



July 20, 2025

# SEVEN SORROWS

of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church  
*16th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Reverend Timothy J. Sahd, Pastor

FrSahd@ssbvm.org

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

### DAILY MASS:

Monday-Wednesday, Friday and  
 Saturday 8:00am  
 Thursday, 6:00pm

### SUNDAY MASS:

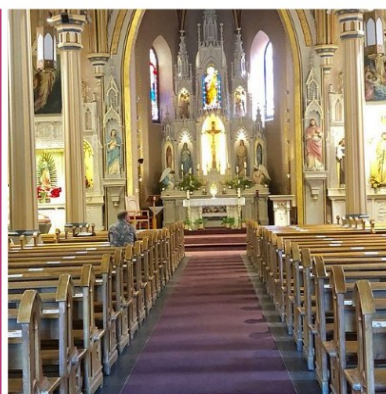
Saturday: 4:30pm  
 Sunday: 8:00am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

### CONFESSIONS:

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

### ADORATION: (in the Chapel)

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



## Summer *Vacations*

A time to relax, refresh, rejuvenate  
 and remember...

...The ONE to Whom we  
*worship!*



Find a Catholic church near your vacation!  
 And be sure to come back home safely!

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,

I have always loved following the weather. In fact, when we were growing up, my brother and I used to watch The Weather Channel all of the time. We loved all of it, whether we were looking at the radar or watching for the "Local on the 8s" local forecast to see what elevator music they'd play over the forecast.

It was sad. Don't judge me!

But I've always loved following the weather. I'm guessing most of you do, too, because the forecast is everywhere, all of the time. On local TV news, it's constantly being repeated, and on the radio and on weather apps. It's everywhere.

For some, the weather is their livelihood. I was talking with a farmer recently and they were telling me that the recent storms were damaging their corn crop. And sometimes, following the weather is essential, as we saw tragically in Texas a few weeks ago.

But most of the time, it's just a curiosity for us.

And for something that can be that important, what certainty do we get? Most of the time, we get a percentage chance that it will happen. This is the forecast for this Sunday (July 20), as seen on Sunday, July 13 (when I wrote this column): Mostly cloudy; occasional rain and a thunderstorm in the morning followed by a couple of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Percent chance of rain: 65%.

How accurate was the forecast? Is it raining today?

And what do we do when we see the forecast? We make plans, or we change them. That is natural, and that's a smart thing to do. And that's based off of a 65% chance (for this weekend anyway) that this will happen someplace in our area.

That's a pretty good guess, but it's not certain.

We are such followers of weather and we make plans based off the forecast. How about our Faith? Do we make plans or change them based off of what we know about Jesus' Teachings?

Do we change our lives, or our activities, based off of the Word of God and the Teachings of the Church? My guess is we are a little bit more hesitant to do that.

The problem with that? It's that there is a 100% chance of death and eternity in our life. As the prayer at a funeral Mass states, "O God, who have set a limit to this present life, so as to open up an entry into eternity..."

Eternity does not necessarily mean Heaven. Of course that is Jesus' gift to us, but as He died and rose and handed that gift to us, we have to accept it with His Way, which is His Teachings. If we do not, we are not able to spend eternity with Him. Instead, we spend it away from Him and all things Good.

Do we listen and act out Jesus' Teachings to love God and our neighbor? Do we live out the spiritual and corporal works of Mercy, treating others as they are sons and daughters of God? Do we eat His Flesh and drink His Blood, so that we may have Eternal Life on a weekly basis? Do we follow the Teachings of the Church in the moral life, or do we think it's outdated and reserved for another time in history?

All of these are challenges for me. I know that. I struggle with some, and desire to live others. But we are not to pick and choose, as the message of Eternal Life is not optional. Jesus gives us the Way, the Truth, and the Life. There is a 100% chance of Eternity opening up for us. I resolve to follow more closely Jesus' Teachings, so that I may live with Him forever. I pray you desire the same thing!

