

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



Divine Mercy

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us and wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins. So that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

"Those who sincerely say 'Jesus, I trust in You' will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears."

"There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy - that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God." ~Pope John Paul II

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 Missionary:

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

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Coordinator of Religious Education

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Sacristan

Mary Sue Kilian

Parish Bookkeeper

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Joanne D'Alessandro

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Cemetery Manager

Parish Office Assistant

bturmer@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

Director of

Liturgical Music

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish

& Cemetery Facilities

APRIL 12, 2026
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I reflect on the beauty and reverence of our Triduum and Easter celebrations, I am filled with gratitude to God for you! Seeing our church filled during the Triduum was a true testament to the spirit of our parish as we celebrated the Pascal Mystery.

Such a monumental week would not have been possible without the dedicated hands and hearts of so many. I would like to extend a special thank you to:

- **Nick DeRosato**: for his meticulous groundskeeping work. The property looked truly beautiful and welcoming for all who arrived to celebrate the holiday.
- **Our Parish staff: Joanne D'Alessandro, Barbara Roskos, Leo Brady, Joe and Jeff Houseal**, as well as our **Altar Servers**, whose behind-the-scenes preparation and graceful service at the altar ensured our liturgies were conducted with the utmost dignity.
- **Carl Gedeik**: our organist, and **Brett Cuddy**, our choir master. The music was splendid. A special note of congratulations to the **Choir** on their wonderful debut this Palm Sunday; your voices added a magnificent layer of prayer to our worship.
- **Decorating Volunteers**: for the fabulous job arranging the flowers and transforming our sanctuary into a stunning reflection of the new life we find in Christ.

To everyone who joined us in prayer: thank you for being such marvelous parishioners. May the joy of the Risen Christ remain in your hearts throughout this Easter season.

God love you!
Father DiMaria

Update on Sanctuary Mural - Revised



The mural of the Sacred Heart which is to be placed in the sanctuary has arrived in the United States and has cleared customs. While the installation of the painting had been scheduled for the week of April 20th, the contractor has requested that the installation be delayed by a week. The installation process will begin on April 27th.



Sacred Heart
PARISH

AND



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church
BRIDGEPORT · PENNSYLVANIA

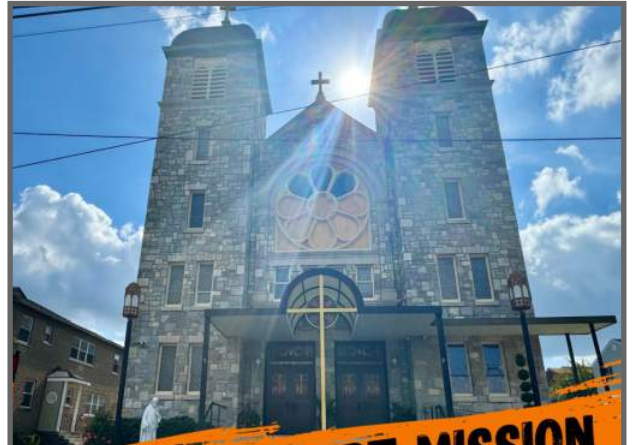
invite you to a joint parish celebration of

CORPUS CHRISTI

10:15am - Solemn Mass at Sacred Heart Church,

followed by a grand Eucharistic procession through Bridgeport
to St. John the Baptist, concluding with Benediction & community cookout

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 2026



SACRED HEART MISSION

WITH MISSION YOUTH

JOIN US IN EVANGELIZING
OUR NEIGHBORS

9 May, 2026 Sacred Heart
Parish

SCHEDULE
11:00AM-ARRIVAL AT SACRED HEART
11:15-12:00PM-TRAINING & HOLY HUDDLE
12:00-2:00PM CROSSWALKS
2:00-3:30PM-PIZZA AND HIGHS & LOWS
4:00PM - VIGIL MASS



120 JEFFERSON ST BRIDGEPORT, PA 19405

In Loving Memory



We are grateful for donations
received in Memory of

Bertha Basile

On behalf of:

Elaine & John Meckes
Diane & Philip Giovinco, Jr.

In Loving Memory



We are grateful for a donation
received in Memory of

Placida "Mary" DiGenova

On behalf of:

The Flocco Family

SAVE THE DATE

FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART CELEBRATION DINNER

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

Welcome reception begins at 4:30 pm

Adults: \$50 per person

Children (under 12): \$20 per person



Ticket Sales Start on

May 16 through June 7

after all weekend Masses

and at the Rectory during regular office hours

WELCOME RECEPTION: Assorted cheese, bruschetta, & hot apps.

DINNER: House salad w/assorted dressings, Penna Ala Vodka

Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Roast Red Potatoes

Carved Prime Rib, Chicken Picatta

Cheese Cake with fruit topping

Soda, Ice tea, Coffee, and Hot Tea, BYOB

St. Helena's Church Empress Room

1489 Dekalb Pike Blue Bell, PA 19422

Catering by Joseph Paravati

Music by Fasano Entertainment



Join us for dinner & dancing!



