



May 17, 2026

# SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church  
*The 7<sup>th</sup> 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

May 21, 22 & 23

5:00-9:00PM

Home cooked meals and grilled favorites!

Basket raffle, cash raffle, plant stand, bake sale, entertainment, games for all ages & our ever-popular flea market will be in full swing!

Let the  
 **FUN**  
 begin!

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,

Colleges and universities are closing for the summer, and students are returning home. It is so good to see them at Mass and around!

But as we see graduations in our colleges and high schools, I am amazed at the gifts that are seen in our young people, whether academically, socially or spiritually. I am so proud of all of our children, and I know you are, too. But two, especially, exemplify the greatness that is inside all of our sons and daughters.

Last week, Serena Seltzer, a graduate of Duquesne University's Master's program of Biomedical Sciences, was named Valedictorian of her class. What an unbelievable accomplishment and I can't imagine the drive it must take to excel in post-graduate work. Congratulations, Serena!

And also last week, Felicity Astfalk was announced as Bishop McDevitt's Valedictorian for the 2026 class. Felicity has been an altar server since she was in grade school, and serves our parish in so many ways. To see someone whose Faith and devotion, like Felicity's, be recognized in her school is a credit to her work, her courage, and her intelligence. Moreover, her name means "happiness" in Latin, and she surely exemplifies that in her every-day life.



We are so proud of both Serena and Felicity, both of whom graduated from our Seven Sorrows school. If you ever doubt the effectiveness of our school, take a look at these graduates, who are products of our challenging and nurturing school. Surely, their presence helped lift others, and we are so grateful for all of our students who push each other to be the best, in Faith, in academics, in extra-curriculars, and otherwise.

There are so many examples of greatness among our graduates, and so many examples of Faith, academic excellence, and generosity. We are so proud of all of our student graduates. Congratulations! Please know of our prayers for all, as they move on to work, school, or military service. God bless you!

### **Festival: NEXT WEEK**

Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights this week, you have plans! If you don't already have something to do, you do now! Please come to our parish festival, and be with our parish family to play games, eat great food, shop the flea market, take some chances on baskets, play Bingo, listen to music, enjoy the inflatables...there's just so much to do!

Thank you so much to all who volunteer and help put these awesome three days together. Our parish supports each other in so many ways. Please support the festival and support the great work of our parish family! See you there!

God bless you, and see you at the festival!  
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, MAY 17, 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Our Parish Family  
10:30 am +Joe Wasilewski  
6:00 pm +Deceased Members of the Jeske and Janicki Families

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026 St. John I

8:00 am +Colby Hall

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

8:00 am +Patricia Kozloski

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026 St. Bernadine

8:30 am +Vince Varankar

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026 St. Christopher Magallanes

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm CONFESION

6:00 pm +Ann and Lewis Pilstiz

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026 St. Rita

8:00 am Special Intentions of Ronald Sahd

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2026

7:15 am - 7:50 am CONFESION

8:00 am +Roger Olson

4:30 pm +Michael Carricato

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

8:00 am +Earl J. Lipiec Sr.

10:30 am Our Parish Family

6:00 pm +Ron Goles

Mass Intentions for 2026 have been filled. The Mass Intention book for 2027 will not be opened until September. If you would like to make a Mass for a loved one, you may still do so. They will be sent out to be said by retired priests.



# DAILY READINGS

Sun. May 17	Acts 1:12-14 / 1 Peter 4:13-16 / John 17:1-11a
Mon. May 18	Acts 19: 1-8 / John 16:29-33
Tue. May 19	Acts 20:17-27 / John 17:1-11a
Wed. May 20	Acts 20:28-38 / John 17:11b-19
Thu. May 21	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 / John 17:20-26
Fri. May 22	Acts 25:13b-21 / John 21:15-19
Sat. May 23	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 / John 21:20-25
Sun. May 24	Acts 2:1-11 / 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 / John 20:19-23

### 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.

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

MAY 10, 2026

Sunday collection \$16,810.00  
Online giving 4,662.25  
Total \$21,472.25



Scan for Online Giving

2026 DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

Goal: \$177,793

Collected and Pledged: \$130,071 (71%)

# THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY

MAY 17

8:00 am Sub Sale Narthex (after all Masses)

8:00 am Off the Streets Donation House Narthex (after all Masses)

9:00 am KOC Chicken BBQ Front of School

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement

MONDAY MAY 18

6:00 pm Legion of Mary

TUESDAY MAY 19

6:00 pm PTT Meeting Library

7:00 pm Scouts Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY MAY 20

7:00 pm Young Adult Ministry Library

THURSDAY MAY 21

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #1

5:00 pm Parish Festival

FRIDAY MAY 22

5:00 pm Parish Festival

SATURDAY MAY 23

5:00 pm Parish Festival

SUNDAY MAY 24

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement



# PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar this weekend are in loving memory of Deborah "Precious" Palermo on her birthday. They are a gift from her family.



# REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Louise Kostelac  
(mother of Camille Cherry)

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



### 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

**PILGRIMAGE 2026—LAST DAYS TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.** Payment is due in our Parish Office by 10 am on MAY 20. Reservation Forms & Trip Details are available in the Narthex Flyer Rack.

**BOCCE** - June 4 at 8:30 am at Sunset Park.

**RIVER HOUSE - Dinner under the Tent - Saturday, June 13 at 6 pm.**

Separate Checks will be available. Text/Call your reservation to Kathy Bednarik at 717-574-1929 by 10 am on May 29. Leave message with Guest Name(s) & Phone #.

## MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



Mental Health Ministry  
Seven Sorrows BVM

*There is no shame in asking for help.*

*How we care for our body & mind affects us spiritually.*

*The Body and Soul work together.*

*God loves the whole person.*



Bishop's Video Message

*Bishop K.J. Chylinski  
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia*

**Find out how we can help**

visit our new website today



### R&K Sub & Pretzel Sandwich Sale



Our HS Ministry group is heading to NYC with Fr.Sahd & Fr. Weaver this July. This fundraiser will help pay the cost of bus transportation. Please pick up an order form in the Narthex flyer rack or order after all Masses May 16 & 17.

## NEED TO KNOW



A Journey of Faith -  
Explore the Catholic Faith Deeper  
**Summer 2026**

Are you seeking to return to the Church or explore the Catholic Faith? Join us for our summer series, a welcoming journey of faith, discovery, and community.

Our Journey will begin Wednesday, June 3rd at 6:30 pm. We will also meet June 10<sup>th</sup>, June 17<sup>th</sup>, June 24<sup>th</sup> and July 1st.



Scan QR code to register

*When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, When you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13*

Questions? FrSahd@ssbvm.org or Angela (717)982-3875

### 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.

### Parish Playroom



Babysitters are on duty to provide care for little ones during the 10:30am Mass. The Playroom is located in the church basement. Entry is to the left of the Narthex down the stairs.



**"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.

# RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato  
 ssbvm.org/Education  
 lfortunato@ssbvm.org

SSBVM Catholic School Principal - Angela Warner  
 Sevensorrowsschool.com  
 awarner@ssbvm.org

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

Join us at Seven Sorrows, BVM School this summer from June 15 to June 19 or August 3 to August 7 for an exciting week of all-new, confidence-building #STEM fun with @CampInvention! Discounts available. #SummerCamp [invent.org/mylocalcamp](http://invent.org/mylocalcamp)

Our School's VIRTUE recognition for the Month of April was for Peace. Congratulations to the following SSBVM Students (K5-8<sup>th</sup>) who were nominated by their teachers for exemplifying Peace: Sloan Thomas, Charlie Stamm, Cori Jones, Isidro Renteria Garcia, Abigail Nunez, Lacey Gutshall, Mia Krieg, Leah Thomas, Maggie Stamm, Alexander Rogati, Charlie Dale, Sam Stanisic, Taliyah Clark, Gracelynn Brubacher, Dalton Underhill, Clare Breen

*Looking for a fun summer camp for your preschooler or kindergartener? Is your child ready to explore, discover, get wet, make friends, and have fun? Then look no further than Seven Sorrows Summer Camp! We offer an 8 week, full day camp here at Seven Sorrows School! Registration can be completed online at <https://www.sevensorrowsschool.com/summer-camp>. Questions can be directed to Megan Zapcic at [mzapcic@ssbvm.org](mailto:mzapcic@ssbvm.org). See you this summer!*

## RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"All things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them." (John 17:10)

Jesus invites us into a profound sharing of His life and mission. Those called to priesthood and consecrated life participates in this intimate union, offering their lives so that Christ may be glorified in the world. Pray for openness and discern God's invitation in your life.

Talk to Father Sahd or reach out to Father Weaver at the Vocation Office at [Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org)

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