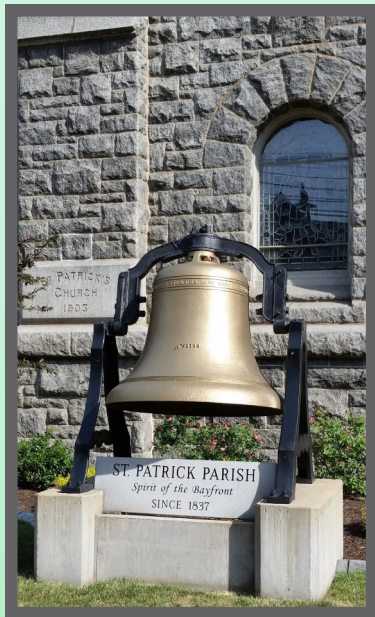


Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2020



"The Greatest Commandment"
Stained Glass Window
St. Patrick Church
photo by Tom Golab

Saint Patrick Parish
Serving the East Bayfront of Erie since 1837
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday 8 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 PM
Sunday: 8 AM & 10:30 AM



Saint Patrick Parish

130 East 4th Street
Erie, PA 16507

Monsignor Henry A. Kriegel—Pastor

Janine Carch Sliker—Office Manager

Ann Halupczynski—Director of Finances

Tom Golab—Sacristan

Mark Alloway—Organist, Music Director

Jan Gervasi—Wedding Coordinator

Anne Causgrove—Baptismal Preparation

*Mary Pat Schlaudecker—Archivist,
Genealogy research*

Phone: 814-454-8085

FAX: 814-459-8685

Email: stpat@neo.rr.com

Website: www.saintpatrickparisherie.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

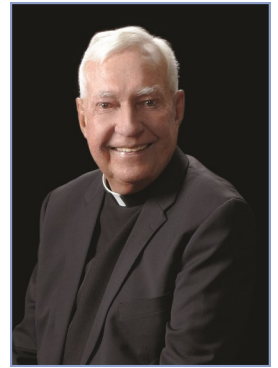
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

Saturday Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Holy Day Mass: 12:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk...



Today is the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In a long speech to Israel before they entered the Promised Land, Moses told the people that if they obeyed God's commandments, they would live and God would bless them. If they turned away and did not listen, they would perish. Centuries later (about 180 BC), a wisdom teacher named Jesus Ben Sira gave similar advice to young men in Jerusalem aspiring to be scribes. Sirach's underlying belief was that God was the source of human wisdom. Both Moses and Ben Sira teach that keeping God's commandments is a choice that people can freely exercise. God sets before all humanity free decisions and promises life for making right choices. Sirach also teaches fear of the Lord. Those who fear God act with awe and reverence, and they recognize their dependence on God.

In his two letters to the Corinthians, Paul addresses an audience attracted to human wisdom promoted by skilled orators. Paul warns them that both the wisdom and the rulers of this age are passing away. Another wisdom—hidden, mysterious and predetermined by God—was unknown by the deluded rulers who crucified the Lord of glory. While they read the prophets, they simply did not understand what they were saying. But God's revelation, poured out through the Spirit, opens eyes, ears and hearts. This revealed wisdom is so new and contrary to common perceptions that Paul will continue to expound on it in the verses following today's reading. While what he preaches appears as foolishness to those without the Spirit, but Paul is preaching "the mind of Christ."

Jesus states clearly that he has not come to abolish the law, but to bring it to fulfillment. He will reiterate this when his later actions seem to negate the convictions of his Jewish contemporaries on keeping God's law. He eats with sinners, cures on the Sabbath, etc. Jesus' words show that he is not in conflict with the law itself, but with how it is being interpreted. The law, understood and lived correctly, guides people in living righteously, a virtue emphasized in Matthew. Though the

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

external manifestations of righteousness are important, Jesus goes beyond the external to consider the interior dispositions. Later in Matthew, Jesus explains the "weightier things of the law: judgment and mercy and fidelity." These are the interior dispositions. Jesus also holds higher standards regarding divorce and taking oaths.

The bishops of Spain have just announced a new three year preparation course for couples who wish to get married in the church. Citing the high rate of divorce (40% of marriages collapse within five years and nearly 60% within 15 years.) A three year preparation course is not the way to go. All we will do is push young couples away from the church. They are simply not going to wait that long.

