



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

DAILY MASS:

Monday: 8:00am
Tuesday: 8:00am
Wednesday: 8:00am
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: 9:00am-10:00pm
Thursday: 9:00am-10:00pm
Friday: 9:00am-Noon

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

August 2, 2026



Trivia Night - Celebrate the DECADES - 70's, 80's, 90's and 2000's
Saturday, August 15, 2026
7:00PM-10:00PM
Sponsored by KOC
Contact for tickets: Matt Sheaffer @sheaf418@comcast.net

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,

Nearly 30 of our parish's high school students took the day a few weeks ago to visit New York City. It was an awesome time to spend together.

We started the day at St. Patrick's Cathedral. It is magnificent, and after taking time to look around, we were given a very in-depth tour, which included the crypt below the main altar.

In that crypt, the previous archbishops of New York are buried, and there is a prayer kneeler inside. That was Archbishop Fulton Sheen's kneeler!



I wanted to kneel on it, but it was so flimsy that I thought I'd break it.

But something fascinated me about the Cathedral more than anything else. It is the fact that, in 1937, nearly 50 years after St. Patrick's was constructed directly across the street, the owners of Rockefeller Center placed a giant statue of Atlas, a Greek god who is depicted carrying the weight of the world.

I mean that it is **DIRECTLY** across from St. Patrick. He actually looks into the Cathedral!

That statue and location is not on accident. Think about it: a pagan god, carrying the weight of the world on his shoulders, and digging his heels in to St. Patrick's Cathedral, which is the temple of our True God.



It truly makes us choose: who is our god? Man, who constantly must be trusted to carry the weight of the world? Or our Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

The tour guide said that the counter-weight to the pagan statue is the statue of Jesus, the Holy Child, holding the whole world in His hands. Not overwhelmed by it, but carefully and confidently carrying it. As a child.



Isn't that a beautiful summation of our Faith? Who do we trust to carry us? Man, with all of his knowledge and strength that will surely fail? Our Jesus Christ, who we trust to carry us to Eternal Life?

I love that the Cathedral not only embraces this comparison, but boldly places large glass doors, so that this contrast is not hidden, but fully understood. We are not meant to carry life's burdens, and man cannot do this alone. But we must come to the one who truly asks us to come to Him if we have any burden, and He will give us His rest.

God bless you in this season of rest, and in the Faith of True Rest!
Fr. Sahd

PARISH STAFF



SCHOOL STAFF

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. J. Weaver, Vocations Director - Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org

PARISH MANAGER

Carole Larry - clarry@ssbvm.org

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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, AUGUST 2, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Barbara and James Hirsch
10:30 am +Winifred O'Connor
6:00 pm +Louis Russ Sr.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026

8:00 am +Richard Altimore

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026 St. John Vianney

8:00 am Special Intentions of the Bolesky Family

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026

8:00 am +Rose and Fortunato Rinaldo

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026 Transfiguration of the Lord

5:15 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**

6:00 pm +Tim Fraley

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 St. Sixtus II and St. Cajetan

8:00 am +Deborah "Precious" Palermo

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026 St. Dominic

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

8:00 am +Vince Varankar

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**

4:30 pm +Teresa Speitel

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Our Parish Family

10:30 am +Joseph Stago

6:00 pm Special Intentions of Brenda and Mark Artman



DAILY READINGS

Sun. August 2	Isa 55:1-3 / Rom 8:35,37-39 / Matt 14:13-21
Mon. August 3	Jer 28:1-17 / Matt 14:22-36
Tue. August 4	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 / Matt 14:22-36
Wed. August 5	Jer 31:1-7 / Matt 15:21-28
Thu. August 6	Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 / Peter 1:16-19 / Matt 17:1-9
Fri. August 7	Nahum 2:1,3 ; 3:1-3, 6-7 / Matt 16:24-28
Sat. August 8	Habakkuk 1:12-2:4 / Matt 17:14-20
Sun. August 9	1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a / Rom 9:1-5 / Matt 14:22-23



PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar this weekend are in loving memory of **Albert Schmeltzer**.

They are a gift from his wife Judy on their 51st Wedding Anniversary.