The next book club meeting
will be on April 21st
at 1:30 in the
Rectory Meeting
Room. We will be discussing
The Shack by William P. Young.





MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 11

4:00pm Lawrence Keeley

Requested by Janet Kita

Sunday, April 12

8:00am Betty Shannon

Requested by Therese Dolga & Family

10:15am Anthony Pretzello

Requested by Sal & Charlotte DiNenna

Monday, April 13

8:00am Pat Gutkowski

Requested by Barbara Roskos

Tuesday, April 14

8:00am For the Intentions of Louis Prinzivalli

Requested by The Family

Wednesday, April 15

8:00am For the Intentions of Andrew Prinzivalli

Requested by The Family

Thursday, April 16

8:00am For the Intentions of Mark Prinzivalli

Requested by The Family

Friday, April 17

8:00am Kazimierz Gorka

Birthday Remembrance

Requested by Bud, Joanne & Family

Saturday, April 18

4:00pm Richard Stiles, Sr.

Requested by Beth Stalker & Family

Sunday, April 19

8:00am William & Dorcas Barrett

Requested by Joe & Kathy Gasko

10:15am Sophie & Joe Mandrachia

Requested by Bob & Theresa Wagner



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, April 18:

4:00pm

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Barbara JanFrancisco

Lector: Robert Stefanik

Sunday morning, April 19:

8:00am

Celebrant: Father Lyons

Extraordinary Minister: Joan Koeck

Lector: Rich McVoy

10:15am

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Pat Moletzsky

Lector: Danielle Carbone



Weekly Report

March 28 - 29, 2026

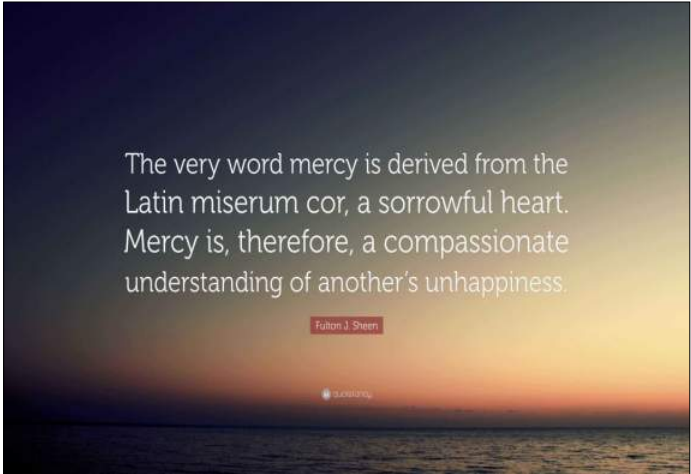
\$8,185.00

April 4 - 5, 2026

\$10,497.65

We are still processing Easter collection and will report soon.

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!



The very word mercy is derived from the Latin miserum cor, a sorrowful heart. Mercy is, therefore, a compassionate understanding of another's unhappiness.

Fulton J. Sheen

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You're Invited

Philly March for Life

A day of unity for our
unborn brothers and
sisters

- Holy Mass at
SS. Peter & Paul
Cathedral
- March to
Independence
Mall
- Rally at the Mall



All are welcome to
join in this public
witness for life.

Saturday, April 25th

Mass at 8:00 AM
March at 9:00 AM
Rally at 10:00 AM



Featuring Ryan Bomberger
co-founder
Radiance Foundation



For more info, email: mail@prolifeunion.org



Please Pray For All Who Protect Our
Country, especially...

John F. K. Benedict (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen Brandt; **Matthew J. Capaldo** (Commander, U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (LCpl, U.S.M.C), grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry** (Sergeant, U.S. Army), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant U.S. Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 4 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jack Razin** (1st Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Luke Razin** (Captain, U.S. Air Force), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton; **Stephanie Zugay** (National Guard), granddaughter of Greg & Grace Zugay.

QUO VADIS DAYS 2026 WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

June 22-25 2026

Registration Due: May 22, 2026

Registration: \$25-300
sliding scale, pay what you are able

Who: High School Men; incoming freshmen to graduated seniors

What: a 4 day 3 night camp for high school men in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia focused on fun, prayer, and fellowship

Where: Black Rock Retreat Center (Quarryville - optional bus transportation available)

Join the Vocation Office, Philadelphia seminarians, priests, and friends from around the Archdiocese for a week of fun, games, prayer, and faith!



Scan for registration details or visit:
HeedTheCall.org/QuoVadis



Questions?

lpickell@archphila.org (610-667-5778)



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

Poor Box Offering for March

We collected \$614.00 in our poor box during March. The money has been sent to the Sisters for Life. **Sisters of Life** are a Catholic religious community of women consecrated for the protection of human life. They serve women who are pregnant, offer retreats and many other services right here in Philadelphia. Thank you very much for your generosity!