God bless you and have a great week!  
Fr. Sahd

## PARISH STAFF



## SCHOOL STAFF

### IN RESIDENCE

Rev. J. Weaver, Vocations Director - [Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:Frjweaver@hbgdiocese.org)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Tina D'Angelo - [tdangelo@ssbvm.org](mailto:tdangelo@ssbvm.org)  
Kristin Stetler - [kstetler@ssbvm.org](mailto:kstetler@ssbvm.org)

### PARISH MANAGER

Carole Larry - [clarry@ssbvm.org](mailto:clarry@ssbvm.org)

### BULLETIN CONTACT

Evangel DiMarco - [Idimarco@ssbvm.org](mailto:Idimarco@ssbvm.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lisa Fortunato - [lfortunato@ssbvm.org](mailto:lfortunato@ssbvm.org)

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Joe Trojcek - [joet@progressivestudios.com](mailto:joet@progressivestudios.com)

### PARISH SCHOOL

School Phone - 717-944-5371  
Mrs. Angela Warner, Principal

### HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop McDevitt - 717-236-7973





## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Donald Fox  
10:30 am +Charlie Stare  
6:00 pm +Milton and Anne Bilger

### MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 St. Lawrence of Brindisi

8:00 am +Margaret Sugar Acker

### TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 St. Mary Magdalene

8:00 am +Rose Meyer

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 St. Bridget

8:00 am +Gary O'Brien

### THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 St. Sharbel Makluf

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm **CONFESSION**  
6:00 pm +Linda Tritch

### FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2025 St. James

8:00 am +Monica Drayer and Family

### SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2025 Sts. Joachim and Anne

7:15 am - 7:50 am **CONFESSION**  
8:00 am +Gerald Guy  
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm **CONFESSION**  
4:30 pm Our Parish Family

### SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025

#### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am +Deceased Members of Shank and Relken Family  
10:30 am +Joseph Rakus  
6:00 pm +Milton and Anne Bilger



## DAILY READINGS

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Sun. July 20 | Gn 18:1-10a/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42         |
| Mon. July 21 | Ex 14:5-18/Mt 12:38-42                      |
| Tue. July 22 | Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 |
| Wed. July 23 | Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Mt 13:1-9                   |
| Thu. July 24 | Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Mt 13:10-17         |
| Fri. July 25 | Feast 2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt 20:20-28              |
| Sat. July 26 | Ex 24:3-8/Mt 13:24-30                       |
| Sun. July 27 | Gn 18:20-32/Col 2:12-14/11:1-13             |



## SACRAMENTS

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Infant baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays and Sundays. Parents are asked to attend a class on Baptism prior to the celebration. Please call the Parish Office for information.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Please call the Parish Office at least 12 months prior to the date of the intended wedding. Church date and arrangements should precede all other wedding plans. Pre-Cana conferences are mandatory and are available several times a year.



## SUNDAY OFFERING

### THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 7 - 13- 25

SUNDAY GIVING \$12,127.00  
ONLINE GIVING \$ 5,467.00  
TOTAL \$17,594.00



Scan QR code for Online Giving

### DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (DAC)

2025 DAC GOAL: \$187,283  
COLLECTED & PLEDGED: \$184,834 (99%)



## THIS WEEK @ SSBVM

### SUNDAY, JULY 20

8:00 am Parish Playroom Church Basement  
8:00 am Off the Streets Donation House Narthex  
8:00 am KOC Blood Drive Gym  
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement

### MONDAY, JULY 21

9:00 am Senior Ministry Pilgrimage Off Site  
11:30am Rosary Prayer Group Church  
6:00 pm Legion of Mary Legion of Mary Room

### TUESDAY, JULY 22

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

5:30 pm Girls Basketball Gym  
6:30 pm Journey of Faith Library

### THURSDAY, JULY 24

8:30 am Church Cleaners Team #2

### FRIDAY, JULY 25

### SATURDAY, JULY 26

4:30 pm Smiles for Abby Collection Narthex

### SUNDAY, JULY 27

8:00 am Smiles for Abby Collection Narthex  
10:30 am Parish Playroom Church Basement  
11:30 am Parish Rosary Making Art Room



## BAPTISM

Our Parish Family rejoices and welcomes

Julian Isai Peguero Taveras  
Maya Bernadette Peguero Taveras  
(Children of Isai and Shannon Peguero Taveras)

who was baptized by Water and the Spirit.



