

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



I was blind
and *now*
I see.

JOHN 9:25

© JPPC

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James A. Lyons

*Pastor Emeritus - Our Lady of Charity
Weekend Assistant*

FOCUS Missionaries:

Caitlyn Sechuk

csechuk@shswedesburg.org

Thomas Horlander

thorlander@shswedesburg.org

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Sunday: 9:30 to 9:50 am

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Mary Sue Kilian

Parish Bookkeeper

mkilian@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Brenda Turner

Cemetery Manager

Parish Office Assistant

bturmer@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

Director of

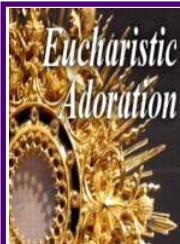
Liturgical Music

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish

& Cemetery Facilities

MARCH 15, 2026
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Eucharistic Adoration During the Wednesdays of Lent

All Wednesdays of Lent, we will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at Noon.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for people to commit to periods of Adoration. There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday of Holy Week.

Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



We will have Stations of the Cross and Benediction of Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday March 18. There will be no Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, March 25 or Wednesday of Holy Week.

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world!



Confessions:

Saturday, March 28 2:30pm - 3:30 pm
 Tuesday, March 31 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Wednesday, April 1 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Good Friday, April 3 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
 The Church will remain open until 11:00 pm for visits to the repository

Good Friday

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 2:00 pm
 The Church opens at 8:00 am for visits to the repository



Anthony Michael Burnshaw

Baptized on Sunday,
 March 8, 2026

Congratulations to Anthony's Parents:

Gabriel & Savannah

May your Child's Baptism be just the start of a life filled with blessings!



BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

HOLY SATURDAY
April 4 @ 1:30 PM

SACRED HEART CHURCH



Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday

8:00 am & 10:15 am

EASTER DECORATING

Volunteers are needed to help decorate the Church for Easter.

We will assemble in the Church at 7:00 pm on Good Friday, April 3rd to decorate. Many hands make light work!



We extend a warm welcome to

Christopher Radliff

who recently registered in our Parish!



Our next Suddenly Seniors Meeting will be this Thursday, March 19th at the Swedesburg Fire-

house at noon. Bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, it would be greatly appreciated.

Our speaker will be Matt Toscani. Matt is a member of our Parish and a Medicare Advisor. He will be able to answer questions on Medicare.

Also, if you are planning to go on the bus trip in April to the Shady Maple Smorgasbord and the Hollywood Casino please sign up by March 19th.

If you are not yet a member of Suddenly Seniors, we would love to have you join us!



Suddenly Seniors Bus Trip to Shady Maple Smorgasbord & Hollywood Casino in Morgantown

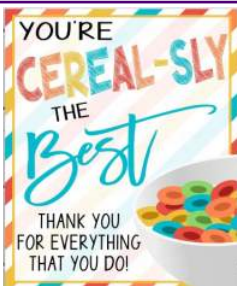
Thursday, April 16th

The bus will leave the church parking lot at 11:00 AM and will return at 5:00 PM
Cost is \$85. and gratuity is included with lunch.

Payment is due upon making reservation.
Questions? Contact:

June at junedidesi@gmail.com

Ken at kcnadwodny@aol.com



Cereal Sunday Success

One hundred and fifty-five (155) boxes of breakfast cereal was collected last weekend and was donated to Martha's Choice Market which is the largest food pantry operated in

Montgomery County by Catholic Charities. We thank everyone who participated in our cereal collection.



YOUNG ADULT HOLY HOUR

Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, & Traditional Music. Drinks to follow!

7 pm - 8 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25



Time to Register for Sacred Heart PREP Summer Session

The session runs from June 15 to June 19, 2026, scheduled daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*If Upper Merion Area School District schedules a makeup day on June 15, the program will begin on June 16, with an extra hour added each day.

PREP registration fees are as follows:

- \$125 for one child
- \$150 for two children
- \$175 for three or more children

Register between February 1 and March 29. Registrations submitted after March 29 will incur a \$50 late fee. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Pastor or CRE. Registration forms are available at the back of the church or on the parish website.

