

# ST. STEPHEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**February 22, 2026**

**First Sunday of Lent**

303 Lincoln Way East  
McConnellsburg, PA 17233



Father Derek Fairman, Pastor

Email: fdfairman@gmail.com or dfairman@dioceseaj.org

Phone Number: 814-652-5854 (Everett Parish Office)

Donna Fisher, Parish Secretary

Email: dfisher@dioceseaj.org

Office: 717-485-3723

### Parish Council

Karen Croft - President

Carol Babinsack –Vice President and Finance Liaison

Joe Fignar, Angela Roman, and Doris Nolte

### Mass Times

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

Sunday at 12: 00 p.m. (Noon)

### Confession Times

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

Sunday: After Noon Mass or Anytime by Appointment

**New Parishioners:** Please fill out a blue card, on the table in the vestibule by the guest book.

**First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7**

**Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19**

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11**

**Readings can be found in the Blue Hymnal #808**

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 2/21/26	+Frank & Teresa Meszaros req. by Terri Booth
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 2/22/26	For the People
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 2/28/26	+Robert Croft Req. by Loren & Deb Leese
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 3/1/26	+Doug Gresty req. by Sally Gresty
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 3/7/26	+Living and Deceased Members of The Gartner Family req. by The Gartner Family
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 3/8/26	+Frank Meszaros Req. by Terri Booth
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 3/14/26	+Bill Kendall req. by Janice & Joe Wolfe
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 3/15/26	+Francis & Violet Chafardon req. by Family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 3/21/26	+Frank Griffen req. by Janice & Joe Wolfe
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 3/22/26	+George Hann req. by Joe & Janice Wolfe
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 p.m. 3/28/26	+Henry Babb req. by Arlene Babb & Family
<b>Sunday</b> 12:00p.m. (NOON) 3/29/26	For The People

### Lector Schedule

2/21	<b>Saturday</b>	Father Fairman
2/22	<b>Sunday</b>	Joe Wolfe
2/28	<b>Saturday</b>	Carol Babinsack
3/1	<b>Sunday</b>	Joe Wolfe

### Counter Schedule

2/22	Deb Leese and Marlene Joyce
3/1	Carol Babinsack & Kathy Lake
3/8	Ed & Karen Leisinger
3/15	Carol Babinsack & Kathy Lake
3/22	Deb Chafardon & Erin Swope
3/29	Deb Leese & Marlene Joyce

<b>Sunday Offering</b>	2/15/26
Weekly Collection	\$1,286.00
Energy	\$0.00
Building Maintenance	\$0.00
Altar Flower Donation	\$55.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,341.00</b>

**Your Generosity is Greatly Appreciated!**

## February Birthdays

2/3 Miranda Hawkins
2/9 Loren Leese
2/10 Brent Pistner
2/15 Sister Judith
2/16 Karen Leisinger
2/24 Imagine Jansen
2/26 Joseph Chafardon

## Happy Anniversary

2/2 Joseph & Deb Chafardon  
2/12 Gerald & Mary Monninger

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### PRAYER LIST



Rick Chafardon, Kathy Kendall,  
Jeremiah Murphy, Dan Myers,  
Robert Torsky, Kevin Joyce,  
Susan Cabbage, Dennis Cabbage Jr.,  
Peggy Hoffman, Jerry Monninger,  
Maureen Willoughby, Cynthia Souders,  
Jim Babinsack and Tom Haubrick

Please call to add or remove a name once the person is recovered or no longer in need of special prayer.

If you are placing someone other than a family member on the list, please be sure to have their permission first.

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### Stewardship Reflection

#### February 22, 2026 - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

As we begin the beautiful and challenging season of Lent, our readings this week remind us why we need these 40 days so much. They also suggest a particular strategy we Christian stewards might take as we make the journey towards Easter, so that we arrive there as better disciples - more focused on Christ and His mission for us.

Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, shows us by the example of Jesus Himself one way that we can attain spiritual strength and grow to become more effective disciples and stewards. In this passage we find our Lord in the desert, fasting for 40 days and 40 nights. Like Adam and Eve, He is confronted by the evil one. But unlike our fallen parents, our Lord triumphs over the devil's lies and sends him slithering away. How did He do it? By knowing the Scriptures and by proclaiming them confidently, and by His perfect trust in the Father.

This Lent, let's embrace this 40-day spiritual reset. Let's commit to prayerfully studying the Scriptures. This could take the form of a daily family Gospel reflection, a few moments with the Psalms at the beginning of a lunch break, "fasting" from social media, or any other countless ways. As faithful stewards, we are called to prioritize our use of time to seek a relationship with our loving God. Let's get to know Him better by studying His word this Lent.

## 2026 Together We Stand Raffle

(Northern Deanery Raffle)

**Ticket sales have started!**

You may purchase your tickets after Saturday and Sunday Masses

Cost of Ticket is \$20.00 each.

**\*Drawing is May 31st, 2026\***

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### Grandma Ann's Spring Pie Sale

The Family Life Committee is Sponsoring our Spring Pie Sale for March 21st & 22nd.

Available to order are Apple & Cherry,  
Plain and Crumb Topped Pies.  
The cost of the pies is \$15.00 each.

There are pie order forms attached to the bulletin and forms in the vestibule, or order by calling Doris Nolte at 814-448-0094.

**Order deadline is March 8, 2026**  
**Please place your order form in the basket in the vestibule and not in the collection.**

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### Pie Ingredients Needed

The Spring Pie Sale is approaching and we are again asking for donations of a few ingredients. The list of needed items will be in the vestibule of church. At the same time we are asking for monetary donations to help defray the cost of the cherry pie filling and fresh apples.

Have ingredients in by March 8th  
Your help is greatly appreciated

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**Stations of the Cross**  
every Wednesday during Lent at 6:30 p.m.  
starting February 25th.

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### Second Collection

2/22—Black and Indian Mission Collection

Envelopes are by the offering box.

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#### What Is Lent?

Lent is a 40-day season of preparation for Easter, modeled after Jesus' 40 days of fasting and prayer in the desert. During this time, the Church calls Catholics to deeper conversion through three traditional spiritual practices:

**Prayer** - growing closer to God  
**Fasting** - learning self-discipline and reliance on God  
**Almsgiving** - serving and caring for others

Lent is not meant to be gloomy or punishing. Instead, it is a season of healing, freedom, and spiritual renewal.

<https://focus.org/posts/when-is-lent-2026>