



February 22, 2026

SEVEN SORROWS

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

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 (Stations 2:15 & 7:00pm)

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-10:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-10:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am-10:00pm

Friday: 9:00am-Noon



— 75th Gala — *Celebration*

Celebrating 75 Years!

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March 21, 2026 @ 6pm

St. Peter's Hall, Elizabethtown

Join us for an unforgettable evening in support of our students, our mission, and the future of our school.

Our Annual Gala is a cherished community tradition that brings together parents, alumni, parishioners, and friends for a night of fellowship, celebration, and generosity.



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,

I'm sure some of us (many of us!) will say, "I'm not ready for Lent." But here we are! We don't need to be prepared for Lent. We DO NEED TO BE PREPARED to enter into Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection, though. And we have Lent to prepare for those events.

And the Church gives us so many ways to prepare: Fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Last week I touched on how we can enter into those things here at Seven Sorrows. Fr. Josh has started a new initiative in his work as Vocations Director, to help us enter into Lent. He is proposing that we fast (no eating between meals, and two small meals and a lighter "big" meal) on the Wednesdays of Lent. We are fasting for the intention of an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Please join us in this. Obviously, Father is doing this, and I will, too. I'll be honest: I'm not happy about it. I don't like fasting. I LOVE food. I LOVE snacking. But when I fast, I am reminded how much I love those things, and how much control over me they have. When I fast, I am reminded that I must give control over to God. When I fast, I am communicating that God is more important than the things I mistakenly love and allow to control me on Earth.

I encourage you to do the same. Please fast and pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood from our parish. God is calling young men and women to the Priesthood and consecrated life HERE, in our parish.



If you'd like to do this, and be counted among those who are doing so, please scan this QR Code and participate.

Confirmation!

Congratulations to the 22 8th Graders, along with three adult parishioners, who were Confirmed last Sunday by Bishop Senior at our 10:30AM Mass. The Holy Spirit was poured out for them, and we are so grateful for the love of God which pours out His life to us all. We are praying for you all!



Building Project Update

Last week, we were informed that the proper Diocesan committees have approved our proposal to renovate our gym and cafeteria, and we have been approved to conduct a Capital Campaign to raise funds for the project. This is great news! Thanks to all who helped with this process. We will now begin the initial phases of the campaign, and we will update you on that as we move forward. Thank you so much!

Parking Lot

Over the last several months, many parishioners have told me about "near misses" in the parking lot. This is because parishioners are driving the wrong way, and parking in areas that block traffic flow. Some are parking in spaces that are not really spaces at all.

I know parking spaces are at a premium close to the church. We have plenty of spots in the school lot, at Giant, and at Fink Elementary. But we don't have a ton close to the church. I would ask those who can park a bit further away to do so, as a service to those who need to park close to the church. I know we can't enforce this, and I wouldn't want to. But I am asking that you consider parking further away if you are able, allowing the close-in lot for those who cannot walk very far.

I am also asking you to observe the driving and parking restrictions, particularly the "one way" designations. Please do not drive the wrong way in the alley between the church parking lot and the school parking lot. It is meant to be one-way from the school side to the church, and not the other way around. There have been several near-accidents because of this.

Again, we have a small lot, and we don't really have a fix for this, mostly because of local regulations. If you are able, please be a friend to those who need the close-in spaces, and park further out in Giant, at the school, or at Fink Elementary. Thank you so much for your kindness to your fellow parishioners.