I have already turned away 27 couples who want to get married at St. Patrick's in 2021 and you have no idea how it bothers me. I know we have grown incredibly as a parish and I have to leave room for our own people; but many of these other couples are up against the wall. They want to be married in the church but no one will marry them, and they're going to be gone for good. Many of them go to the parish where they grew up and the pastor tells them they are no longer members—that they are adults and should have registered when, in fact, the family has belong there for 30 and 40 years. They come here, in many cases as a last resort, and I'm saying no to them. I'm going to meet with our staff and see if we can't get some more volunteer people to take some of the burden off our staff so that we can accommodate some of these young couples.

The 2020 Catholic Services Appeal begins in another week with the beginning of Lent. This is the largest fundraiser for the diocese each year. As you know, each parish is assessed a set amount which we must pay and anything raised above that remains in the parish. Our assessment this year has increased from \$87,000 to almost \$95,000, but that is because our revenue has increased whereas in many other parishes the revenue is declining, and in some cases sharply. All of you will receive a letter from me as well as a pledge card. All I ask is that you discuss this among yourselves and think about it. Some of you can make a pledge, some can make a very generous pledge; others can't give anything and that is perfectly fine. All I ask is that you think about it and do whatever you think you can do. Last year we raised over \$121,000 which meant

that \$34,000 remained in the parish. This year our goal is \$120,000 which will give us \$25,000 for the parish. Many people make a pledge and a small payment and then wait until Erie Gives Day in August and pay the balance. Whatever works for you is fine with me.

We are moving into the final stage of our Pastoral Planning. You may recall we focused on the health of parishes first, then schools and now we are focusing on Faith Development as a life-long process. I'm fortunate that a small group of parishioners have been acting as a core team for this—Ron & Sue Mangine, Matt and Angela Wachter and Angie Kontur. The immediate goal for this year is to try to form small groups of a maximum of 8—10 people who would meet monthly September—May in one or another's homes to discuss the Scripture readings. We will provide training for the leader of each group, we will provide the necessary books, but what we need now are some people who would volunteer to be hosts. If you are interested in this—you don't have to make a commitment—call the parish office and we will schedule an informational meeting and then you can decide if you are interested. We already have parents training their children for First Penance and First Communion, we have over 65 children in Religious Ed programs, we have some small faith discussion groups, we have a baptismal preparation program in place with Anne Causgrove, we have a marriage prep program with myself and Jan Gervasi, our wedding coordinator and we have people who visit any parishioners who are in convalescent homes. I'm very fortunate with the way so many of you volunteer your time and talent to help with the faith formation of others.

The pastor introduced his study on marriage and asked some of the children to answer a series of questions. "What is the proper age to marry?" "Eighty four. Because at that age you don't have to work anymore and you can spend all your time loving one another." "Is it better to be single or married?" "It's better for girls to be single, but not for boys. Boys need somebody to clean up after them." "How does love happen between two people?" "I think you're supposed to be shot with an arrow or something, but the rest isn't supposed to be so painful." "Why do lovers hold hands?" "They want to make sure their rings don't fall off, because they paid good money for them." "How do you make love endure?" "Don't forget your wife's name. That will mess up the love."



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 7,973.00
Online Giving	<u>1,863.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 9,836.00

Thank you for your generosity!



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
William Schlaudecker
from Abby & Matt Lechner*

We continue to thank those who make special donations to our parish and we pray for those people in whose memory and honor the donations were made:

Sr. Mary Pascal Food Pantry

*The Food Pantry Truck is sponsored this week by
Kathy Alessi.*

Donations made to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- ♦ **Paul & Norma Causgrove, Jim & Mary Ann Mahoney** from Paul & Anne Causgrove
- ♦ **Erdine Neyman** from Julianna Cicero
- ♦ **Chuckie Duckie & Grandma Diluzio & Mickey** from Erica Marie Clare Diluzio
- ♦ **Mary Ann Toohey** from Ray & Patti Fiorelli
- ♦ **Helen Kormosh, Joseph Kormosh** from Joe Kormosh
- ♦ **Tony Gambalese** from Tim & Sheila Mack
- ♦ **Paul Gazdayka** from Arlene Piskor
- ♦ **Helen Wright** from Eugene & Kathleen Polaski
- ♦ **Robert Wenstran** from Bobbie Vitron

Also donations from:

Victoria Abbott, Tom & Linda Anderson,
Barbara Brairton, Ed Chizewick, Ken & Alice Daub,
Nick & Terre DeSantis, Paul & Nancy Ditmore,
John Godish, Steven & Kelly Kams and Phil & Judy Kelly

**Special Thank You!!!
to PANERA BREAD &
EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT'S HABORCREEK**

NEED PRAYERS?

