

**Third Sunday of Lent  
March 15, 2020**



*St. Patrick Stained Glass Window*  
St. Patrick Church  
photo by  
Tom Golab

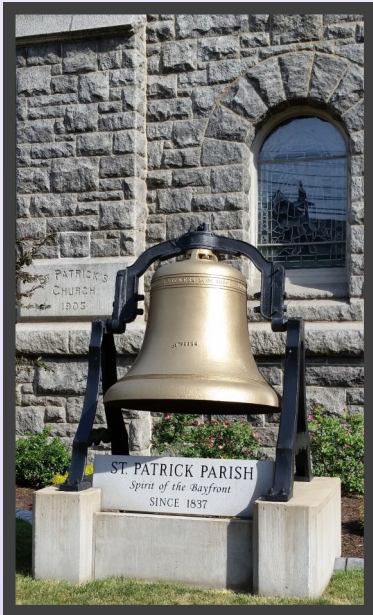
**Saint Patrick Parish**

*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: [stpats@neo.rr.com](mailto:stpats@neo.rr.com)

Website: [www.saintpatrickparisherie.org](http://www.saintpatrickparisherie.org)

Office Hours:

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

#### **MASS SCHEDULE:**

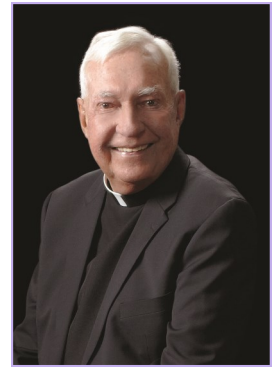
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

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 Third Sunday of Lent. Grumbling, testing the Lord, is Israel's constant complaint against Moses. They doubted God and Moses, even though God had already freed them from Egypt. Throughout their journey, Moses has been their leader; now he is the target of their complaints. They blame Moses for bringing them into the desert and even imply that his motive was to make them die of thirst. Moses' going to God seems to imply that his own faith is being tested. But underlying the people's thirst for water is their thirst for God's saving presence. Rather than punishing them, God directs Moses to take some of the elders and set out for Mount Horeb (Sinai), the Mountain of the Lord. And when they get there, Moses strikes the rock and water flows forth. Once again, a faithless people have encountered an ever faithful God.

Paul is writing to Christians in Rome and notes that God's past action of raising Christ from the dead has an ongoing effect in the present and gives believers hope of future sharing in God's glory. Four references to God, three in Christ and one to the Holy Spirit, in these few verses contribute to Paul's proclamation of the power of God for salvation. Paul describes the state of humanity prior to Christ's death as helpless, ungodly and unjust. But Christ's death has brought a transformation, first described as justification. To be justified in Pauline theology is to be brought into a right relationship with God, a process already begun but will be brought to fulness in the future. A complete understanding of justification includes a healthy relationship with God and with one another. Paul talks about two triads: Father, Son and Spirit and faith, hope and love.

Today we read from John and he uses conversations, sometimes developed into lengthy dialogues between Jesus and another person, to gradually reveal Jesus' identity. Individuals often misinterpret what he is saying, offering Jesus the opportunity to correct them and lead them to a deeper insight. Jesus often uses symbolism which confuses people and other times words that can have two meanings. Another reason is

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

that Jesus often turns around cherished beliefs and behaviors, making a new belief difficult to understand. He crosses boundaries that often shock both his disciples and his adversaries. In today's reading, Jesus passes through Samaria. There was no reason for doing this, he could have crossed the Jordan to avoid Samaria, the territory of Israel's long standing enemy. He has crossed a boundary by going to Samaria, now he will cross another by talking to a woman. When the disciples return, they are unwilling to talk to her. Jesus, who offered living water to this woman, is now offered ordinary food by his own disciples. They, too, must develop a deeper understanding of who he is. And the story ends with many of the Samaritans believing in him—long before the Jews would.

The National Trust of Canada estimates that 9,000 religious spaces will close in Canada because of declining attendance. In many areas of Canada, Mass attendance is down to about 5% of the Catholic population. Once very Catholic Quebec is almost entirely secular.

Tuesday is the Feast of Saint Patrick and if you want to see a colorful display, all you have to do is come down to this neighborhood. When I get up at 6:30 that morning, there will already be a line of people waiting to get into Sullivan's!!!! As I sit in my office and watch people park in the area and walk over to the bars, I'm amazed that people would go out in public in some of the outfits which they wear. As long as they have fun and don't hurt anyone, it's fine.