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 Trojcek - joetrojcek@gmail.com

PARISH SCHOOL

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



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

First Sunday of Lent

8:00 am +Elizabeth Christner
10:30 am +Tony Horney
6:00 pm +James Barry Snook

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026 St. Polycarp

8:00 am +Pristello Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026

8:00 am +Ann Savidge

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

8:30 am +Nick Spadone

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

5:15 pm - 5:50 pm **CONFESSION**
6:00 pm +Raeann Kostik

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026

8:00 am +Donald Savidge

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026 St. Gregory of Narek

7:15 am - 7:50 am **CONFESSION**
8:00 am +Dale Stesko
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**
4:30 pm Special Intentions of Ava

SUNDAY, March 1, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 am Our Parish Family
10:30 am +Dan Fuhrman
6:00 pm +Charles Stare



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Feb. 22	Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7(22A)/ Rom 5:12-19/ Matt4:1-11
Mon. Feb. 23	Lev 19:1-2, 11-18 / Matt 25:31-46
Tue. Feb. 24	Isa 55:10-11 / Matt 6:7-15
Wed. Feb. 25	Jon 3:1-10 / Luke 11:29-32
Thu. Feb. 26	Est C:12,14-16,23-25 / Matt 7:7-12
Fri. Feb. 27	Ezek 18:21-28 / Matt 5:20-26
Sat. Feb. 28	Deut 26:16-19 / Matt 5:43-48
Sun. Mar. 1	Gen 12:1-4a(25A) / 2 Tim 1:8b-10 / Matt 17:1-9



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Helen Crogle
Rosemarie Nebistinsky

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



SUNDAY OFFERING

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Sunday giving \$12,913.00
Online giving 3,333.25
Total \$ 16,246.25



Scan for Online Giving



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22
8:00 am CCW Bake Sale Narthex (after all Masses)
8:00 am KOC Blood Drive Gym
8:00 am High School Ministry Fundraiser Narthex (after all Masses)
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am OCIA Rite of Election Off Site - St. Patrick's
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
3:00 pm Pinewood Derby Cafeteria
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making School's Art Room
1:00 pm Little Dribblers Gym
1:00 pm Bible Study Drexel Room
4:00 pm KOC Free Throw Gym

MONDAY FEBRUARY 23
6:00 pm Legion of Mary
6:30 pm Bible Study Art Room
7:00 pm JV Girls Basketball Gym

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24
5:00 pm Novice Boys Basketball Gym
6:00 pm Varsity Boys Basketball Gym
7:00 pm Scouts Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25
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 FEBRUARY 26
8:30 am Church Cleaners Team # 1
5:30 pm Novice Girls Basketball Gym
6:00 pm Senior Ministry Game Night Cafeteria
6:30 pm OCIA Library

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27
2:15 pm Stations of the Cross Church
5:00 pm Drive thru Fish Fry
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross Church

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28
6:30 am TMIY Cafeteria
1:00 pm Off the Streets 5 K Walk Gym

SUNDAY MARCH 1
9:15 am Religious Education
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement
11:30 am Children's Rosary Church
1:00 pm Little Dribblers Gym
1:00 pm Bible Study Drexel Room



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>
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

TOUR OF CHURCHES - Historic B'nai Jacob Synagogue - February 24, 2026, 10:30 am. 220 Nissley Street (Corner of Nissley & Water Streets), Middletown. Lunch at River House.

HOLY MASS & GAME NIGHT - February 26 Mass at 6 pm & Game Night immediately following in the Upper Cafeteria, weather permitting. Bring some snacks to share & your favorite soft drink to enjoy!

Annual Pilgrimage 2026 to the National Centre for Padre Pio, Barto, PA, on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, Transportation provided by Elite Coach. More details coming soon!

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMAN



\$1,000.00 scholarship to be awarded to a high-school senior Catholic girl for the freshman year 2026-2027.

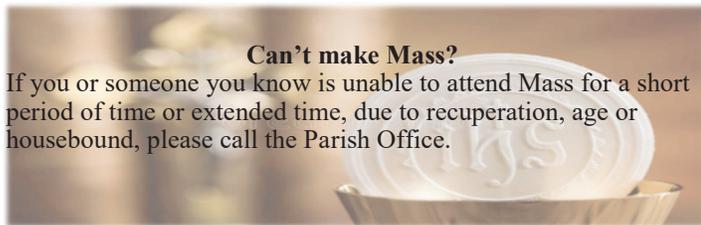
(<https://www.harrisburgdiocesancw.com>). Please complete the application and submit all material no later than May 1, 2026.

