



September 20, 2026

SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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



Outdoor *Mass & Picnic*

Sunday, October 4, 2026
 10:30AM @ Hoffer Park
 Bring your own chair.

Meet your fellow parishioners and
 enjoy a FREE lunch afterwards!

PARISH: 280 N. Race Street; Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-3133 Phone | ssbvm.org
 RECTORY HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm, Friday 9:00am-1:00pm

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Two Saturday nights ago, there was an unbelievable ending to a college football game. The University of Michigan - ranked the 11th -best team in the country - was looking like they'd be sure to lose against Western Michigan, an extreme underdog.

Sure to lose? Absolutely! Michigan was trailing by five points, with nine seconds left on the clock. They were 50 yards – half a football field – away from a win. There was no way they would win.

And it played out that way. The quarterback ran around for a long time, and then threw the ball out of bounds, and before any player touched it to stop the clock, it appeared the clock hit zero. The game was over!



But wait, there was instant replay to make sure the clock hit zero. We all saw that it did! But – for a few strange reasons -- the officials ruled that there should be one second left. Michigan had a chance to run another play!

And they took advantage. The Quarterback, this time, threw a better pass, and a Michigan player caught the ball. The game was over, and Michigan had a miracle win.

This never happens! There is NEVER a second chance to continue a game when it is officially over. There's nothing more final than the end of a game. The winner is the winner, and the loser is the loser. It doesn't matter who is favored, or whether we wanted a team to win. When the game is over, the result is official, and there's no changing it.

The same is true with our Eternal destiny. We have our lives here on earth to accept the mercy of Jesus' love. But once that time runs out, there is no second chance. The officials never add another second for us to come back to Our Lord.

Jesus tells us that we should always be ready to meet Him, as we know "neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 24:36). We have a whole lifetime to come back to Him, but at some point, we will need to be ready to meet Him. Are we ready? There are rarely second chances like Michigan enjoyed. Jesus is always calling us to ask for His Mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Will we take Him up on it?

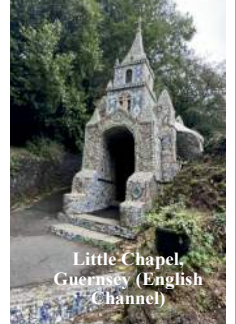
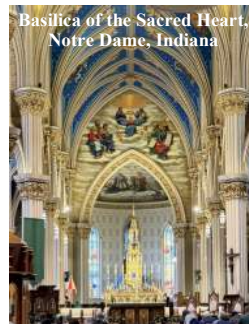
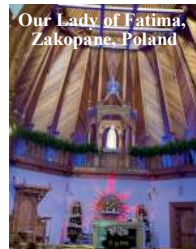
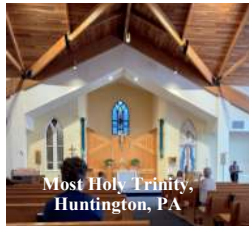
This Sunday: Free Breakfast and Ministry Fair

On Sunday after the 8 and 10:30AM Masses, we'll have a free, full breakfast in our cafeteria, as well as a ministry fair. There are tons of ways to get involved here, with lots of talents needed. Whether you are a young family, a single person, or recently retired, there are ways to serve God and others, and get to know our parishioners as well. We need you, and we look forward to enjoying time together!

Vacation Churches

The pictures continue to roll in! Thanks so much! Below are a few from the last week. Notice the "Little Chapel," which is the smallest consecrated church in the world!

May God bless you, and thank you so much for your love for our God and His parish!
Fr. Sahd



PARISH 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

SCHOOL STAFF

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, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Twenty - Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Robert James Kerwin
10:30 am Our Parish Family
6:00 pm +Mary Goles

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 St. Matthew

8:00 am +Cathy Benson

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

8:00am +Tim Fraley

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026 St. Pius

8:30 am +Joe Souders

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**

6:00 pm +Nathan Boslet

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

8:00 am +Mario Lanni

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026 Sts. Cosmas and Damian

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

8:00 am +Teresa Speitel

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

4:30 pm +Our Parish Family

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Mark Shipkowski

10:30 am +Ann and Ted Field

6:00 pm +Fran Merryman



DAILY READINGS

Sun. Sept. 20	Isa 55:6-9 / Phil 1:20c-24, 27a / Matt 20:1-16a
Mon. Sept. 21	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 / Matt 9:9-13
Tue. Sept. 22	Prov 21:1-6, 10-13 / Luke 8:19-21
Wed. Sept. 23	Prov 30:5-9 / Luke 9:1-6
Thu. Sept. 24	Ecc 1:2-11 / Luke 9:7-9
Fri. Sept. 25	Ecc 3:1-11 / Luke 9:18-22
Sat. Sept. 26	Ecc 11:9-12:8 / Luke 43b- 45
Sun. Sept. 27	Eze 18:25-28 / Phil 2:1-11 / Matt 21:28-32



PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar this weekend are in loving memory of
Christopher Smedley AND in celebration of the marriage of Matthew and Oriana Smedley.

