

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 26, 2017



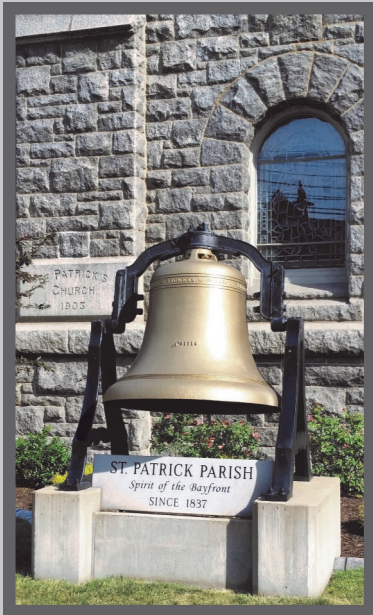
Saint Patrick Parish

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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Email: stpat@neo.rr.com

Website: www.saintpatrickparish.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: 12:05 PM

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Today is the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In one of the most tender proclamations of divine love in the entire OT, Isaiah offers comfort to a defeated people who remain in captivity. Today's brief reading appears in the section of this prophetic work that is commonly called the "book of consolation." Chapters 44-50 contain oracles that most likely date from near the end of the Babylonian exile in 539 BC. At this point, the exiles of Judah would have endured about a half-century of captivity. Today's reading is placed at the heart of a chapter that promises a return to the land. The reason for this saving act lies precisely in God's maternal, tender love for the chosen though sinful people. In today's reading we find the Hebrew word *racham* to describe God's mercy and love. This term, from the root word *rechem* (womb), expresses the love of a woman for the child she has carried, birthed and raised. In the OT it is often used to express undeserved, yet deeply felt love.

Today's second reading concludes Paul's discussion on the proper role of God's minister and how members of the church should regard them. He again condemns factions aligning themselves with one or another ministers. Paul is not concerned about individual pastors, only that they preserve and serve God's plan as revealed in Christ. Paul shares the early Church's expectation of an imminent return of the Risen Lord, a posture that would eventually result in a crisis of faith for many. Remember that Paul is writing in the 50s.

In the opening verses of today's gospel, Jesus echoes divine instruction of Deuteronomy 6:5 those who belong to God's people must love the Lord with their whole being. A divided heart is not a heart that belongs to God. The verb here translated "serve" implies the service of a slave, and in Imperial Rome, slaves belonged wholly to their masters. Jesus does not despise money as such; rather he teaches that anyone enslaved to wealth cannot belong wholeheartedly to God. The rest of the reading continues the Sermon on the Mount which is Jesus' teaching that fulfills the Law of Moses. The notion of "righteousness", moral conduct according to divine teaching, is central to the Sermon on the Mount.

From the Pastor's Desk continued.....

During Lent I will teach two Scripture classes. This year we are going to explore the Infancy Narratives, the stories of the birth of Jesus, which are found only in Luke and Matthew. We'll explore the striking differences between them and why. Class will be offered Monday, March 6, and Monday, March 13, with a morning class at 10 AM and an evening class at 6 PM. There is no charge for the class, but we ask that you call the office and register so we know how many handouts to print.

All parishioners have received a letter from me outlining the goal of our 2017 Catholic Service Appeal. This annual appeal provides the largest source of revenue for the diocese, it funds programs such as St. Martin's Center, the Bishop's Breakfast which is offered daily for over a hundred homeless people, etc. Each parish is assessed a set amount and any money raised over that remains in the parish. Our assessment this year is \$74,000, and I'm hoping that we can generate \$100,000 so that we can use the difference to begin the restoration of our hundred year old pipe organ. All I ask is that you seriously consider doing whatever you are able to do.