For as far back as we have data (the 1990s), the Catholic Church in the United States welcomed more than 100,000 adults into the faith each year. Most were Protestants who had already been baptized. Times have changes. In 2017 and 2018 there were a number of empty seats in the RCIA program (the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), the process that prepares adults to join the faith. In 2018, 93,621 adults joined the faith. Some of this decline can be attributed to the declining marriage rate among Americans, Catholics included. Many of these who become Catholic do so as they enter into marriage with someone who is already Catholic. As the marriage rate has declined (rather dramatically), so, too, then would the number of people entering the faith because their partner is Catholic. All of this is part of a changing reality of Catholicism.

When I first came to St. Patrick's eleven years ago, every day in Lent saw rather significant numbers of people coming to say the Stations of the Cross. Cars of people would come from Sharon, Meadville, Greenville, etc, and there were always people in church praying the Stations during Lent. That is completely gone in this short period of time. Today it is very rare to see someone in church saying the Stations of the Cross. Everything around us is changing, and we have to pull back and ask if that change is good or bad.

We're continuing to have major problems with the new furnace in the rectory. It keeps shutting down if we get some wind, etc. The government requires a small box on the side of the furnace to regulate something or other and that is causing it to kick out all of the time. I had to have a repairman here one weekend and he opened his kit, took out a screwdriver and tapped the box 3 times with the head of the screwdriver and the furnace came back on. Then he handed me a bill for \$100!!!! That furnace is only a few years old, and we now have a parishioner taking a good look at it.

Remember that the Catholic Services Appeal is underway in all the parishes of the diocese during Lent. This is the largest fundraiser for the diocese. As you know, each parish is assessed a set amount which we are required to pay. Any money raised above that amount remains in the parish. Our assessment last year was \$87,000 and it has increased this year to \$95,000 simply because our revenue continues to increase unlike most other parishes in the diocese. All I ask is that you review the information I mailed you and determine if you can help or not. Some can make a donation, others can make a generous donation and others can't afford to give anything. That is perfectly fine. All I ask is that you think about it and do what you think you can. I am hoping to use the excess monies from this year's campaign to pay for or at least help pay for the storage building we are planning to build on the small piece of property we are leasing from UPMC Hamot. That building will be used to store items from the Irish Festival in an orderly and safe manner.

A man is recovering from surgery when the surgical nurse appeared and asked him how he was feeling. "I'm OK but I didn't like the four-letter words the doctor used in surgery." "What did he say?" asked the nurse. "Oops!"



# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection \$ 9,129.00  
Online Giving—will be reported in 3/22 bulletin

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

- ◆ **Gianina Altadonna** from Frank & Christine Altadonna
- ◆ **Jeff Bomba** from Mark & Eileen Behringer
- ◆ **Erica Jones** from Jim & Karen Bomba
- ◆ **Jim Bonniger** from Richard & Margaret Bonniger
- ◆ JoAnne Barber McCormick from Ryan Carey & Maureen Barber-Carey
- ◆ **Nancy Gallagher, William Lacy** from Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon
- ◆ **Helen Kormosh & Joseph R. Kormosh** from Joe Kormosh
- ◆ **Richard Miller** from Lynne Miller
- ◆ **Murphy & Chesko families** from Patrick Murphy
- ◆ **Herb & Dorothy Meinert** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ◆ **Bob Osmer** from Pauline Osmer
- ◆ **Bill & Rita Lasko and Louis & Irene Pianta** from Thomas & Patricia Pianta
- ◆ **Deceased family members and friends** from John & Darlene Williams
- ◆ **Mary Nason** from Deborah Musolff
- ◆ **Rita Clancey** from the Scutella, Maciaks, and Wilckos

Also donations from:

Erica Marie Clare DiLuzio, John & Kelly Gennaro, Thomas & Jan Clancey, David Duska & Anastasia Lachica and Geoffrey Gloekler

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

## 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  
**Jeffrey Bomba**  
from Mom, Dad, Megan, Luke,  
Ben, Delainey and Norah*

## Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 5:00 pm**

Lector: Alex Vinesky

Eucharistic Ministers: Alex Vinesky, Kaleigh Vinesky, Patty Dailey, Phyllis Marchinetti, James Salter

Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan

Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers,

**1 NEEDED**

**Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 8:00 am**

Lector: Fed Olds

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Ann Scutella, Steve Scutella, Christopher Sofranko

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

**Sunday, March 22, 2017 at 10:30 am**

Lector: Ed Smith

Eucharistic Ministers: Ed Smith, Dotty Schloss, Tim Scully, Kathleen Pae, Megan Gilmore

Greeters: Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin

Ushers: Randy Pristello, David Wilcox, John Purvis, Chuck Agresti

Offertory Counters: Mary Kearney, Mary Williams, Mary Pat Schlaudecker, Phil & Denise Rewers

If you are disabled and cannot walk to receive communion, please help the Eucharistic Ministers by putting a white stole on the end of the pew, (The stoles are available in the vestibule on the bookshelf.) AND please sit at the end of the pew so you are more visible to the ministers. Thank you!

