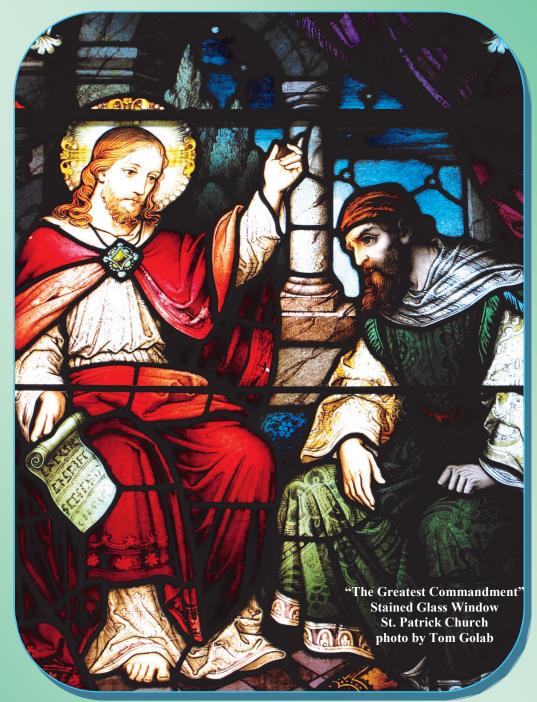
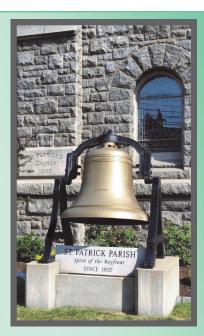
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 17, 2019



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
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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. Jeremiah paints two opposite postures of life: the senseless, who



trust in the things of the passing world, and the wise, who trust in the Lord. True security is placing oneself in God's hands. Jeremiah finds his contemporaries, beginning with the king, behaving like senseless people, relying on the passing things rather than on the Word of the Lord as the source of life.

Paul points to the center of our hope: the resurrection of Christ, without which we are lost. We are the most pitiable of people if we place our trust in what has no saving value. Christ, on the other hand, is the first fruits of salvation. The rest of the harvest is to follow.

Today we get Luke's account of the Beatitudes and you will note that it differs dramatically from Matthew's which is the one we are all familiar with. Matthew has Jesus up on the mountain because in the OT that is where people encountered God. All of Matthew's beatitudes are positive. Luke, on the other hand, has Jesus on the level ground and four of Luke's beatitudes are positive, while four are laments. In Luke, Jesus comes down from the mountain, he descends in the same way that he entered into communion with humanity. He descended from his divine life to human form. In Luke, Jesus is telling the audience that the reign of God transforms human reality, but it also implies a change of status for those who reject it. Jesus does not curse those who reject it, but laments their lot in life. The result of our accepting or rejecting the beatitudes is either happiness or grief, spoken in terms of blessed or cursed. No one is excluded from God's reign, but the present world's standards are reversed: the formerly wretched, "your poor," become the privileged in God's reign. Recall that Luke gives us a Jesus with no worldly power and a Jesus whose sole identity is with the poor and the rejected. To welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, clothe the naked is to put oneself in the

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

presence of Jesus.

After Easter I will host our bridal couples again for an evening at the rectory. It's a totally informal gathering with drinks at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. It's an opportunity for me to get to know the couples a bit better and hopefully to make them feel welcome in the parish. I have to tell you that these are delightful evenings. All of the couples are in the same boat so there is no shortage of conversation, and the couples are all in their late 20s or early 30s and a joy to be around. Even though we have limited weddings to active parishioners of one year's duration, we have a full calendar of weddings again this year. Because of the volume of weddings and because we often have a Saturday morning funeral as well as the evening Vigil Mass, the weddings at St. Patrick's are wedding services, not the wedding Mass.

Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy recently announced \$3,000 per year scholarships which are available to any graduate of one of our Catholic elementary schools. The scholarship can be renewed for all four years of high school. Additional information is available from the schools.