Wednesday of this week is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. There will be an 8 AM Mass in the main church and another Mass at noon in the main church. I will distribute ashes after both of those Masses and I will also distribute ashes from 11:40—11:55 and again at 5 PM until all are distributed. A reminder that Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence for those between the ages of 21 and 58. This means no meat and only one full meal. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence; ie., Catholics are asked to sacrifice and not eat meat on those days. Once Catholic Spain is rapidly taking on another face. Two-thirds of young people ages 15-24 now call themselves atheists, indifferent or agnostic. A report states that young people do not feel hatred or resentment toward the church; but indifference. In 2016 only 22% of marriages in the country were Catholic compared with 96% in the 1980s. At the same time, civil marriages in Spain have dramatically decreased with the result that 42% of children born in Spain last year were born out of wedlock.

All of the volunteers in the parish are gathering at Gannon University's Yehl Room on Tuesday evening for a Mardi Gras party. Invited are everyone who volunteers on an ongoing basis as well as their spouse or a guest. It is an opportunity to say "thank you," but moreso, it is an opportunity for us to get to know one another better.

After a long illness, a woman died and arrived at the gates of heaven. While she was waiting for St. Peter, she peeked in and saw a beautiful banquet table. Sitting around it were her parents and all the other people she had loved. They saw her and waved her in. When Peter came by she asked how she could get in. "You have to spell a word," he said. "Which word?" she asked. "Love." The woman correctly spelled it and she was welcomed into heaven. A few years later, Peter asked the woman to watch the Gate as he had an errand to run. Suddenly her husband arrived. "I'm surprised to see you," said the woman. "How have you been?" "I've been wonderful since you died. I married that beautiful young nurse who cared for you, a year later I won the lottery and so I sold that little house we lived in and bought a mansion. My wife and I travel all over the world and, in fact were water skiing today when I fell and the ski hit my head and here I am. How do I get in?" "You have to spell a word," said the woman. "Which word," asked her husband. "Czechoslovakia," she replied.

A Family Perspective—

Eighth Sunday

Because we believe we can control and create our own world, we attempt to juggle multiple agendas and pay a price of neglecting those closest to us. Too late we reach the point of asking "Was it worth it?" We really can't serve two masters.



MARRIAGE MOMENTS



"Do not worry about your life." (Mt 6:26)
Worries come naturally into most couple's lives. It may seem unrealistic not to worry. Try watching some birds today. It's winter, but somehow they are surviving. Do they look sad? Learn from the birds.



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 8,925.00
Online Giving	<u>1,715.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 10,640.00

Thank you for your generosity!



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Linda Winkleman
from Marge Stewart*

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 made in memory of:

- ♦ **The Biebel family** from Robert & Mildred Biebel
- ♦ **Teresa Callaghan** from Michael Callaghan
- ♦ **Barb Coughlin** from Mary Ellen Demyanovich
- ♦ **Isabelle Maloney, birthday** from Ray & Patti Fiorelli
- ♦ **Chris DiLoreto** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ♦ **Gerrie Ciacchini & Quentin Orlando** from Q Gregory & Nancy Orlando
- ♦ **William J. Rennie** from Dorothy Rennie
- ♦ **Deceased members of the Vitron & Wenstran families** from Robert & Roberta Vitron
- ♦ **Luke Purvis** from Jim & Kathleen Wehan
- ♦ **Kathleen Cusick Weisenfluh** from Mark Weisenfluh

Also donations from:

William & Patricia Gloekler, Lawrence & JoElla Gorgacz, Eugene & Kathleen Polaski, Carla Orlando, and Ed Chizewick

Special Thank You!!!

to **PANERA BREAD &**

HABORCREEK EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS



Let Us *Welcome*

Evelyn Jane & Alexander James Schloss
children of

Michael & Lauree (Sundberg) Schloss
who will be baptized
after the 10:30 AM Liturgy

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 5:00 pm

Lector: **Mary Pat Schlaudecker**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Shirley Winschel, Ann Scutella, Steve Scutella**

Greeters: **Phil & Judy Kelly**

Altar Servers: **Collin & Ryan Hudson**

Ushers: **Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers, Jim Sertz**

Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 8:00 am

Lector: **Nick Straub**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Tom Golab, Lisa Straub, Joe Schneider**

Ushers: **John Maloney, Chuck Straub, 1-2 NEEDED**

Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 10:30 am

Lector: **Karyn Polaski**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Kathleen Pae, Patty Jackson, Colleen Welch**

