

Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020



St. Patrick Church

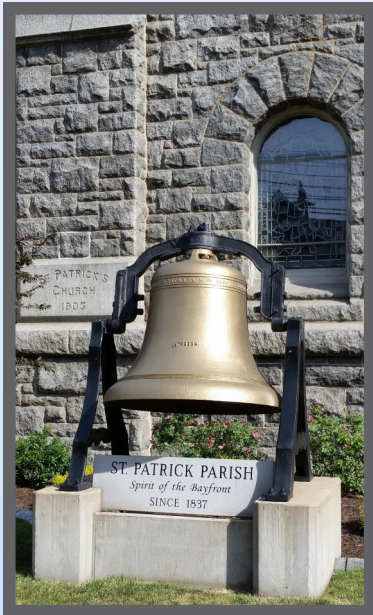
Saint Patrick Parish

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,
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Office Hours:

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

MASS SCHEDULE:

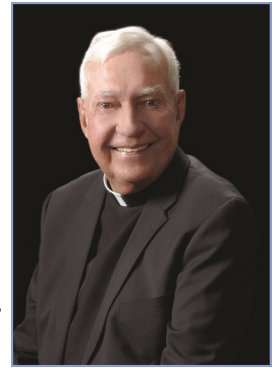
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

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 in Ordinary Time. On Pentecost, after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Peter proclaims the good news to the crowd. Today's reading is a portion of Peter's discourse, the first of many in Acts of the Apostles. Beginning with this sermon, Peter interprets the Old Testament to develop the message. At the heart of the speeches is the proclamation of Jesus' death and resurrection, the *kerygma*, that is the foundation of the Christian faith. As he develops the account of Jesus, Peter reinforces the connection with his audience. He speaks of the psalms, particularly Psalm 16, attributed to King David where David said God would not allow him to see corruption, a reference to death. But, Peter notes, David died and so he was referring to someone else and he makes this the link to Jesus' death and resurrection.

The First Letter of Peter, appears to be a pastoral letter sent to many churches around the Mediterranean, similar to an encyclical meant for the whole church. He refers to their exile, using a word that implies they are living in a foreign country. Their true home is the realm toward which they are making their journey. On the journey, they face persecution and suffering, as did Jesus himself. Through their suffering, even during this exile, they already share in Christ's glory; their faith in his death and resurrection and hope of future glory sustains them. He encourages them to show reverence to the Father, an act which elicits obedience, humility and fidelity. According to Peter, we are living in the final time because Jesus' death and resurrection has inaugurated the last stage of history. These statements created great confusion for the early church as they felt that the second coming of Christ was imminent and they were thrown into chaos when this did not develop.

Today's gospel is the familiar story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Note that all of this happens on the first day of the week, the very day that Jesus rose from the tomb. One of the themes of Luke's gospel is the journey of Jesus and his disciples. Now, as he walks with

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

these two, it is apparent that the risen Jesus is just as present to them as was the earthly Jesus to his disciples. On the road, he teaches them in the same way he had taught Peter and the other disciples when they made their way to Jerusalem. He listens, corrects them, questions them and uses the Scriptures to lead them to new knowledge. He explains how the entirety of the Jewish tradition pointed to him, and that his suffering was necessary for him to enter into his glory. As they eventually sit at the table, Jesus' words and actions repeat what he had done at the last supper and anticipates what the church will do in his name. By the time Luke's gospel was written, believers were already celebrating the Lord's Supper in their homes. The two parts of today's gospel reflect the two parts of our liturgy: the liturgy of the Word and the liturgy of the Eucharist.

I recently had to go through a Pennsylvania criminal background check and then go to a place up on West 38th Street and have my fingerprints taken. We have to do this every year because of what those sick priests did to innocent children. Every one of those men should be in jail because of what they did to those children and to the way they have ruined priesthood for the rest of us. And yet, they are walking around free, collecting the same pension any retired priest in our diocese receives and getting health care until they die. This is not a particular issue to the Diocese of Erie, but is mandated in canon law; something which should be thrown out.

I'm grateful to our Food Pantry volunteers who came in during the shut down and were able to distribute food to people in need. They did not allow any one in the building, but serviced them in the parking lot. If these volunteers had not come in, some of our clients would be in serious trouble as they would simply not have enough food for themselves and their children.

We had extra money in our Food Pantry account, and I hope you agree with me—I sent \$2,000 to Sister Mary at Emmaus Soup Kitchen as their expenses have obviously risen with all that is going on. Your generous support of those in need is something that our God does not miss. Trust me, it wipes away a score of our sins and failings. Every time we care for his poor and his needy, we gain grace and pleasure in his eyes. Isn't this really what the whole of the gospel is all about—

that we care for one another in every way possible. I had discussed this gift proposal with both the Finance Council and the Parish Council and they were 100% in agreement.

The cleaning of the Stations and the altars has resulted in a remarkable change. The Stations simply sparkle, they are so clean. The same is true with the altars. We have to remember that all of these things are over a hundred and ten years old so they need constant maintenance and upkeep. I hadn't notice but there were some serious chips in the base of the Stations and those have all been repaired. We have an ongoing problem with people touching the Stations and that does damage to them. Just the oil on our hands can permeate some of the paint and cause problems. These Stations were hand carved in Munich, Germany in 1892 and 1893 by the same company who did the stained glass windows at St. Patrick's. When Father Cauley purchased them, they cost \$600 each; today they are insured for \$4.6 million. Fortunately, every one of the Stations had a donor who stepped forward with the \$600 to cover the cost. There is a bronze plaque at the base of each Station indicating who donated it.

It continues to be very strange as we navigate our way through this unknown virus and all of the implications that are part of it. We've never been here before and none of us really know what to do. I must tell you it is very strange celebrating Sunday Mass in that cavernous church with just myself, Mark at the pipe organ, a cantor and a few cameras. I can't wait until all of you start filling the room up again. It's getting lonely down here!!!

OFFERTORY 04-06-20	\$ 8,860.00
CSA PLEDGED	\$67,095.00
CSA PAID	\$46,130.00

OFFERTORY 04-12-20	\$ 9,355.00
CSA PLEDGED	\$73,080.00
CSA PAID	\$51,960.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Kids says the darndest things. "Teacher: How old is your father?" Kid: "He is 6 years old." Teacher: "How is that possible?" Kid: "He only became a father when I was born."..... Teacher: "Glenn, how you spell crocodile?" Glenn: "K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L." Teacher: "No, that's wrong." Glenn: "Maybe it's wrong, but you asked me how I spell it." (You have to love these kids!)