



April 26, 2026

# SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church  
*4th Sunday of Easter*

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



## — Festival 2026 — *Save the Dates*

May 21, 22 & 23  
5:00PM - 9:00PM

### Basket Raffle Donations

Filled baskets and jewelry donations may  
be dropped off at the Parish Office

### Flea Market Drop Off Dates:

May 7: 3:30-5:30pm  
May 15: 3:30-5:30pm  
May 17: 12:00-2:00pm

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!

“We love our priests.” Those signs popped up around the parish a few weeks ago, courtesy of the Seven Sorrows Vocations Ministry. It was so awesome of them to do that. I don’t deserve that; Fr. Josh certainly does, but I don’t.

Believe me, we really feel your love. You are so good to us, and we are so spoiled by your constant prayers for us, your kindness, your generosity. But most of all, we feel it because you desire to walk with us toward Jesus, even if it is difficult.

One of the hardest things to do is as a priest is talk about hard stuff. It doesn’t mean that we avoid it, but it’s not something that’s easy for us. I don’t want to ever feel that I’m “talking down” to anyone, or that I’m better than anyone. So I want to communicate the Truth, but also avoid anything that would make people turn away from Jesus.

One of the hardest things to do as Catholics is go to Confession. Surveys tell us that most Catholics do not go, let alone regularly. As a priest, it’s hard to talk about sin because I don’t want anyone to think that I’m singling them out, or to think that someone is not worthy of God’s love. At the same time, sin prevents us from being with God, and so Jesus tells us that we must come to Him to be forgiven.

I know you love Him – and us priests – because you have answered the call to go to Confession. Father Josh and I preach about it a lot, and I know I do because it changed my life. I want you to feel the power of His Mercy, too!

The result: Confession times during Lent were packed! We had the biggest turnout for our parish time of confessions than I’ve seen anywhere in my years here in the Dauphin Co. deanery. And on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, we heard Confessions for over two hours, each! You answered the call, and I pray you feel it was worth it.

This Good Shepherd Sunday is a reminder that we all follow Jesus, THE Shepherd. We follow, because we love Him and want to be with Him. You have followed His call to conversion and the Sacrament of Confession, because you love Him. To be your shepherds in a small way, and to see you heed His call, makes Father and I want to be better priests for you!

You certainly love Jesus; We see it. You definitely love us; We feel it. And we love you – so much so that we want to be with you forever. Sometimes that means we say stuff that is difficult. Not because we enjoy it, but because we love you. And because you love Jesus, you follow. This is what it means to be Catholic – we follow Him together to Heaven.

### **Thank You!**

This weekend, there were several things happening at Masses, and it highlights the many goings-on of our parish and area!

First, on Saturday night, one person entered the Church, and another two young adult Catholics were Confirmed. The Holy Spirit continues to move throughout our area, calling people to the Faith! We are so happy for you, and please share your gift of the Holy Spirit with us, so that we can be enlivened in our Faith!

On Sunday morning at the 8AM Mass, I introduced and inducted the new leadership for the Council of Catholic Women. I can’t thank them enough for all the work they do in our parish, particularly in their financial and spiritual support of the Sacramental life of the parish, but also in their outreach to those in need.

And at the 10:30AM Mass, the Bishop McDevitt Chorale will lead our singing. We are so happy that they are here with us. I’m writing this a week ahead of their singing, but I KNOW that you’ll love the power and beauty with which they sing. Thank you, Bishop McDevitt, for practicing and being with us this Sunday. They are giving our Seven Sorrows Choir a well-deserved Sunday off.

God bless you, and Happy Sunday!

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

### **HIGH SCHOOL**

Bishop McDevitt - 717-236-7973



## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

8:00 am +Paul Steere  
10:30 am +Our Parish Family  
6:00 pm +Maryann Nigro

**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026**

8:00 am +Christine Kelly

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026 St. Peter Chanel and St. Louis**

8:00 am +Albert Albarano Jr.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026 St. Catherine of Sienna**

8:30 am +Joseph Kerwin

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026 St. Pius V**

5:15 pm - 5:50 pm **CONFESSION**

6:00 pm +Richard Ste Marie

**FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 St. Joseph**

8:00 am +Richard Ostrowski

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026 St. Athanasius**

7:15 am - 7:50 am **CONFESSION**

8:00 am +Michael Gearhart  
4:30 pm +Jane and Nicola Santeusanio

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8:00 am +Dan McNew  
10:30 am +Alexander and Pauline Loutinsky  
6:00 pm Our Parish Family



## DAILY READINGS

Sun. April 26	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 / 1 Peter 2:20b-25 / John 10:1-10
Mon. April 27	Acts 11:1-18 / John 10:11-18
Tue. April 28	Acts 11:19-26 / John 10:22-30
Wed. April 29	Acts 12:24-13:5a / John 12:44-50
Thu. April 30	Acts 13:13-25 / John 13:16-20
Fri. May 1	Acts 13:26-33 / John 14:1-6
Sat. May 2	Acts 13:44-52 / John 14:7-14
Sun. May 3	Acts 6:1-7 / 1 Peter 2:4-9 / John 14:1-12



## PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar this weekend are in honor of the 30th wedding anniversary of Matt and Paula Sheaffer.