Please call **Mary Alice Hartwell** at **454-5908** to have your prayer intentions placed on our joint parish prayer wheel. Please be assured that your prayer requests will be treated with respect and confidentiality.



Let us *Welcome*
Aurora Marie Malone
child of
James & Nicole (DiLuzio) Malone
who will be baptized
after the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 5:00 pm

Lector: **Barbara Brairton**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Ray Fiorelli, Diane McCarthy, Barbara Brairton, Wendy Sadlier, Phyllis Marchinetti**

Greeters: **Mary Anne Ashworth**

Ushers: **Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rwers,**
1 NEEDED

Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 8:00 am

Lector: **Dan Bergell**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Tom Golab, Christopher Sofranko, Bill Gloeckler, Patty Gloeckler**

Ushers: **John Maloney, Chuck Straub, Mike Nies,**
1 NEEDED

Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 10:30 am

Lector: **Mary Duncan**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Ed Smith, Mary Williams, Luke Gilmore, Colleen Welch, Mary Kearney**

Greeters: **Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin**

Ushers: **Randy Pristello, Dave Wilcox, John Purvis, Chuck Agresti**

Offertory Counters: **Tom Brunner, Linda Brunner, Mary Duncan, Deb Slusarz**

A Family Perspective—

To experience the peace which Christ promises we must shed our grudges, jealousy and feelings of being misunderstood, unappreciated or ignored. Peace and anger don't mix. Today's gospel warns, if you want peace in your heart and home, get rid of your anger. Anger is too costly.



The Festival Chair Meeting will be in the Chapel not the Food Pantry on Sunday, February 23rd.

~Knights & Ladies~

Pick up your packet for the Knights and Ladies after all Masses this weekend in the vestibule



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Feb. 15 *Saturday, Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 PM SR. MARY JULIA, SSJ (PAT HEASLEY)

Feb. 16 *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM CAROL BEVERLY FEEHLEY, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(MARY THERESE & FRANK RILEY)

10:30 AM WILLIAM SCHLAUDECKER, ANNIV. OF BIRTH 2/14
(JUDY COUGHLIN)

Feb. 17 *Monday, Weekday*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Feb. 18 *Tuesday, Weekday*

8:00 AM MASS

Feb. 19 *Wednesday, Weekday*

8:00 AM ROCCO FIGLIUZZI (ESTATE)

Feb. 20 *Thursday, Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Feb. 21 *Friday, Weekday*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Feb. 22 *Saturday, Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 PM FORREST & GERTRUDE SHORTS (FAMILY)

Feb. 23 *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM KEITH MORAN (CINDY AUSTIN)

10:30 AM JOAN HEUBEL (TOM SADOSKI)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.P=St. Patrick, CP=Chapel, PR=Pascal Room, R=Rector's

02/15 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

02/17 **President's Day - Church and Office Closed**

02/18 9:45 AM Food Pantry - PR

02/19 12:00 PM A.A. - PR

02/22 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

02/23 11:30 AM Festival Chair Mtg.

ATTENTION TEENAGERS

**Part-time jobs are available with the
Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network**

**Must be at least 14 years old and
priority will be given to those who live in the neighborhood
(12th to 26th, Cranberry to East Ave.)**

**Pick up applications now at SSJNN
425 West 18th St. or 436 East 26th St.**

**DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 28TH
Work will begin in spring**

**Applicants must attend a mandatory information session
Wednesday, March 4th, 4:30-6 p.m., 425 W. 18th St. -or-
Wednesday, March 11th, 4:30-6 p.m., 436 E. 26th St.**



For more information call 454-7814

215 DAYS TO THE 2020 ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL



**WHO INVENTED MOONSHINE,
STOCKCAR RACING, AND
COUNTRY MUSIC?**

THE IRISH, OF COURSE!

