

**First Sunday of Advent  
December 3, 2017**



The Advent Wreath  
St. Patrick Church

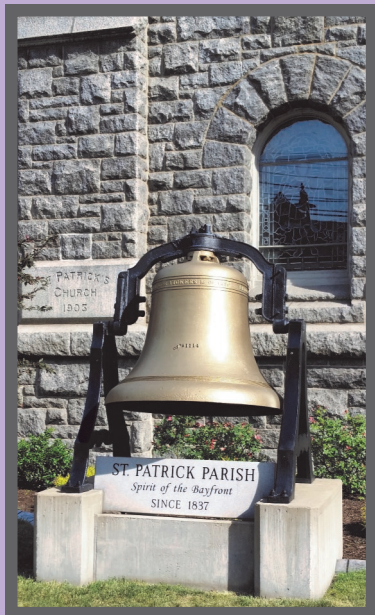
**Saint Patrick Parish**

*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,  
Genealogy research***

Phone: 814-454-8085

FAX: 814-459-8685

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

Website: [www.saintpatrickparish.org](http://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: 12:00 PM

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



Today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah takes place just after they have returned from the Babylonian exile.

Those returning expected to experience utopia, but the reality is the temple and cities are in ruin, the economy and legal systems fractured and so we hear Isaiah cry out in lamentation to God. Speaking for the whole community. He seems to indicate that God is the cause of their woes, that he let them get hard-hearted, etc. Interspersed are some of the richest affirmations of God's power and goodness. Only a God who is so powerful, and who is a father to the people, can restore them to health and wholeness.

Paul praises the Corinthians for their sense of community and their boundless spiritual gifts. He notes that every gift given by God through Christ is for the building up of the community. The great variety of gifts are the source of unity in the church. Paul goes on to give his description of church and it is about fellowship and caring for one another. The Greek word is *koinonia*, meaning a deep and abiding communion with Christ and with one another. Thus, Paul's first description of the church for the Corinthians is not about doctrine or behavior; it is about the relationship we have with one another.

Advent is a season of watchfulness—being alert as Jesus instructs in today's gospel. The word for watch, *gregoreo*, is the action of a sentinel or sentry, a person who remains always attentive, always vigilant, waiting sometimes for the arrival of someone expected, even while remaining alert for someone or something sudden and unexpected. Our reading is the last part of an address Jesus gives about the last things: the signs of the end, persecutions and the coming of the Son of Man. It occurs just before the Passover, the beginning of Jesus' passion. Jesus will repeat the injunction to watch when he is in the garden with Peter, James and John. This is the meaning of Advent: we remember the waiting of our ancestors and we watch for Jesus to come in glory.

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

Catholics in the Diocese of Erie donated more than \$906,000 to hurricane relief efforts through Catholic Charities. That is an amazing statement of generosity. According to Jim Bogniak, director of accounting for the diocese, that is the largest amount ever given to one special cause in the history of the diocese. The previous highest amount given to a special collection was \$711,384, for the victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

A new study on the generation born since 1995 reveals some rather startling trends. In 1965, 90% of high school students described themselves as belonging to a religion. The figure is now around 65% and falling with each passing month. Only 28 per cent of high school seniors said they attended a single religious service in the past year. As late as 2004, 84% of young adults said they prayed regularly. Now, less than 70% say they do so. Perhaps the most frightening statistic in the new study is that fully one third of American teenagers say they no longer believe in God. Most say they see religion as fiction, the Bible as nothing more than a compilation of man-written stories with religion and science in direct conflict with one another. One young man said, "I knew from my religion that I couldn't believe in both God and science, and so I no longer believe in God." Sixty-four percent of people ages 18-24 say that religion is hypocritical. They see religion as gay-bashing, as anti-feminine, etc. Obviously, we've not done a very good job of preaching and living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A classic example of the turn--off experienced by many young people are two recent decrees from Bishop Robert Morlino of the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin. First of all, he has directed that Communion is only to be received on the tongue, something he simply does not have a right to dictate. More frightening is a recent decree that gay people in a civil union do not have the right to a Christian burial. The silly reason he gives for such a decision is that such funerals would give scandal to the faithful. The real scandal is when we take the approach of the Pharisees and condemn others rather than imitating Jesus and welcoming them, sinner and saint alike. This is the second US diocese to decree that those in same sex marriages cannot receive Communion and

cannot be buried from the church. Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Illinois put forth the other decree.