Greeters: **Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin**

Altar Servers: **NEEDED**

Ushers: **Dave Taccone, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan, Paul Balzgun**

Offertory Counters: **Bill Welsh, Cindy Welsh, Tim Donlin, Kay Sauers**

Lent Resources for Individuals and Families

The Office of Parish Social Ministry and Respect Life is offering resources for individuals for the Lenten season. These resources include weekly Scripture for reflection, service project suggestions and additional resources for assisting families in preparing for Easter. This is a great opportunity for families to find ways to devote time to scripture and service together. Access these resources at <http://www.eriercd.org/justice.htm>.



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.



CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The Food Pantry is accepting Children's Books for their children's library.



201 DAYS TO THE 2017 ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL

WE FEW, WE HAPPY FEW, WE BAND OF BROTHERS (AND SISTERS)...

If you recognize that line, you know that it is from Shakespeare's play, *Henry V*, where King Henry exhorts the troops to follow him into battle. Well, we couldn't resist the tie-in to Henry and exhorting you to follow him—but we're talking about our Henry—Monsignor Henry Kriegel.

A few weeks ago, we got an email from a parish couple, Dan and Mary Lee Lynch, who generously offered not one, but two bottles of Jameson for the cause—The Erie Irish Festival Whiskey Bar. In the email, Dan and Mary Lee mentioned that a very young Rev. Henry Kriegel had officiated at their wedding in August of 1972 at St. Joe's in Oil City. Well, we couldn't help but email back that a still young Father K had officiated at our wedding at St. Jude's exactly ten years later in August of 1982.

Then we got to thinking. We were at church on our 30th wedding anniversary and Father K joked that most of his marriages don't last that long. But we happen to think he ties a pretty tight knot and we're going to ask you to prove it.

How about this—if the good Monsignor married you and you are still married, we are asking that you donate one dollar (\$1.00) to the Erie Irish Festival for every year of marital bliss that he launched you into along with a wedding photo. So we're coming up on 35 years, that's 35 bucks and a photo of us on our wedding day. So we're in, how about you?

We'll use the cash to sponsor the magician for this year's festival (in honor of the magic Father K worked on us!) and we'll hang a poster there with all those photos to prove that what our favorite Monsignor joined together doesn't get easily put asunder.

So next week, March 4th and 5th, bring your cash or check and your photos to mass in an envelope of your choosing and put them in the collection basket. Or, if that doesn't work for you, drop them off in the gift shop or at the rectory. We'll give you a couple months to round up the photos so don't feel you missed it if you miss next weekend. Then we'll give you the results.

And, hey, if you know some couples who are not parishioners, pass the word to them. We want all of the Monsignor's couples to take part.

If you would like to help, you can contact us, Gary and Becky Johnson, Festival Chairs, at gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com or beckykj@neo.rr.com.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Feb. 25 *Saturday, Vigil: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 PM MARY WALKER & THOMAS ANDREW WALKER
(WALKER FAMILY)

Feb. 26 *Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM PAT DOYLE (SYLVESTER CARLOW FAMILY)
10:30 AM TOM WALKER (FAMILY)

Feb. 27 *Monday, Weekday*

8:00 AM MARY JANE MCAULLIFE (DOYLE FAMILY)

Feb. 28 *Tuesday, Weekday*

8:00 AM LINDA WINKLEMAN, ANNIV. OF BIRTH, 2/29
(MARGE STEWART)

March 1 *Wednesday, Ash Wednesday*

8:00 AM DOLORES ELLIS (BILL ELLIS)
12:05 PM ELIZABETH BROSS, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(JIM SPIEGEL)

March 2 *Thursday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 AM AMELIA WEBER (SISTERS)

March 3 *Friday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 AM NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

March 4 *Saturday, Vigil: First Sunday of Lent*

5:00 PM PHIL & JUDY KELLY,
50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

March 5 *First Sunday of Lent*

8:00 AM ARTHUR CASEY (MARY PAT SCHLAUDECKER)
10:30 AM ELIZABETH SONNTAG (KATHY, BILL & GIRLS)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.P=St. Patrick, HR=Holy Rosary CP=Chapel,
PF=Polish Falcons PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory

02/25 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P
02/26 No religious education classes
02/28 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR
03/01 12:00 PM A.A. - PR
03/04 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P
03/05 No religious education classes

Annual Jewelry and Purse Collection 2017 Erie Irish Festival

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Did you forget to drop off your gently used jewelry and purses before mass last weekend? It's okay, we know how busy you are and one more thing to think about can be one too many.