A recent report notes that there are presently about 175,000 Christians living in Israel. Those Christians constitute 2.2% of the total population, a marked increase from the previous year of 1.4%. The greatest Christian presence is in Nazareth with over 22,000 residents. The growth in Christians is not attributed to an increase in the birth rate (which remains dangerously low), but because of migration, largely from Ethiopia.

A new Gallup poll shows that trust in the clergy has declined sharply over the last year. Only 31% of American Catholics now rate the honesty or ethical standards of the clergy as high or very high. That figure has dropped 18% in the last year. Among American Protestants the figure remained relatively stable at 48%. While those figures are startling, over half of Catholics surveyed say that religion is a very important part of their lives. That figure has remained stable since 2001. One figure that has not remained stable is Mass attendance. From 2014—2017, not a single age group of Catholics reported a majority attending Mass each week. Only about 36% of Catholics said they had been to Mass in the last week. That number is a drop from 45 percent in 2008 and 75 percent in 1955.

While parishes are being closed and churches shuttered in the northeast, the Archdiocese of San Antonio, TX is preparing to open eight new parishes. Demographics indicate that there will be 200,000 new Catholics coming to that area in the next ten years.

When we replaced the tile in the vestibule and the back of church, the bid was \$52,000. As you know, when they took the tile up on the west side of the church they discovered that the floor as well as the supports beneath it had all rotted and were on the verge of collapse. The additional cost in replacing all of this added significantly to the cost of the tile. What started as a \$52,000 undertaking ended up being \$74,000. But at least we know that the flooring in the entire back of the church and vestibule is repaired and safe. You may recall we encountered a similar problem under the Food Pantry and had to completely rebuild the supports and a section of the floor. I do not yet have the final costs on that. I have discovered that when you open something up in a hundred year old building, you almost always encounter more than you bargained for!

Voice of the Faithful, a national grassroots movement of lay Catholics responding since 2002 to the sexual abuse crisis in the church, has ranked the Diocese of Erie number 1 among all eight Pennsylvania dioceses for its financial reporting standards. Additionally, they ranked Erie among the top 15 diocese in the nation for its financial transparency. More than 170 dioceses were surveyed in the study. John Dey, chief financial officer for the diocese noted that "our website in general is easy to navigate for anything financial, and we offer complete transparency in all aspects."

The Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick stepped up this year and purchases a multitude of socks, gloves, underwear, etc. for the Homeless Shelter.

I was recently walking through a cemetery looking at the tombstones. Most carried the usual epitaphs: "Safe in the arms of Jesus," "At rest," etc. However, one stood out above all the others as I read, "This wasn't my idea."







Stewardship

Offertory Collection Online Giving Total Income \$ 7,987.00 <u>1,132.30</u> \$ 9,119.30

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Donations to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- Agnes & Al Gehringer, Mary & Edward Gehringer, Frances & Howard Gehringer from Michael & Mary Callaghan
- Wm. J. & Jane Ward Carney from Jane Carney
- John & Marjorie DeBias from Kevin & Margaret
 Cohick
- Lois Hanlin Dahlkemper from Mary Ellen
 Dahlkemper
- William Lacy from Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon
- Forrest & Gertrude Shorts from Judy Freiwald
- Ruth & Susan Gray from Tom Gray
- Mark Borowy from Joyce Gunter
- Ron Homicz from Joanne Homicz
- Rosemarie Bihler from Marci Honard
- Lois H. Dahlkemper from Bill & Patty Jackson
- + Lena Biancosino from David & Mary St. George

Also donations from:

Victoria Abbott, Ed Chizewick, Michael & Noelle Colpoys, Linda Dehart, Ann Downing, Bill & Mary Flanagan, Dennis & Marie Gritzer, Kathleen Horan and Jeffrey Sharp & Kathleen Fiorenzo

> 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.