Monday Night Rosary will be recited in church each Monday at 7 p.m.

Pro Life Holy Hour at 12:00 noon each Wednesday in church.



The History and Power of

Eucharistic Adoration

What is the origin of Eucharistic Adoration and why is this devotion so powerful?

Find out more on Wed., April 15th 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. in the coffee hour room

(enter hall from Ford Street

lot) St. John the Baptist Catholic Church 502 Ford St., Bridgeport, PA Parking available in the Ford Street lot, adjacent to the rectory & hall. *(No Commitment – Meetings are Monthly – Come When You Can!)* The Society of Patricians is sponsored by the Legion of Mary. More info: r.edel.lukens@gmail.com or 610-256-7125 *The society of the Patricians is an informal group of adult Catholics who meet monthly under the direction of Fr. Sam Keyes to learn more about the Catholic Faith so that they can better share it with others. Please come, and bring a friend! Refreshments will be served and free literature will be available.*



It's *Never* too late for a *fresh start!*

Do you struggle with the emotional or spiritual pain of a traumatic pregnancy loss?

Whether you're suffering from an abortion or miscarriage, you can experience God's Mercy and Compassion. Rachel's Vineyard is a unique and creative weekend retreat that helps you grieve your loss while letting go of any deep feelings of anger, shame, guilt, or grief you may have. In a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental group setting, your soul will find a voice, and the pain of your past will be transformed into hope. For anyone who struggles with forgiving themselves or others, it's "therapy for the soul."

Jesus died not to judge or condemn you, but to forgive you. His sacrifice is freely given, and it is continually offered to you with His perfect love.

ATTEND OUR NEXT RETREAT: April 17 - 19, 2026

This weekend retreat will be held in Doylestown, PA, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. For more information, please call Evelyn at (215) 317-5752. Read more about our retreat online at www.rachelsvineyard.org

All requests are strictly confidential. To financially assist in making this retreat available for future participants, especially for those in need of scholarships, please email evelynwalsh59@gmail.com for more information. May God bless you for your generosity. Rachel's Vineyard is a non-subsidiary 501(c)(3) organization. No goods or services are provided in return for your monetary donation, which is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.



The Catholic Church of Philadelphia warmly invites married couples throughout our archdiocese to celebrate their wedding anniversary at the annual

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Bishop Efrén Esmilla, Celebrant



Saturday, May 2, 2026
5:15pm Anticipatory Mass

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul
1723 Race Street, Philadelphia

A special blessing will be offered for those celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries (1, 5, 10, 25, 30, 50+ years). Everyone, including friends and family, are welcome and encouraged to attend.

If you would like to receive a certificate, please register with the Archdiocesan Office for Life & Family at famlife@archphila.org

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



Most of us have a favorite movie or TV show. Often enough there's a line or two that stands out and instantly connects us with it that can range from the sublime to the silly. Case in point: St. Thomas More's retort to a cynical Cardinal Wolsey in the Robert Bolt play *A Man for All Seasons*: "When statesmen forget their own private conscience for the sake of their public duties, they lead their country by a short route to chaos." How often do I think of that line when I hear elected officials avoid a thorough condemnation of abortion!

As for the silly, there's a famous nonsense question asked by Igor in the Mel Brooks farce about *Frankenstein* "What hump?" As if to deny his deformity.

All of this is prelude for me to suggest that in today's Gospel selection from John's gospel, wherein the beautiful story of St. Thomas and his reactions to the Resurrection is told to us. Thomas ultimately meets the living Jesus face to face. I can imagine him very embarrassed, having touched the Lord's bodily scars, and then slowly kneeling before Jesus. Then come his immortal words: "My Lord and my God!" Scripture scholars rightly claim that one sentence is the climactic moment of John's whole gospel. Capturing the essential point. Inviting us to draw the same conclusion about the identity of Jesus.

St. Thomas' phrase lingers in my everyday prayer at Mass, because I learned that those are the words we should say as the Sacred Host is raised by the priest at the Consecration of the Mass. The risen Christ is with us then, under the unlikely appearance of a plain piece of unleavened bread!

Pope St. John Paul II designated this Second Sunday of Easter as "Divine Mercy Sunday." It was to underscore the basis of Christian optimism. Only by and through God's merciful love do we have any hope of heaven. As we strive to live our lives as His faithful disciples, we need to remember this truth and never turn to prideful thinking that we cause our own salvation. Everything ultimately depends on this divine mercy.

Considering the matter of memorable lines from well-loved sources, allow me to add one more given to us by St. Augustine in his classical "Confessions." It too makes for a great prayer: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

God love you and give you His Easter peace.



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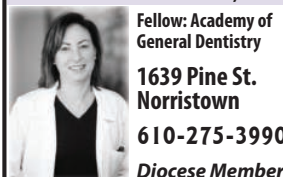


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BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE
in remembrance of *samantha josephson*

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