A reminder that Friday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holyday of obligation. Our Mass is at noon.

On a regular basis, people ask me if we have records of any of their Irish ancestors who immigrated here in the latter part of the 19th century and most likely belonged to St. Patrick's Parish. Our baptismal, wedding and death records date from 1837, so if one of your ancestors did settle in the First Ward, it is likely that there will be information about them in our records. We also have the books indicating every single burial in Trinity and Calvary Cemeteries from the day they opened until 2005. If you are seeking that information, go to our web page ([www.saintpatrickparisherie.org](http://www.saintpatrickparisherie.org)) and you will find a form that you can fill out with whatever information you have, and we will be happy to search our records for you. Diocesan regulations do not allow the general public to view those records as there is often private information contained in them that could be upsetting to descendants (ie., an illegitimate birth, etc.).

Have you ever considered remembering your parish in your estate planning? We have established the St. Patrick's Foundation, which is not for day to day operations, but only for the ongoing maintenance of the church.

A few days after his wife disappeared in a kayaking accident, a Bar Harbor man answered his door to find two grim-faced Harbor Master officers. "We're sorry, Mr. Flynn, but we have some information about your wife." "Tell me, did you find her?" Cedric Flynn asked. One officer said, "We have some bad news, some good news and some really great news." Fearing the worst, he said, "Give me the bad news first." The officer said, "I'm sorry to tell you, sir, but this morning we found your wife's body in the bay." "What could possibly be the good news?" asked Flynn. The officer continued, "When we pulled her up, she had 12 of the best looking Atlantic Lobsters that you have ever seen clinging to her. Haven't seen lobsters like that since the 60s, and we feel you are entitled to a share of the catch." Stunned, Mr. Flynn demanded, "If that's the good news, then what's the great news?" The officer replied, "We're gonna pull her up again tomorrow."





# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection	11/19/17	\$ 8,634.50
Online Giving		\$ <u>1,399.30</u>
Total Income		\$ 10,033.80

Offertory Collection	11/26/17	\$ 8,457.00
Online Giving		\$ <u>1,154.30</u>
Total Income		\$ 9,611.30

*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 were made in memory of:

- ♦ **Thomas Costello, I. Allan McCreadie** from Charles & Deborah McCreadie
- ♦ **Veda & Anthony Savelli** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ♦ **Otto & Luigina Pasquale** from Luigi & Sue Ellen Pasquale
- ♦ **Polaski & Wright families** from Eugene & Kathleen Polaski
- ♦ **Richard Milewski** from Phil & Denise Rewers
- ♦ **Michael Schloss** from Dotty Schloss
- ♦ **Lena Brancosino** from David St. George
- ♦ **Rob Vitron** from Roberta Vitron
- ♦ **Bill Detisch, Steve Batcho, Sandy Chase, Al & Helen Wolf** from Gerald & Patricia Wolf

Also donations from:

Mark & Barbara Sargent, Robert & Carolyn Schenker, and Joel Walz & Jill Blaga-Walz

**Special Thank You!!!  
to PANERA BREAD &  
HABORCREEK EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS**

## 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.



## Welcome New Parishioners

*Joe Kormosh  
Jonathan & Tiggy McLaughlin  
Don & Karen Antonio  
Patrick & Kimberly Quade  
Tim & Cheryl Maloney  
Kristopher & Lauren Bauer  
Emily Lion  
Katherine Moore  
Dick & Peggy Bonniger  
Robert & Kiersten Lazarevic  
Roseanne C. Brown  
Tim & Sue Gerrety  
Gerard J. Colvin  
Meaghan Hubert  
James & Michele Hubert  
Tom & Ruth Gray*

## Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 5:00 pm**

Lector: *Bill Power*

Eucharistic Ministers:

*Bill Power, Carolyn Power, Patty Dailey*

Greeters: *Bob & Diane Boeh*

Altar Servers: *Addie & Owen Babinsack*

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

**Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 8:00 am**

Lector: *Fred Olds*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Tom Golab, Kathryn Olds, Joe Schneider*

Ushers: *John Maloney, Dave Korn, Chuck Straub*

**Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 10:30 am**

Lector: *Mary Duncan*

Eucharistic Ministers:

*Colleen Welch, Cyndi Pristello, Forrest Mischler*

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*

*The CUP has been discontinued for the Winter flu season, it will resume again in the Spring!*

Please let the office know of your availability for the Christmas Holiday. Masses are at 5:00 & 9:00 PM on Sunday the 24th and 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM on Monday the 25th. Call the Parish office at 454-8085 or email: [stpats@neo.rr.com](mailto:stpats@neo.rr.com).