Sponsored by the Harrisburg Diocesan of Catholic Women.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed
Drivers and runners are needed for the month of March. Meals are picked up in Middletown and delivered to shut-ins each weekday morning. Four volunteers are needed for each day. Any help would be appreciated, even if you can assist for one day.



Please sign up on the calendar in the Narthex or email Mickey with any questions: mzinger@verizon.net. Thank you!



Can't make Mass?

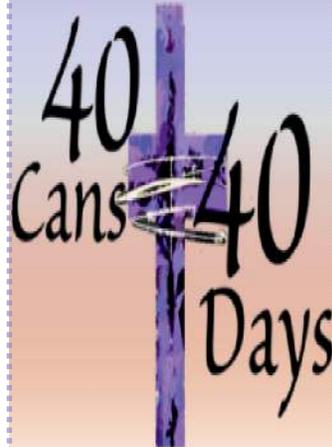
If you or someone you know is unable to attend Mass for a short period of time or extended time, due to recuperation, age or housebound, please call the Parish Office.

NEED TO KNOW

Were you married in 1976?

In honor of your 50th Wedding Anniversary, there will be a Jubilee Mass and reception on Sunday, June 21, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Harrisburg. Bishop Timothy C. Senior will be the celebrant. To receive an invitation, please contact your parish office no later than March 1st.

Lent provides opportunity to show gratitude for God's gifts and to share those gifts with others.



Our parish's Knights of Columbus invite you to help needy families in our community by making "40 Cans for Lent" part of your Lenten journey.

Simply donate a can of food for each of the 40 days of Lent. Drop off donations in the large bin in the Narthex.

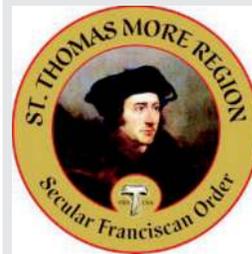


Children's Rosary

All children and parishioners are invited to pray in the church after the 10:30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month (March 1) ANY CHILD can voluntarily lead a decade of the Rosary. Everyone is invited to join in prayer to support the children.

Is God Calling You to Be a Secular Franciscan?

The Secular Franciscan Order (OFS) is a branch of the worldwide Franciscan Family. We are men and women, single and married, who work and worship in the communities where we live. An official Order within the Catholic Church, the OFS was founded by St. Francis of Assisi over 800 years ago.



Our purpose is to embrace the Gospel in practical ways and help others to do likewise. Did you know we have a local OFS fraternity (men and women) in our area? The St. Thomas More fraternity meets every month at Good Shepherd Church in Camp Hill. You are invited to attend one of our upcoming meetings to learn more about us.

For more information, visit our website: www.hbgfranciscan.com

EGG Season 2026

Thank you for your donations of 40 & 48oz Jif Creamy PB Goal: 1000 To Date: 694



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:

03/01/26 - Class/6th Gr. Student Mass
 03/08/26 - Class
 03/15/26 - Class
 03/22/26 - Class
 03/29/26 - No Class/Palm Sunday

2nd Grade - Upcoming:

03/14/26 - 1st Penance/Church @ 10:00am



Now Enrolling!

Our parish PreK–8th grade Catholic School is now accepting applications for the upcoming school year. This is a full academic school program offering exceptional academics with faith woven throughout the curriculum. SSBVM preschool offers flexible options, including part-time and full-day schedules. Financial aid is available, with a discounted Catholic family rate. Summer camps are also offered. Learn more: www.sevensorrowsschool.com



RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

"Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

Lent invites us to rely on God's Word. In holy matrimony, couples live by this Word, nourishing their love with faith. Spend some time this week in scripture and pray together. If you're single, pray for your vocation and the one God may be preparing for you.

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