## PULPIT & ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers located at the altar and pulpit this weekend are for SUMMER! A time for families to relax, reconnect and create lasting memories.



## REMEMBER IN PRAYER OUR MILITARY

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> |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|
| MAJ         | Sam Herbert         | Army          |
| GYSGT       | Brendon J. Parkhill | Marines       |
|             | Mackenzie Mehalick  | Navy          |
| 1st Lt.     | Luke Mrakovich      | Marines       |
| Sgt.        | Corbin Stetler      | ARNG          |
| AG1         | Stephen Boyland     | Navy          |
| CPT         | Noah Bamert         | Army          |
| CPT         | Andrew T. Lavelle   | Army          |
| 2nd Lt.     | Mark E. Lavelle     | Army          |
| 1st Lt.     | Phillip Bertovic    | Army          |
| Lt Col      | Todd Campbell       | Air Force     |
| CPT         | Edward C. Stene     | USAR          |

## SENIOR MINISTRY

**Pilgrimage to Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus - For those with Reservations**, we will gather @ 9 am on Monday, July 21, 2025, under the Seven Sorrows Church Portico of the main entrance. We will board the bus shortly after our check-in.

### Bright Star & McCleary's -

<https://www.susquehannastage.com/>

Join us for a Sunday Afternoon Show at Susquehanna Stage & Dining after the show at McCleary's Pub, both in Marietta Pa.

This event starts on Sunday, August 3 at 2 pm with the featured show BRIGHT STAR. Tickets may be purchased from Susquehanna Stage. Google the link provided above, click box office from the top of page menu line, then find Bright Star for August 3 at 2 pm & hit buy tickets. Our Committee Members will be in the front of the theatre at 1:30 pm to meetup with you. Reservations will be made before the show for anyone wishing to gather for dining at McCleary's after the show.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

### TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

"Knight in Hollywood" trivia fundraiser on August 9th from 7pm to 9:30pm in the school's gym. Form your dream team of up to 6 players for just \$25.00. Your registration includes soda, water, and snacks to keep you refreshed throughout the night. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishing teams, and there is even a prize for the best dressed, so get your Hollywood glam on! Beyond the trivia you'll have plenty of chances to win big with our amazing basket raffles. It's a fantastic way to support a great cause while having a blast!!

To learn more contact Matt Sheaffer at 717-319-9065 or [sheaf418@comcast.net](mailto:sheaf418@comcast.net). Flyers are also available in the Narthex rack.

## Extra Ordinary and Lector Schedule July 27, 28

**4:30pm** E. & S. Bell, C. Kovalchik, R. Horney **Lector-A.** Bell

**8:00am** M. LoDuca, R. Rowe, K. Shreiner, C. Stambaugh

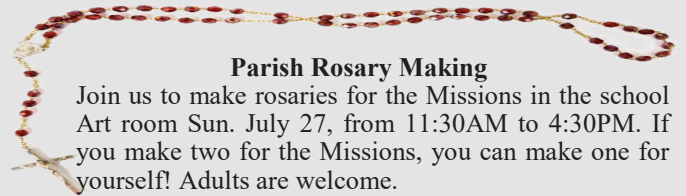
**Lector-F.** Shreiner

**10:30am** A. & R. Warner D. Barnoski, M. Blanch

**Lector- J.** Curry

**Schedule is on the website and posted in the Alb Room**

## NEED TO KNOW



### Parish Rosary Making

Join us to make rosaries for the Missions in the school Art room Sun. July 27, from 11:30AM to 4:30PM. If you make two for the Missions, you can make one for yourself! Adults are welcome.