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

July 26, 2026



Scan for Online Giving

Sunday collection \$13,676.00
Online giving 3,847.25
Total \$17,523.25

Missionary Co-Op \$5,873.00

2026 DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

Goal: \$177,793

Collected and Pledged: \$156,367 (88%)

THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY AUGUST 2

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement

11:30 am Children's Rosary

MONDAY AUGUST 3

6:00 pm Legion of Mary

7:30 pm KOC Assembly Meeting Drexel Room

TUESDAY AUGUST 4

7:00 pm KOC Meeting Drexel Room

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5

THURSDAY AUGUST 6

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #4

6:30 pm Mental Health Ministry Rectory

FRIDAY AUGUST 7

SATURDAY AUGUST 8

4:30 pm Land of Peace Narthex

SUNDAY AUGUST 9

8:00 am Land of Peace Narthex (after all Masses)

10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Karen Moraski
Sun Tok O'Hare

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



"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.

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
SSG	Corbin Stetler	ARNG
AG1	Stephen Boyland	Navy
CPT	Andrew T. Lavelle	Army
1st Lt.	Mark E. Lavelle	Army
CPT	Phillip Bertovic	Army
Lt Col	Todd Campbell	Air Force
CPT	Edward C. Stene	USAR
1st Lt	Nicholas Campbell	Marines
ACI	Trey Kephart	USAF
MGST	Daniel Brought	Marines
A1C	Nicolas A. Corradi	USAF

SENIOR MINISTRY

M & H Railroad- Sunday, August 2. Meet at Noon at Rail Station. Special Price \$15, payable at M & H Station.

Newsletter- In the Narthex Flyer Rack.

OFF THE STREETS

SAVE THE DATE!
OTS 3RD
ANNUAL
GOLF
TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 4TH



Registration forms are in the flyer rack in the Narthex.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

Annual Summer Trivia Night- Saturday, August 15, from 7pm-10pm in the School Gym. This year's theme is "Decades," featuring questions from the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s.

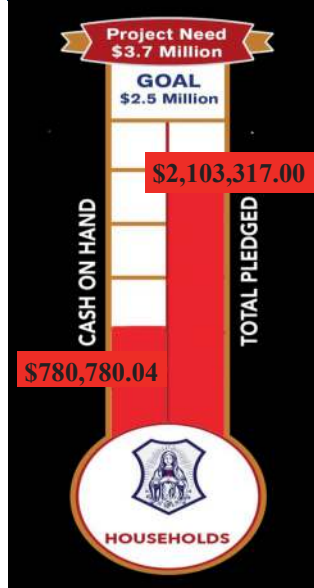
The cost is \$25 per team (up to 6 players) and includes snacks, soda, and water. Plenty of amazing raffle baskets will also be available to win. Contact Matt Sheaffer at 717-319-9065 or sheaf418@comcast.net. Please see the flyer on the KOC table or in the flyer rack in the Narthex.



girls clothes (0-3 months & 2T), baby wash, and large diapers (sizes 5 and up) for the families it serves. Please place your donated items in the Knights' bassinet in the Narthex.

Aid and Support After Pregnancy. Our commitment to life does not end with the birth of the child. Morning Star is in need of: new boys and

NEED TO KNOW



Capital Campaign

Sustaining Our Momentum
As we step into August, we are encouraged by the steady momentum of the *Our Faith, Our Future* campaign. Your generosity continues to lay the foundation for a renovated gym and cafeteria that will serve our parish for years to come.

If you have questions, please reach out to Campaign Manager Richie

Musser at 484-364-0781 or rmusser@kirbysmith.com. Thank you for your continued dedication to Seven Sorrows!



Through the Baby Bottle Blessings Campaign, we are excited to report that Seven Sorrows Church and School generously raised a total of **\$6,297.79** to support Morning Stars' no cost services. These donations provide women with medical services, pregnancy education, STI health services, baby supplies and parenting classes.



Land of Peace -Next Weekend

Noel Alshomali from Land of Peace, a not-for-profit organization will be with us to shed light on the struggles faced by Christians in the Holy Land.

Available for purchase will be religious articles made from Olive Wood, a material native to the Holy Land and Bethlehem. These items, including crucifixes and rosaries, offer a tangible connection to a land that holds deep spiritual significance.

We encourage you to join us and support this meaningful cause. For more information, please visit www.landofpeace.org

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

REMINDER

Spiritual Support Group

The Support Group will meet on **Thursday, August 6th at 6:30 PM.**

This is a week earlier than usual.

Please Join Us!



RAISING DISCIPLES

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

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

26-27 Religious Ed Open Enrollment
1st grade - 8th Grade
Register online at
ssbvm.org/Education/ReligiousEd

NOW ENROLLING

- Preschool through 8th Grade
- Financial Aid Available
- Whole-child approach
- Busing from surrounding districts
- S.T.E.M-focused project based learning



RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"You give them something to eat." (Matthew 14:16)

Jesus calls us to respond to the needs of His people. How is He inviting you to serve and nourish those around you?

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

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