That's why we've arranged for the St. Pat's gift shop to be the donation center for jewelry and purses. You can drop them off there any time before or after any mass, all year long.

And if you're interested in helping sell all of that beautiful jewelry and those fine purses at our new expanded booth at this year's festival, please contact Patty Dailey (814) 461-9845.



A HUGE thank you to the volunteers who staffed the homeless shelter, people who prepared meals for up to 60 people each night, parishioners who donated toiletries and made monetary contributions. It truly was a parish-wide effort in supporting this endeavor to provide basic necessities for those in our community who are in dire need.

Special recognition to the team leaders who worked diligently in planning, being on site every night of the shelter and doing whatever was needed: Terry & Linda Pfeffer, Bill Welsh, Carm Tellers, Tom Welch, Laura Chandley, Gerry Custer and Susan Barry.



HOMELESS SHELTER 2017



Holy Trinity Church accepts Lenten food orders—

In need of special Lenten foods? Pre-order pierogi or potato pancake batter through Feb. 27 at Holy Trinity Church.

PIEROGI—\$14.00/dozen or \$8.00/half dozen

POTATO PANCAKE BATTER—\$6.00/small tub,
\$10.00/large tub

Fax orders: (814) 461-1150 **Call orders:** (814) 456-0671

Mail orders: Holy Trinity Parish 220 Reed Street, Erie,
PA 16503

Order Pick dates: Wednesday, March 1 after 5:30 Mass
& Saturday, March 4 between 10:00-11:00 am at the Holy
Trinity Social Center

Irish hooley planned in Girard

The Knights of Columbus Council #5430, Girard, will present an Irish hooley at the St. John Parish Center, Route 20, Girard, on March 12 beginning at 1:30 p.m. A pork dinner will be served beginning at 2 p.m., with hooley festivities to follow. Lance's Limerick Lunatics will be the featured entertainment. Beer, set-ups and pop will be provided; BYOB. Purchase tickets after Masses at St. John the Evangelist Church, or send a check to: Pat and Darlene Sargent, 37 Penn Ave., Girard, PA 16417. Phone reservations are accepted at 814-774-0983. Tables are available for up to 12 people. Proceeds benefit the St. John Parish Center.

The Irish Hooley

March 4, 2017 at the Belle Valley Social
with **SEAMUS KENNEDY**



Tickets are \$20.00 which includes beer, pop, set-ups, chips. No kitchen. Bring your own goodies.

Irish auction featuring jewelry, Irish items, surprises.
Basket of Cheer and Horse Race.

Entertainment will also feature Blarney
Rubble at 6:30. Rince Na Tiarna Irish
Dancers at 7:30 and Seamus Kennedy at
8:00.



For more information call 459-5797 or 868-3127.

LENTEN FISH AND PIEROGI DINNERS:

St. Stanislaus Parish is hosting
their Annual Lenten Fish and
Pierogi Dinners on Fridays,
March 3, 17, and 31, in the Par-
ish Hall, serving from 4:00 PM-7:00 PM. Cost:
adults—\$10.00; children (6-12) - \$5.00; children 5 and
under—free. Take-out dinners are \$10.25. Come enjoy
a delicious home cooked dinner with your family.



NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

Saint Patrick Church

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

HEAD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

SPOUSE _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

CHILD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

CHILD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration

Change of Address

Moving

Want Envelopes

Advertiser of the Week:

We thank **frontier pharmacy**
Keeping Healthcare Affordable
452-2347

for advertising in our parish bulletin.