Children must complete two consecutive years of religious education before receiving a sacrament, which includes attending all required sacrament preparation classes. Furthermore, all students must complete five PREP family activities by the end of each PREP year.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 14

4:00pm **Richard Stiles, Sr.**

Requested by Bob Bores & Family

Sunday, March 15

8:00am **Joseph Patrick McDevitt**
Anniversary Remembrance

Requested by His Family

10:15am **Laura Barainyak**

Requested by Her Family

Monday, March 16

8:00am **Bernie Kenzakowski**
Birthday Remembrance

Requested by Mother-in-law, Karen Hinchey

Tuesday, March 17

8:00am **Edward Keszczyk**
3rd Anniversary Remembrance

Requested by Wife, Lorraine & Family

Wednesday, March 18

8:00am **Donald DiFilippo**
1st Anniversary Remembrance

Thursday, March 19

8:00am **Lorraine Keszczyk**

Requested by Pat & Donna McCloskey

Friday, March 20

8:00am **Angelo & Anna Perretta**

Requested by Carl & Kass Perretta

Saturday, March 21

4:00pm **Henry Balza**
Birthday Remembrance, March 8

Requested by The Bores & Stalker Families

Sunday, March 22

8:00am **Mariesa Hinchey Kenzakowski**
Birthday Remembrance

Requested by Karen

10:15am **Clorinda Giangiulio**

Requested by Cathy Middleton



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, March 21:

4:00pm

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Marjorie Pruskowski

Lector: Connie Capaldo

Sunday morning, March 22:

8:00am

Celebrant: Father Lyons

Extraordinary Minister: Joan Koeck

Lector: Rich McVoy

10:15am

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Valencia Zaremba

Lector: Daniel Fahy, Jr.



Weekly Report

March 7 - 8, 2026

\$8,400.50

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!



PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary,
be with us this day.

You protected and cherished the Virgin;
loving the Child Jesus as your Son,
you rescued Him from the danger of death.

Defend the Church,
the household of God,
purchased by the Blood of Christ.

Guardian of the Holy Family,
be with us in our trials.

May your prayers obtain for us
the strength to flee from error
and wrestle with the powers of corruption
so that in life we may grow in holiness
and in death rejoice in the crown of victory.

Amen.



In Loving Memory

We are grateful for donations received in Memory of

Placida "Mary" DiGenova

On behalf of:

Stephen & Patricia Bell

Giuliano & Sabino Figliuolo

Donald & Judith Rhoads

Swedesburg Vol. Fire Co.
BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY
 Sunday March 29, 2026
 8AM - 12PM
 At the Swedesburg Vol. Fire Co. Social Hall
 310 Jefferson St., Bridgeport PA 19405

Happy **10th** Anniversary!
SAVE THE DATE
Celebrating 10 Years of Compassion: Caring for Friends Ministry
 Please Join Our Celebration It has been an amazing journey, and we want to celebrate this milestone with the people who made it possible. Please stop by the **Parish Hall on Wednesday, April 8, at 6:00 PM** as we honor 10 years of service together.
More details will follow.

Pray For Our Military Personnel

Pray For Our Sick

Salvatore Salamone	Al Cowling
Francisca Diniz	Mary (Puzio) Stephenson
Lisa Ronan	Mary Boyle
David Reuter	Fran Toth
Bob Bores	Joan Birely
Chas Pires	Martha & John Smoczylo
Julie Burk	Kelly Benedict
Greg Schloth	Patricia Gaffney
William J. Ryan	Angela Desmond
June DiDesidero	Eileen Brandt
Cindy Burke	Denise & Tom Kavanagh
Parker Grey Davis	Michael Martin
Catherine Martin	Ronald Halas
Joseph Puzio	Marge & Stan Leszczynski
Piper Kaplan	Fran & Rob Worrall
Francis Rodenbaugh III	Marion Raup
Karen Braithwaite	Irene Elliott
Elaine Fertal	Butch Rodenbaugh
Barbara Pruskowski	Nicholas Janicki
George Minnis	Laurie Ronan

Members of the Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council # 3327 will be present after Mass on the weekend of **March 21/22** to collect money for the **PA State "Special Olympics"**.
 Our members challenge you to be generous as our Council has decided to match any amount collected - at the three parishes in Bridgeport -Dollar for Dollar to support this event. Thank you for your generosity in advance.