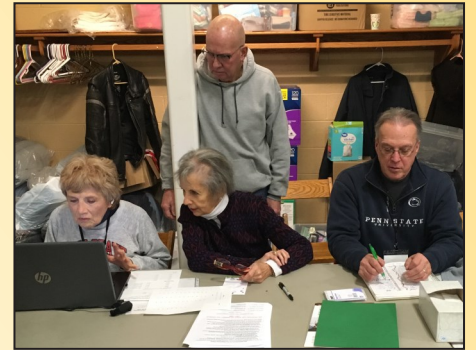
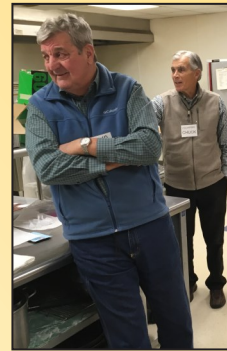
In the 1600's, the English were bent on punishing the Irish nobles in the northern province of Ulster who would not cooperate with the English occupation, so they created a plantation system, throwing the Irish Catholic nobles off of their ancestral land and replacing them with English and Scots protestants. The descendants of these new Irish landowners are still there in Northern Ireland. Or at least most of them are, because a century later a whole bunch of them moved here.

The first wave of Irish immigration to the United States occurred during the 1700's when around 250,000 Irish Protestants from Ulster moved to the colonies, along with about 100,000 Irish Catholics. They arrived mostly in eastern Pennsylvania, then moved west and then south into the coal country and hills of Appalachia, the Blue Ridge, and the Smokies and quickly came to dominate the culture and politics in those areas. By 1828, they had helped America win her independence and had put one of their kids into the White House—Andrew Jackson was the son of newly arrived Irish immigrants from County Antrim in Ulster.

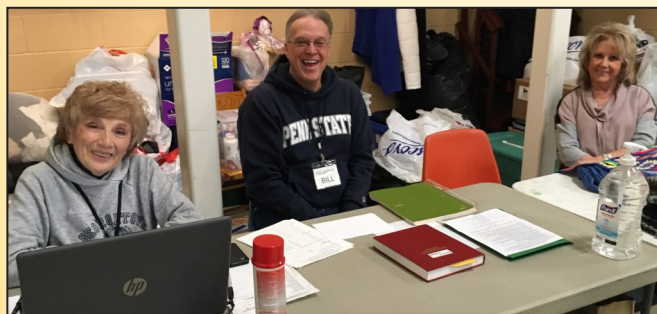
When the potato famine struck Europe in the 1840's and Irish Catholics arrived in the States in the millions, the older Irish immigrant community started referring to themselves as "Scots Irish" so they wouldn't be mistaken for the new wave of mostly poor Catholics. And they were fruitful and multiplied. And they adapted to the new world. Instead of malt and barley, they grew lots of corn, so they made corn liquor instead of Irish whiskey. And to get that corn liquor from place to place and not get caught by the government agents who wanted to tax it, they souped up their regular looking, off-the-lot, "stock" cars, and when they weren't outrunning the revenueurs, they raced their stock cars around dirt tracks. They took their fiddles, and Irish harps, and tin whistles, and, with some help from their African-American neighbors, they invented new music—hillbilly music (later called "country" music). And guess what, my friends? A bunch of them are coming to the 2020 Erie Irish Festival!

The ***Tan and Sober Gentlemen***, a band of good old boys from the backcountry of North Carolina will be serving up the Gaelic roots of hillbilly music all night Friday. They'll have you stomping, smiling, and drenched in sweat just like the audiences on their recent tour of Ireland. And we'll make sure to bring in some Irish moonshine to get us all in the mood because these guys are the best dancing and drinking band anywhere! You will not want to miss this for any reason. I guar-on-tee it.

Gary Johnson, 2020 Festival Co-Chair. Email me with questions, suggestions, or if you are interested in joining the team.
gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com



Warming Shelter 2020
at the
Russian Church of the Nativity
photos by
Fr. Kriegel





Saint James • Our Lady of Peace • Saint George
Saint Jude • Blessed Sacrament • Saint Luke

You are invited...

Open House 2020

Have faith in your future!



Sunday Feb 23

**OUR LADY OF
PEACE SCHOOL**

**2401 West 38th Street
12:00 - 2:00 pm**

**SAINT JAMES
SCHOOL**

**2602 Buffalo Road
1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Sunday Mar 1

**SAINT GEORGE
SCHOOL**

**1612 Bryant Street
1:00 - 3:00 pm**

**SAINT LUKE
SCHOOL**

**425 East 38th Street
1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Sunday Mar 8

**SAINT JUDE
SCHOOL**

**606 Lowell Avenue
11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

**BLESSED SACRAMENT
SCHOOL**

**2510 Greengarden Rd
12:30 - 2:30 pm**

www.eriecatholic.org