### Parish Playroom



Babysitters are on duty to provide care for little ones during 10:30am mass. We are looking forward in offering the service for 8am but are unable at this time. We would need volunteers to help during those mass times. If you are interested please call the Parish Office for more information .

### Cleaning Volunteers:

We are looking for a couple more volunteers that would be able to help with cleaning the church once a month. Cleaning takes place on Thursday morning at 8:30 am for approximately an hour and half. You would be responsible for helping once a month. If interested please call Sue Dussinger 223-797-0032.

## SMILES FOR ABBY



"Smiles for Abby will be holding a collection for care package items and donations in the Narthex after all masses on July 26, 27. Desired items include new blankets, journals, and adult activity books. Please

## OFF THE STREETS

### Jak Frost Frozen Desserts

#### 503 East Emaus Street Middletown

is sponsoring a fundraiser to benefit Off the Streets on Thursday, July 31st. Come in for ice cream between the hours of 4 and 9 PM, and 15% of all sales will go directly to Off the Streets!



Come cool off with delicious treats and support a worthy cause!

At Catholic Mom, our mission is to support and encourage every woman in the vocation of Catholic motherhood. Discover our engaging podcasts, daily reflections, practical tips, and free resources designed to support your faith, family life, and prayer journey. With more than 140 contributors from all walks of life, you will find voices of women from many backgrounds and all ages and stages of life. Join our community of faithful women at [CatholicMom.com](http://CatholicMom.com) or by using the QR code



# RAISING DISCIPLES

Religious Education  
Coordinator - Lisa Fortunato

[ssbvm.org/Education](http://ssbvm.org/Education)  
[lfortunato@ssbvm.org](mailto:lfortunato@ssbvm.org)

SSBVM Catholic School  
Principal - Angela Warner

[Sevensorrowsschool.com](http://Sevensorrowsschool.com)  
[awarner@ssbvm.org](mailto:awarner@ssbvm.org)



Enrollment & Registration for 1st - 8th grade classes is open! Using the QR code or by visiting us on our webpage, all current and new families can enroll or re-register for the 25-26 calendar year

## Exciting STEM Summer Camp Opportunity at Seven Sorrows!

We're excited to offer **Camp Invention**, a nationally recognized **STEM summer camp** right here at SSBVM! This hands-on program encourages creativity, problem-solving, and innovation—perfect for curious young minds.

**Still available:** August 4-8

**Grades:** Entering 1st - 6th

We hope to see your inventor

there! Visit: [sevensorrowsschool.com](http://sevensorrowsschool.com)



**Preschool TEACHER NEEDED** - SSBVM school is seeking a full-time Preschool teacher for the upcoming school year. Preferred candidates should have a degree in Early Childhood or Elementary Education. A practicing Catholic committed to faith-based education is preferred. To apply, please send your resume and references to Mrs. Angela Warner at [awarner@ssbvm.org](mailto:awarner@ssbvm.org)

## Open Enrollment at Seven Sorrows BVM School!

We have a few openings left in our preschool through 8th grade classroom for the upcoming school year. Current SSBVM school families are encouraged to share the gift of Catholic education—refer a friend and receive a \$250 tuition credit.

For more information, visit [www.sevensorrowsschool.com](http://www.sevensorrowsschool.com)  
Want to learn more about the SSBVM Difference? Schedule a tour today! <https://bit.ly/SSBVMTOUR>

# RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS



"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken from her." (Luke 10:41-42)

Consider prioritizing time with God, following Mary's example. Are you being called to dedicate your life to prayer and service in the Church as a consecrated religious?

Reach out to the Vocations Office via email: [Frijweaver@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:Frijweaver@hbgdiocese.org)