## A Family Perspective—

Our children are like the Samaritan woman in today's gospel. They need more than material things. They need the "living water" only good role models can give. It will teach them how to make decisions, take responsibility, respect themselves and others and live their commitments. With this "living water" they will "never thirst."



## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**March 14** *Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent*  
 5:00 PM MARY TELLERS, ANNIV. OF BIRTH (MARILYN REISER)

**March 15** *Third Sunday of Lent*  
 8:00 AM JOSEPH NIES (SR. MARIE KEBORT)  
 10:30 AM ED BROWN, ANNIV., 3/18 (MARY ELLEN BROWN)

**March 16** *Monday, Lenten Weekday*  
 8:00 AM MITCHELL MACK (FAMILY)

**March 17** *Tuesday, Lenten Weekday, St. Patrick, Bishop*  
 8:00 AM BOB SAUERS (JIM SPIEGEL)

**March 18** *Wednesday, Lenten Weekday*  
 8:00 AM GINI MADINE (JEANINE TOME)

**March 19** *Thursday, Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

**March 20** *Friday, Lenten Weekday*  
 NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

**March 21** *Saturday, Vigil:*  
 5:00 PM WILLIAM SCHLAUDECKER (JUDY COUGHLIN)

**March 22** *Fourth Sunday of Lent*  
 8:00 AM FRED & NANCY OLDS, WEDDING ANNIV.  
 (FRED & KATHRYN OLDS)  
 10:30 AM JOAN ANGELOTTI HEUBEL  
 (JIM & KATHLEEN WEHAN)

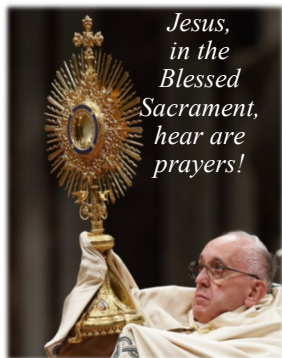
## DATES TO REMEMBER

St.P=St. Patrick, CP=Chapel, PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory

**03/14** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P  
**03/17** 9:45 AM Food Pantry - PR  
**03/18** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR  
**03/21** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

### Mark your calendars for 24 Hours for the Lord

24 Hours for the Lord will be held again this year at **St. Peter Cathedral**, Erie. The 24 hours of Eucharistic Exposition and confession will begin after the 5:15 p.m. Mass on **Friday, March 20**, and conclude with the 4 p.m. Mass on **Saturday, March 21**. Youth and prayer groups and others are encouraged to sign up for an hour of adoration. Please contact Sister Kathleen Dietz, FSO, at [kdietz@ErieRCD.org](mailto:kdietz@ErieRCD.org) or 814-824-1135 to sign-up for an hour of adoration or to learn more.



*Jesus,  
in the  
Blessed  
Sacrament,  
hear are  
prayers!*

**Transitions**, a monthly support for Separated, Divorced and Widowed persons will meet on **Sunday, March 29, from 2-4 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Center**, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. Program includes a short presentation, discussion, followed by refreshments. This month's topic is : "Prayer." For more information call 814-824-1265 or email at [familylife@erieRCD.org](mailto:familylife@erieRCD.org). Visit us at: <https://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/transitions.html>

## 180 DAYS TO THE 2020 ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN IRELAND

Parades and leprechauns and Jameson and Guinness and corned beef and cabbage and the wearing of the green and more Jameson and more Guinness and kiss me, I'm Irish and more Guinness. Sound familiar? It should, that's how we celebrate St. Patrick's Day in the United States—and we've been doing that pretty much non-stop since the first St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City in 1762. But that's not how they celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Ireland—far from it—at least until very recently.

In the Republic of Ireland, St. Patrick's Day, the commemoration of his death on March 17, 461, is a much more somber affair than in the States. It is a national holiday and a bank holiday—meaning the banks, the schools, and just about everything else are closed. It is a holy day of obligation and until the late 1970's, even the bars were closed. And there were no parades. A typical St. Patrick's Day included the family gathering in the morning, pinning some shamrocks to their lapels, and heading off to church for the "Blessing of the Shamrocks." Then home to perhaps watch TV coverage of the parades in other countries and prepare the evening feast—usually a roast and potatoes. The Irish don't eat corned beef in general, let alone on St. Patrick's Day. Corned beef is an American invention—a marriage of Jewish American butchers selling beef brisket and Irish Americans boiling it with cabbage. And overindulgence in alcohol never fit with the holy nature of the day. Oh, and how can you say "kiss me, I'm Irish," when everyone is Irish? You'd be kissing all day and half the night!