The flowers are a gift from the family. Matthew and Oriana may God bless you with an abundance of love and happiness as you begin your life 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

September 13, 2026

Sunday collection \$12,004.00

Online giving 3,600.25

Total \$15,604.25



Scan for Online Giving

2026 DAC

Goal: \$177,793

Collected & Pledged: \$158,794 (89%)

Capital Campaign

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!



THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

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

9:00 am Ministry Fair **Cafeteria**

10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

6:00 pm Legion of Mary

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

7:00 pm Boy Scouts **Cafeteria**

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

5:45 pm Girl Scouts **Cafeteria**

6:30 pm Choir Practice **Church**

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

8:30 am Church Cleaners **Team #3**

6:00 pm Senior Ministry Game Night **Cafeteria**

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

6:45 am TMIY **Upper Cafeteria**

10:00 am Women of Grace **Art Room**

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27

9:15 am Religious Ed **School**

10:30 am Parish Playroom **Church Basement**

11:30 am Parish Rosary Making **School's Art Room**

12:00 pm Senior Ministry Picnic **Off Site**

Can't make Mass?

The Holy Eucharist is vital to our Faith and our Spiritual, physical and emotional well being.

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 Church Office.

We have Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist dedicated to this Ministry who will call to schedule a convenient time to visit and bring the Eucharist for as long as needed.

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

Game Night - September 24. After 6 pm Mass until 8:30pm. Please bring a favorite snack to share!

Brunch in the Park -September 27 at Noon - 3pm at Hoffer Park Pavilion #1. If you missed the sign-up, text/call Kathy at 717-574-1929 with your name & potluck dish.

Holly Jolly Holiday - Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre on December 11. Cost per person - \$135. We will be accepting reservations through October 29.

Glass Blowing with Glass Artist - October 19 at 10 am. 6322 Schoolhouse Road, Elizabethtown. \$45 per person, payable at Studio. Text/Call Kathy at 717-574-1929 by October 12 to reserve your space.

****For more information on all events see the Newsletter in Narthex flyer rack.**

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMAN

HDCCW PRAYER SHAWL RETREAT

Mark your calendar for SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 9:30am – 2:30pm and join women from our Harrisburg

Diocese at Holy Name of Jesus Parish Social Hall as we pray, knit and crochet. Enjoy fellowship and a catered lunch. Mass is at 8:30am. Meet us in the Narthex of the church at 8:20am, if you would like to sit together.

You do not have to be a member of a Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry to attend.

Email hdccwcommunitycommission@gmail.com to register and provide your lunch choice of ham, turkey or veggie sandwich with sides. The cost is \$14.00. Please send a check to Kathy Kokoski, 12 Kensington Square, Mechanicsburg, Pa 17050. Call Kathy at 717-448-8899 with any questions.



Giving Tree If you know of anyone from the Middletown area who is in need of help this Christmas, please have them call the Parish office, **NO later than October 26.**

NEED TO KNOW



Parish Rosary Making

Join us to make Rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room Sun. September 27 anytime from 11:30am to 2:30pm. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

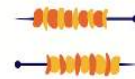
Bishop McDevitt High School is excited to invite 8th-grade students to this year's Crusader Experience. It will be held on Friday, October 9th, from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. This event is an opportunity for 8th graders to experience a (half) day in the life of a Crusader! Visit <https://bit.ly/McDCrusaderExperience2026> for more information & to register.

BISHOP MCDEVITT HIGH SCHOOL

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



When asked
if my cup
is **half-empty**
or **half-full**
my only
response is that
I am **thankful**
I have a cup.



TRUNK
-OR-
TREAT



F R I D A Y
OCTOBER 23, 2026
5:00 - 7:00 PM



Join SSBVM and the surrounding community for a family friendly trunk-or-treat on Friday, October 23rd from 5pm - 7pm in the school parking lot.

We invite all parishioners and friends of SSBVM to host a trunk and hand out candy and other Halloween treats to the trunk-or-treaters. New this year, we will vote on and award the best, most creative trunk!

This is one of our biggest initiatives of the year, please help us make it a success! Questions can be directed to PTT@ssbvm.org.

RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

ssbvm.org/Education
lfortunato@ssbvm.org

SSBVM Catholic School
Principal - Angela Warner

Sevensorrowsschool.com
awarner@ssbvm.org

Schedule:

09/27/26 - 1st Class

10/04/26 - Class/Early Dismissal for Outdoor Mass @ Hoffer Park



40 & 48oz jars Jif Creamy Butter Jars

Goal: 1,000 Collected to date: 92

Thank you to those who've already started donating!

Jars may be placed on the cart in the Narthex.

Substitute Teachers are needed for occasional days - Teaching experience

Contact Mrs. Angela Warner at awarner@ssbvm.org if interested.

School Cafeteria Volunteers are needed to help serve school lunch to our students. If you have a few hours from 10:30am - 1:00pm any day of the week Monday - Friday, we could use your help. Contact the School office 717-944-5371 if interested.

Diocesan Clearances are needed for all positions.

RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"The last will be first, and the first will be last." (Matthew 20:16)

God's kingdom values humility and self-giving. Those in consecrated life embrace poverty, offering their lives in the service of others, just as Mother Teresa of Calcutta did. Pray about how God might be inviting you to live generously for His people and consider learning more about this vocation.

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

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