The Sanctuary Lamp burns in loving memory of **Bernadine Zdunski** from family

Ministry Schedule Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Angie Kontur

Eucharistic Ministers: Ray Fiorelli, Alex Vinesky, Kaleigh Vinesky

Greeters: Mary Anne Ashworth, Mary Tellers Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers, **1** NEEDED

Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 8:00 am Lector: Lisa Straub Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Lisa Straub,

Nancy Andrzejewski Ushers: John Maloney, Dave Korn, Chuck Straub, Mike Nies

Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 10:30 am Lector: Mary Duncan Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Welch, Tim Scully, Luke Gilmore Greeters: Tom & Linda Brunner Altar Servers: Juliette Morales, Sarah Pristello Ushers: Dave Taccone, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun Offertory Counters: Tom Brunner, Linda Brunner, Mary Duncan, Deb Slusarz

A Family Perspective—

Don't look very far when you hear today's gospel speak of poverty, hunger, sorrow or exclusion. These things hap-



pen in families, children feel "insulted" when they are constantly criticized. Spouses "hunger" for affection. Grandparents feel "excluded" by divorce and custody decisions. Parents "weep" because they feel alienated from their children.

Marriage Moments—

"Love is not quick tempered, it does not brood over injury, but rejoices with the truth..." (Cor. 13: 6) Which of these qualities of love best describes your beloved?

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Feb. 16 Saturday, Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 PM MICHAEL DAILEY (NANCY GITTERE) Feb. 17 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00 AM BERNADINE ZDUNSKI, ANNIV. 2/21 (FAMILY) 10:30 AM RICHARD MILLER (BILL & KATHY MASEK FAMILY) Feb. 18 Monday, President's Day NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE Feb. 19 Tuesday. Weekday 8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE Feb. 20 Wednesday, Weekday 8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE Feb. 21 Thursday, Weekday 8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE Feb. 22 Friday, The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE Feb. 23 Saturday, Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 PM MARILYN WAYLAND (DAVE & JOAN HEUBEL) Feb. 24 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00 AM WILLIAM J. RENNIE (DOROTHY RENNIE) 10:30 AM MARY G. WALKER & THOMAS ANDREW WALKER (WALKER FAMILY)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.P=St. Patrick, CP=Chapel, PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory
02/16 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P
02/18 Office & Church Closed—President's Day
02/19 9:45 AM Food Pantry - PR

- **02/19** 9:45 AM FOOD Pantry **02/20** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR
- **02/20** 12:00 FM A.A. TK **02/23** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL JEWELRY/PURSE BOOTH



Clear out your unwanted jewelry and purses to make room for those Valentine's Day presents!

Gently used watches, earrings, necklaces, bracelets and purses are being collected before Masses and after Masses this weekend..

OR, drop your donations off in the gift shop anytime during Mass times.

If you are interested in volunteering at our booth for the festival, please contact Patty Dailey (814) 461-9845.





February 24th 10 am—1 pm Bayfront Convention Center

Enjoy samples from various coffee shops and vote for Erie's Best Coffee!

Basket Raffle ~ Live Music ~ Children's Activities

TICKETS: \$10 advanced, \$15 at the door, ages 12 and under free

Tickets can be purchased at Erie Federal Credit Union - 3503 Peach St. Mill Creek Coffee Co. 1222 Linden Ave. www.smcerie.org

All proceeds benefit St. Martin Center

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2010

★ [SATURDAY] ***** MARCH 16TH, 2019

step off at 2pm // DOWNTOWN ERIE [enjoy the parade along state street between 11th & 4th streets]

A day in Ireland * GET READY TO CELEBRATE WITH US PARADE DAY FEATURES

local community organizations s irish-step dancers local entertainment groups s irish themed floats & much more

ENJOY GREAT COMMENTARY & MORE @ GRAND STAND | 6th & state CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS



-HOSTED BY-

Knights & Ladies

THE -

St Patrick Day Parade in Erie PA #IrishInErie

St. Andrew Dinner planned with bishop and other priests

The Vocations Office of the Diocese of Erie and St. Joseph Parish/Bread of Life Community, 147 W. 24th St., Erie, are hosting a St. Andrew Dinner Feb. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. in St. Joseph's Community Center. Young men who are seeking their vocation are welcome to attend. For more information contact Fr. Mike Polinek at mpoliek@eriercd.org 814.824.1200 / ErieVocations.org *Warming Shelter 2019* Thank you to all the volunteers and those who supported this years warming shelter!

















