



April 5, 2026

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
Easter Sunday

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

Fr. Sahd@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:

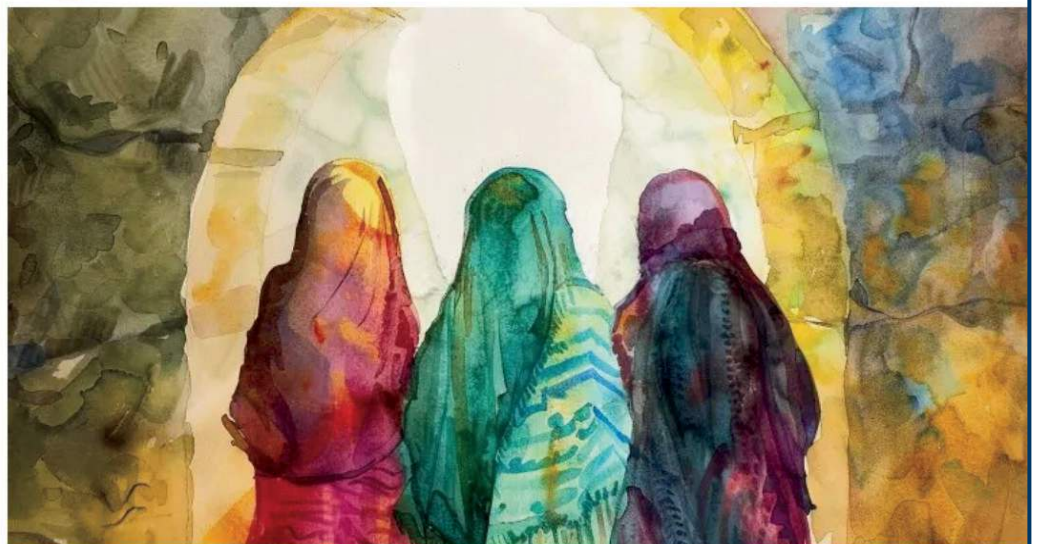
Thursday: 5:00pm-5:45pm
Saturday: 7:15-7:50am and 3:30-4:15pm

ADORATION: (in the Chapel)

Monday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Tuesday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am-10:00pm
Thursday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Friday: 9:00am-Noon

Today

Salvation has come!



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

Happy Easter, Brothers and Sisters!

As a kid, Christmas was THE holiday that I loved. Everything else was kind of a disappointment. Really, who would prefer a basket of hollow chocolate bunnies over a raft of presents?

But in these years, nothing beats Holy Week and Easter Sunday. I am so grateful to God to be with you today. Whether you are a visitor to our parish, or a long-time parishioner, or someone who wants to get re-engaged with our Catholic Faith, I hope you feel the power of Jesus' Resurrection today!

What is it about Easter that is so good? For me, it's the power of the day. Christmas is beautiful because the world still honors the day, even if more people celebrate the commercial holiday over the spiritual one.

But Easter – it doesn't have the commercial connection. Sure there's Peeps and Doc Hinkle's egg dye (from Columbia, no less!), but that's about it. It's ALL about Jesus. And it is powerful.

On Good Friday, we have to confront a Jesus who is seemingly destroyed. He is condemned, He is deserted, He is slapped and spit at and cursed at, He is whipped and crowned with thorns. He is nailed to a piece of wood, He falls. How can you not feel that? As the Stations of the Cross prayer, written by St. Alphonsus Ligouri, says: "Have pity on your Savior, so cruelly treated."

It is just so personal. It is felt. Can you picture our Savior just standing there and taking all of that? Why? Because of YOU. Because He knew that it must be done for YOU. He did it for you because you and I feel these same atrocities. He wants us to know that through all of our sufferings, He is there with us. He will never leave us because it's too scary or hard.

As the Apostles Creed says, on Holy Saturday, Jesus descended into Hell. He experienced all of the "hells" that we experience, and He does not ignore them, but instead jumps into them to rescue us.

That's the message of the Resurrection: it's a reminder that pain and suffering are not the enduring feeling. Our sin and betrayal do not permanently keep us away from Him. Jesus reaches down to the depths of where we are, and pulls us up with Him. Not just at the end of our lives, but in the daily "hells" of our lives. There is always HOPE, because there is always Jesus!

Happy Easter! You better believe that this is my favorite holiday! I NEED Him!

Last weekend, a parishioner told me that a special visitor was visiting our parish. She walked me to the outdoor steps from the upper school parking lot.



This was no hollow chocolate bunny! It was the real thing! A baby bunny was hiding in a small nook of the steps. He was rather scared, but he found a safe place to hide out, away from danger.

On this Easter Sunday, let's be aware that we are all like that bunny. We are constantly seeking safety from the sufferings of this world: our sins, our sorrows and sufferings, other people, the news... whatever.

We may not know where is safe, but we need to remember that there is only One who can always reach where we are hiding, and bring us to safety: Our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ! Praise be to God for our rescuer and Our Salvation!

He is Risen; He is Risen Indeed! Happy Easter!