Thank you for Sharing your Feedback

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to the planning study survey for the Catholic Church of Philadelphia. We are grateful for your valuable insights, feedback and ideas as Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez discerns our future direction.

For more information about the Archbishop's vision, please visit: TrustandHope.org.

 The Catholic Church of Philadelphia

5th Annual Marriage Enrichment Day
Saturday, April 25, 2026
 8:30 am to 1:00 pm



Speaker: **Steve McClatchy**
 Strengthen your Marriage
 Deepen your Faith &
 Transform the Way You Love

St. Helena's Church
 Empress Room
 Blue Bell, PA

\$85 per couple / \$45 per person
 Includes light Breakfast and Lunch

How to Register: 

<https://bit.ly/MarriagesofGrace2026>
 Archdiocese of Philadelphia
 Office for Life and Family



SACRED HEART SOCIAL EVENT

April 19, 2026 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

\$5.00 admission

Admission sales will be raffled off!
 The more people joining the Bingo Fun,
 the **BIGGER** the Jackpot!

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!!

CRAZY BINGO

- Snacks
- Beverages
- **BYOB**
- School Hall

- Each person brings a \$5 value gift
- Wrap it in a CRAZY/FUN way
- Bring it to the Bingo event
- Instructions & Fun begin there!

Ticket Sales begin after Masses on **March 21st** until **April 11th** and at the Rectory during regular business hours.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD DURING EASTER WEEKEND!





MARCH 15, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

I was a bit startled when the insightful young principal of the parish school, a fine religious sister, told me that I was a “visual learner.” At first, I did not know if that observation was meant to describe me as some kind of lesser being or not. But knowing she had no malice of intent I dismissed the notion outright. Now I admit the fact is based on evidence.

How often I have responded in conversations about driving directions to some place or other by saying “I can’t picture that.” Or a parishioner is trying to help me identify another and I will respond by saying something like “I recognize the name, but I can’t picture him or her.”

Such recollection of a day long ago comes to mind in a collection of Scripture such as we have today with the theme of light and darkness, of sight and blindness. Important Lenten consideration for us all as we examine our lives and look for betterment.

It does not take a long time of Christian living to realize that God sees things very differently than we do at critical times in life as well as ordinary times. No matter how our learning derives its conclusions and opinions, they will inevitably have share of darkness woven into them. That is principally because of sin, which generates many a “blind spot” in our outlook. Where we turn for clarification makes all the difference, presuming we recognize that clarity is necessary in the first place.

St. John takes a whole chapter of his gospel to make the point with his famous story of “The Man Born Blind.” In his recount of the cure, he makes it obvious that it is the Pharisees who are truly the blind ones.

The excerpt from the Book of Samuel shows us that it is quite possible not to see in another person their goodness and capability. St. Paul clearly teaches us, in his Letter to the Ephesians, that the divine light we all need to erase any of our personal “blindness” comes from the gift of the Holy Spirit we receive at our Baptism. We have a lot of material for Lenten reflection to start off this fourth week of the season.

Once upon a time a newly promoted Army colonel moved into his new and impressive office. As he sat behind his big new desk, a Private knocked at his door. “Just a minute,” the colonel said, “I’m on the phone.”

He picked up the phone and said loudly, “Yes sir, General, I will call the President this afternoon. No sir, I will not forget.” Then he hung up the phone and told the private to come in. “What can I help you with?” the colonel asked. “Well sir,” the private replied, “I’ve come to hook up your phone.”

God love you and Happy St. Patrick’s Day.



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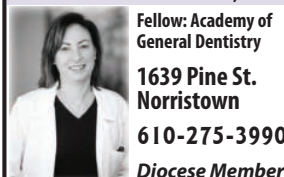
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in remembrance of *samantha josephson*

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