On St. Patrick's Day, the Irish do like to wear green—it's the only day in the year when they do that for patriotic reasons. Nowadays, under the influence of their American cousins, there are lots of parades around the country and the government-sanctioned St. Patrick Festival Parade in Dublin, begun in 1995, draws half a million people. They buy inflatable green hammers at the Euro General store and wave them at the passing floats. I have no idea why.

Around here, we celebrate differently too. We call it "Half Way Day" because it's half way to the most fantastic day in the year—the first day of the 2020 Erie Irish Festival—when we turn 4<sup>th</sup> street into a little bit of Ireland between French and Holland. And what a festival we have planned for you this year! You'll want to bring your inflatable hammer and wave it like crazy.

Gary and Becky Johnson, Festival Chairs, can be reached at [gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com](mailto:gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com) or [beckykj@neo.rr.com](mailto:beckykj@neo.rr.com). Happy St. Paddy's Day, everyone.

Are you hungry for more of God?

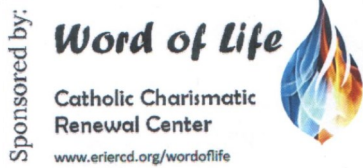
**THERE IS MORE!**

Join us for the life in the spirit course and experience the gift God has for you!

**Friday, March 20, 2020, 6 - 9 pm**  
**Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm**  
**(lunch provided)**

**St. Joseph Church - Bread of Life**  
**Community Center, 147 West 24<sup>th</sup> St., Erie, PA**

- \*There is no charge for this course.
- \*Registration is required
- \*Register online at <https://www.rcd.org/wordoflife> or call Joan at Word of Life—814-616-5735
- \*Registrations appreciated by Wednesday, March 18, 2020
- \*Accessible to persons with disabilities
- \*Free Will Offering



**CASH BINGO**  
THIRD STREET FALCONS  
March 22, 2020

Door open at 12 PM  
Bingo Starts at 1:00 PM  
\$20 Per Pack/\$5 Extra Pack  
Instants and 50/50



**Plan to attend St. Boniface Communion Breakfast**

The Knights of Columbus Council #13427 of **St. Boniface Parish** in Erie will hold its Communion Breakfast **March 29<sup>th</sup>** immediately following the 7:30 a.m. Mass at the church, 9367 Wattsburg Rd., Erie. Guest speaker is Joe Tarquinio, administrator of the Maria House Project. The cost is \$8 in advance, \$9 at the door, and \$25 for a family of four. Breakfast includes homemade "Bonibuns," which also will be on sale after Mass at a cost of \$5 for a small pan and \$10 for a large pan. Call 814-824-5333 to place your "Bonibuns" order or to order your tickets for the Communion Breakfast.



"The **Bag Mat Ministry** will be meeting on **Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Sacred Hearts Auditorium. NO CROCHETING** experience

needed! We will provide everything necessary for you to take part in this event. We need bag: flatteners, stackers, cutters, loopers, ballers, as well as crocheters!! Any donations of travel size health and beauty care, underclothing, socks, and warm weather wear are also welcomed along with spare plastic bags. All items from this ministry will be donated to the needy in our area. Some light refreshments will be provided, but feel free bring a lunch and come join the fun!!"



**Our Mother of Sorrows Parish**

**~Walnut, Poppy Seed and Apricot Roll Sale~**

Pre-order by calling Michael Kuzma 814-969-0497, pastries are freshly baked the night before and will be ready for pickup Palm Sunday, April 5th at Holy Family School 1153 E. 9th Street. Rolls are \$10 each.

**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Saint Patrick Parish**

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

**PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rectory**



# SAINT PATRICK PARISH

130 EAST 4TH STREET • ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16507

PHONE: 814/454-8085 • 814/454-6232

FAX: 814/459-8685

March 2020

Dear Parishioner –

Easter Sunday will be celebrated on April 12, 2020. As you know, we observe this feast with great celebration and festivity as it marks the dawn of eternal life for each of us.

In addition to the liturgy and some outstanding music, the church itself is decorated to note the solemnity and the rejoicing that is consistent with the celebration. Those decorations will include Easter Memorial flowers in the sanctuary.

If you wish someone to be remembered in these flower memorials, please complete the listing below and return it to the parish office NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>, so these names can be included in the parish bulletin. An offering is optional.

Sincerely,

*Msr. Henry Kriegel*

Monsignor Henry Kriegel

In Memory of/In Honor of

From

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