to proclaim Jesus Christ and His saving mysteries to everyone in our parish! Please pray for the project, and that God's will be done.

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

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 Trojcak - joetrojcak@gmail.com

PARISH SCHOOL

School Phone - 717-944-5371
Mrs. Angela Warner, Principal



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Mario Corradi
10:30 am +William Arch
6:00 pm Our Parish Family

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2026

8:00 am +Joseph M. Cruscic

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026 St. Fabian and St. Sebastian

8:00 am +Paige Willauer Kruger

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026 St. Agnes

8:30 am +Sharon Orfanelli

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

5:15 pm - 5:50 pm CONFESSION
6:00 pm +Audra Henderson

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026 St. Vincent and St Marianne

8:00 am +Dominic and Hannah Licata and Family

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026 St. Francis de Sakes

7:15 am -7:50 am CONFESSION
8:00 am +Samuel Martin Sr.
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm CONFESSION
4:30 pm Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Rene McCurdy
10:30 am +Nancy Kosheba
6:00 pm +Albert Schmeltzer Sr.



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Jan 18	Isa 49:3,5-6(64) / 1 Cor 1:1-3 / John 1:29-34
Mon. Jan 19	1 Sam 15:16-23 / Mark 2:18-22
Tue. Jan 20	1 Sam 16:1-13 / Mark 2:23-28
Wed. Jan 21	1 Sam 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 / Mark 3:1-6
Thu. Jan 22	1 Sam 18:6-9, 19:1-7 / Mark 3:7-12
Fri. Jan 23	1 Sam 24: 3-21 / Mark 3: 13-19
Sat. Jan. 24	2 Sam 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 / Mark 3:20-21
Sun. Jan 25	Isa 8:23-9:3 (67A) / 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 / Matt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



The flowers located at the altar this weekend are in loving memory of **ELIZABETH "LIBBY" LIGHTNER** on her 86th birthday. They are a gift from her husband Tom.

Can't make Mass?

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

JANUARY 11, 2026

Sunday Giving \$12,822.00
Online Giving \$ 4,234.25
Total \$17,056.25



Scan for Online Giving



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY JANUARY 18

8:00 am CCW Bake Sale **Narthex**
(after all Masses)
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
1:00 pm Little Dribblers **Gym**

MONDAY JANUARY 19

Parish Office Closed / Adoration Chapel Closed
10:00 am JV Girls Basketball **Gym**

TUESDAY JANUARY 20

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

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #1**
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 JANUARY 22

5:30 pm Novice Girls Basketball **Gym**
6:00 pm Senior Ministry Game Night **Cafeteria**
6:30 pm OCIA **Library**
7:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball **Gym**

FRIDAY JANUARY 23

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

SATURDAY JANUARY 24

6:30 am TMY **Cafeteria**
10:00 am Women of Grace **Art Room**
4:30 pm Smiles for Abby Collection **Narthex**
5:30 pm Senior Ministry Celebration **Off site**

SUNDAY JANUARY 25

8:00 am Smiles for Abby Collection **Narthex**
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making **Art Room in School**
1:00 pm Little Dribblers **Gym**
1:00 pm Scouts Pinewood Derby **Cafeteria**



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Catherine Messick
Joseph Kerwin
(brother of Ray Kerwin)
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

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.

RANK	NAME	BRANCH
LT. Col	Sam Herbert	Army
GYSGT	Brendon J. Parkhill	Marines
	Mackenzie Mehalick	Navy
CPT	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

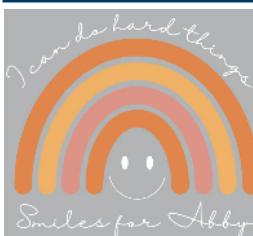
SENIOR MINISTRY

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW - Registration/Payment Due in Parish Office on or before noon January 28, 2026. Details are on the Elite Coach/Philadelphia Flower Show Flyer available in the Narthex Flyer Rack.

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, 6:00 pm, at the Eisenhower Boulevard location. Separate checks will be available to include your selection costs, taxes/fees, gratuity. We will gather in the Event Room at back of Dining Room.

SMILES FOR ABBY



There will be a table in the Narthex next weekend for donations for care packages for young adult patients over the age of 20 with practical items to help during long hospital stays, as well as comfort items to lift their spirits. Suggested items: Blankets and silk pillowcases, grip socks, ginger chews, journals (not puzzle books) individual packs of tissues, card games, Starbucks, Dunkin or Amazon gift cards. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

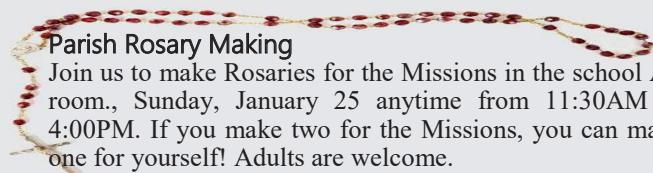
THE PARISH OFFICE AND ADORATION CHAPEL WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 19TH IN OBSERVANCE OF THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KINGDAY

EGG Season 2026

Thank you for your donations of 40 & 48oz Jif Creamy PB Goal: 1000 To Date: 402



NEED TO KNOW



Parish Rosary Making
Join us to make Rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room., Sunday, January 25 anytime from 11:30AM to 4:00PM. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

SAVE THE DATES:

Our 2026 Festival is moving to May 21, 22 & 23.
More information will be coming soon.

Annual Catholic Charities Souper Bowl

Our Parish will be one of eight, hosting the event on Feb. 7 and 8. We need soup makers to make their favorite homemade soup! Please email the types of soup and number of (FROZEN) quarts you plan to make to Adrianne@TrianglePress.net. Any questions, call 717-648-0261.



Quart containers and lids are available for pick up at the parish office porch. Proceeds benefit the Shelters operated by Catholic Charities for homeless families, unwed mothers, and those with serious illness.



"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: djennings2095@comcast.net.

Pronio's Market in Hershey asks if you have any winter coats/clothing , new or gently used blankets you can share .

Please bring them to the store and we will make sure that they get to Ukraine to help the people survive.

Please consider helping. To date we have shipped eight, fifteen feet cargo trucks to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee.



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



RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

SSBVM Catholic School
Principal - Angela Warner

Sevensorrowsschool.com
awarner@ssbvm.org

RAISING DISCIPLES:

01/18/26 - No Class
01/25/26 - Class

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!

Nominate



Scan to nominate a Seven Sorrows alumni for the 2026 Distinguished Graduate Award or Email awarner@ssbvm.org

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"Behold the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29)

John's recognition of Jesus calls us to keep our focus on Christ and His mission. Christ's mercy is made present through priests in the sacraments. Is God calling you to this ministry?

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

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