Fr. Sahn

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

HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop McDevitt - 717-236-7973



MASS INTENTIONS

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026

Resurrection of the Lord

6:30 am Special Intentions of Rev. Kyle Sahd
 8:00 am +Marie Bartone
 10:30 am Our Parish Family
NO EVENING MASS

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026

8:00 am +Walter Mackarevich

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026

8:00 am +James Paros

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026

8:30 am +MME. Leo'nide Leduc

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026

5:15 pm - 5:50 pm **CONFESSION**
 6:00 pm +Albert Manik

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026

8:00 am +Marie Messner

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026

7:15 am - 7:50 am **CONFESSION**
 8:00 am Special Intentions of Vincent Licata
 4:30 pm Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

Divine Mercy

8:00 am +Deceased Members of the Relken
 and Shank Family
 10:30 am +Tim Fraley
 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour
 6:00 pm +Marie Licata



DAILY READINGS

Sun. April 5	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/ Col 3:1-4/ John 20:1-9
Mon. April 6	Acts 2:14, 22-33 / Matt 28:8-15
Tue. April 7	Acts 2:36-41 / John 20:11-18
Wed. April 8	Acts 3:1-10 / Luke 24:13-35
Thu. April 9	Acts 3:11-26 / Luke 24:35-48
Fri. April 10	Acts 4:1-12 / John 21:1-14
Sat. April 11	Acts 4:13-21 / Mark 16:9-15
Sun. April 12	Acts 2:42-47 / 1 Peter 1:3-9 / John 20:19-31



BAPTISM

Our Parish Family rejoices and welcomes

Luke Daniel Lauria
 child of Joe and Allison Lauria

who was baptized by Water and the Spirit.

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

MARCH 29, 2026

Sunday Giving \$12,119.00
 Online Giving 3,709.25
 Total \$15,828.25



Scan for Online Giving

DAC - Pledged and Received: \$93,098 (52%)



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY APRIL 5 - EASTER SUNDAY
 10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

MONDAY APRIL 6
 Parish office and Adoration Chapel Closed
 6:00 pm Legion of Mary

TUESDAY APRIL 7
 7:00 pm KOC Meeting **Drexel Room**
 7:00 pm Scouts **Cafeteria**

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8
 6:15 pm Off the Streets **Library**
 6:30 pm Choir Practice
 6:30 pm OCIA **Art Room**

THURSDAY APRIL 9
 8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team # 3**
 6:30 pm Mental Health Ministry **Rectory**

FRIDAY APRIL 10

SATURDAY APRIL 11
 6:30 am TMIY **Cafeteria**
 8:00 am First Grade Retreat

SUNDAY APRIL 12
 9:15 am Religious Education
 10:30 am Parish Playroom Open **Church Basement**
 1:00 pm Bible Study **Drexel Room**
 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour **Church**
 6:30 pm Town Hall Meeting **Gym**



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Theresa Goles
 Sandy Wabby
 Bob Lee

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.

<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

A DAY IN HUMMELSTOWN - TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026

Historical Museum - Meet @ 10 am. 20 N. Rosanna Street. Tour to include Special Old Glory Flag Display in honor of USA 250. Free Admission. Donations accepted. Please note - Museum includes 3 levels. Steps. No Elevators.

Chatter Box for Lunch - Meet @ Noon. 254 W. Main Street, Hummelstown. This is not a normal operating day for the Chatter Box. A special seating is available for our Senior Ministry. Advanced reservations are required. Text your reservation request by April 21 to our Augie Spadone @ 717-877-4131. Lunch offerings will be from a limited menu. Separate checks will be provided. **Shopping in Hummelstown** - late afternoon. On your own.

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.

A sincere note of thanks to all who delivered Meals on Wheels to the shut-ins of our community in March. Your help is greatly appreciated.



MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



Spiritual Support Group

2nd Thursday of every month.

April 9 at 6:30 pm

Parish Living Room

Mental Health Ministry
Seven Sorrows BVM

NEED TO KNOW

Divine
Mercy
Holy
Hour



Sunday, April 12
3:00pm



Please take a card at the Scrip Table to leave a note for Father Sahd & Father Josh

Uplift Your Priest

APRIL 11TH - APRIL 19TH

WAYS TO UPLIFT YOUR PRIEST

PRAY | FAST |
SACRIFICE | AFFIRM



Festival News

Spring is here! Just a reminder when spring cleaning, to donate your unwanted treasures to our annual flea market.

Drop offs in the gym: 5/16 9-12, 5/17 2-4, 5/18 3:30 - 6, 5/19 3:30 - 6:30

Please consider donating candy to our Candy Wheel game. There is a bin in the Narthex.

Jewelry donations may be dropped off at the Parish Office.



We are currently accepting donations for our upcoming festival basket raffle. We welcome ready-made themed baskets, new items to help create baskets, as well as cash or gift card donations.

Your generosity helps make this a fun and successful event for our parish community. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office. Please contact Angela with any questions- 717-982-3875

All donations due by April 24th



Discount tickets to Hersheypark are available to the friends and families of the parish for significant savings.

Gate admission for Regular is \$90.80; our price is \$42.95 (ALL ages 3+) valid until 1/1/27.

*ADD-ON Hersheypark Single Use Meal Deal Tickets for \$21.19 each and

*ADD-ON Parking Pass - \$27.50 pre-ordered or pay \$35.00 onsite

Tickets purchased in 2026 are valid for any 1 public operating day throughout the 2026 calendar year but will not be valid past their expiration date. Refunds, extensions or upgrades will not be offered

Orders must be received at the parish by **Friday, April 17, 2026**. Parishes will receive tickets on or before the week of May 18, 2026.

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:
 04/12/26 Class/4th Gr. Mass & Rosary Award Ceremony
 04/26/26 Class/End of Year Celebration

2nd Grade - 1st Holy Communion
 04/11/26 Parent & Student Retreat
 04/29/26 Rehearsal
 05/02/26 1st Holy Communion Mass & May Crowning weekend

Now Enrolling!
 Our parish PreK-8th grade Catholic School is now accepting applications for the upcoming school year.



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



"He is not here; for He has risen." (Matthew 28:6)

Christ's resurrection opens the way to new life and hope for all who follow Him. Through priesthood and consecrated life, men and women share in this victory over sin and death, bringing the joy of the Risen Lord to others through prayer and service. Could God be calling you to proclaim the hope of Easter in your life and vocation?

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

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