The flowers are a gift from their daughter Brooke. Congratulations and may God bless you with many more happy, healthy years together!

**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

**APRIL 19, 2026**

Sunday Collection \$11,536.00  
Online Giving 6,038.25  
Total \$17,574.25



Scan for Online Giving

2026 DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

Goal: \$177,793

Collected and Pledged: \$117,084 (66%)

## THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

**SUNDAY APRIL 26**

8:00 am CCW Installation Mass  
8:00 am KOC BBQ Ticket Sales **Narthex (after all Masses)**  
8:00 am Smiles for Abby **Narthex (after all Masses)**  
9:15 am Religious Education  
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

**MONDAY APRIL 27**

11:30 am Rosary and Prayer Group **Church**  
6:00 pm Legion of Mary  
6:30 pm Bible Study **Library**

**TUESDAY APRIL 28**

7:00 pm Scouts **Cafeteria**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 29**

6:00 pm District CCW Meeting **Cafeteria**  
6:30 pm First Holy Communion Rehearsal  
6:30 pm Choir Practice

**THURSDAY APRIL 30**

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #2**

**FRIDAY MAY 1**

**SATURDAY MAY 2**

10:00 am First Holy Communion **Church**  
4:30 pm KOC BBQ Ticket Sales **Narthex**

**SUNDAY MAY 3**

8:00 am KOC BBQ Ticket Sales **Narthex (after all Masses)**  
10:30 am May Crowning **Church**  
10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**  
11:30 am Children's Rosary **Church**  
1:00 pm Bible Study **Art Room**

### 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.



## REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

**Marie Shivetts**  
**Patsy Klingman**  
(mother of Jill Seltzer)

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**  
10:00am - Historical Museum 20 N. Rosanna Street.

12:00pm- Chatter Box for Lunch 254 W. Main Street,  
For more information contact Augie Spadone at 717-877-4131.

**PILGRIMAGE 2026 - National Centre for Padre Pio.**

Reservation forms are available in the Narthex. Payment is due in the Parish Office by 10am on May 20th.

**“FAITH, FRIENDSHIP & FUN!”**- This is the title of our new *Senior Ministry Newsletter*, now available on the Narthex Flyer Rack. Stay up to date with all our upcoming events and activities. April 2026 Newsletter highlights events through July.

### OFF THE STREETS

**Spring Cleanup**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Off The Streets is organizing a spring cleanout on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. We need your help to clean and move furniture and donated goods to our warehouse location on Spring St. Use the QR code found here to sign up for a time. Thank you so much for helping us help our neighbors in need.

### 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.harrisburgdiocesanccw.com>)

Please complete the application and submit all material no later than May 1, 2026. Sponsored by the Harrisburg Diocesan of Catholic Women.

### NEED TO KNOW



The 4th annual Kauffman’s Chicken Bar-B-Que will be held on May 17th in the school parking lot from 9am to 1pm. Tickets cost \$12 and will be sold after all weekend Masses, and in the Parish Office.

Proceeds benefit :PPT, Smiles for Abby, & KOC



**MAY 17**

**9am – 1pm**

**School parking lot**



### 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 (May 3) ANY CHILD can voluntarily lead a decade of the Rosary. Everyone is invited to join in prayer to support the children.

### GARDENING ANGELS NEEDED!



If you have a green thumb and some free time, please consider adopting a section of the Seven Sorrows campus to clean up and maintain. The flower beds around the school are in particular need of some tender loving care. Contact :Jim Young (717-856-7088) if interested.

**SEVEN SORROWS**  
**SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
**MAY 21ST, 22ND & 23RD**  
**5PM-9PM**

We are four weeks away from our annual Festival! It takes over 200 volunteers to make this event happen. To date, we have 80 slots filled and 165 slots still vacant; we can use your help. Please consider volunteering for 4 hours and make the festival a success. Scan code to volunteer.

Please continue to return your Shop Till You Drop and Cash Raffle tickets.



# 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**  
**2nd Grade - 1st Holy Communion**  
 04/29/26 Rehearsal  
 05/02/26 1st Holy Communion Mass & May Crowning weekend

**Vacation Bible School**  
 Junkyard Redemption  
 June 22-June 26, 2026  
 9:00-11:30  
 Details @ [sevensorrowsschool.com](http://sevensorrowsschool.com)

**Join Our School Team!**  
 We are hiring for the 2026-2027 school year:  
 • Full-Time Middle School Science & Math Teacher  
 • Part-Time Advancement Position  
 To apply or learn more, please contact Angela Warner with questions or inquiries. [awarner@ssbvm.org](mailto:awarner@ssbvm.org)



## RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"I am the door...go in and out and find pasture." (John 10:9)

Jesus invites each of us to enter through Him, the door to life and abundance. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the entire Church is called to pray for more holy vocations. Offer a Rosary, asking the Lord to guide hearts to go where He wants them to go, be who He wants them to be, and do what He calls them to do.

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