**Our Newest Lectors, Youth Readers,  
Lindsey Armanini and Lauren McCarthy**

**St. Martin Center  
2017 Shining Stars—**

1. **Please** place gifts in **gift bags**, rather than wrapping them. Gift bags are much easier to transport and wrapping paper gets torn up very quickly when moving gifts. Feel free to use grocery store bags, too!
2. Please **securely attach the star** to the gift (tape, tie, etc). Place multiple gifts in one bag and attach the star to the outside.
3. We ask that only stars that can be fulfilled on time be taken.
4. Gift receipts are **highly** encouraged. This will help if the child has an item that you purchased or if clothing does not fit. Feel free to buy gift cards, also (**please include the child's name and star number on envelope**).

**All gifts need to be returned to the Church or  
Parish Office by  
Monday, December 11, 2017**

The  
**Season  
of  
Advent**



The Erie Diocese and Bishop Persico will host seventy five singers and musicians from many Erie area parishes/churches in the performance of ***Answer the Call*** at 2:00

PM on December 3, 2017 in Cathedral Prep's H. David Bowes Theatre. In the traditions of Lessons and Carols, the presentation bridges the gap between Advent and Christmas through scripture readings and music composed by Michael Malthaner, music director at Sacred Heart parish. The concert is free and open to the public. Following the performance a free-will offering will be collected to benefit the retired priests and religious funds.



Singers from the following churches and groups are performing in the program: All Saints, Blessed Sacrament, Erie Diocese Office of Worship, Holy Rosary, Our Lady of Mercy, Our Lady of the Lake, Sacred Heart, Sisters of Mercy, St. Andrew, St. Boniface, St. James, St. Joseph/Bread of Life, St. Jude, St. Luke, St. Mark, St. Mark's Episcopal, St. Mary's Episcopal, St. Patrick and St. Peter Cathedral.

Please mark your calendar and join in this celebration of hope as we hear God's message to ***Answer the Call***.

**Follow the Star concert**

Blessed Sacrament Parish, 1626 W. 26th St., Erie, will host the popular Tennessee Backporch "Follow the Star" concert on Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. This is a fun, spiritual and musical experience for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students, and are available at the parish office or at the door. For more information, call the parish office at 814-454-0171.



**A Family Perspective**

Today's gospel tells us to "Be watchful." This comes natural to families. Parents are watchful of their children's health, grades and friends. Children are watchful of parental moods. Today's gospel encourages us to use this ability to see God acting in the innocence, tenderness, love and forgiveness of your family. "Be watchful," the Lord is already with you.

**LITURGY INTENTIONS****Dec. 2** *Saturday, Vigil: 1st Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM JOHN J. MCCARTHY, SR.

(MICHAEL &amp; PATTY DAILEY)

**Dec. 3** *First Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM TYLER TOALE (JANE CARNEY)

10:30 AM LUKE PURVIS, ANNIV.

(TOM &amp; SHEILA HIGGINS)

**Dec. 4** *Monday, Advent Week*

8:00 AM TERRI LEHAIN QUINN (STEVE QUINN)

**Dec. 5** *Tuesday, Advent Week*

8:00 AM DR. WILLIAM P. GARVEY (MARILYN KENDALL)

**Dec. 6** *Wednesday, Saint Nicholas, Bishop*

8:00 AM DOLORES NAGLE

(MARK &amp; CHELSEY WEISENFLUH)

**Dec. 7** *Thursday, Saint Ambrose*

8:00 AM JAMES S. DRUMMER (DAVID DRUMMER)

**Dec. 8** *Friday, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

12:00 PM SYLVESTER CARLOW (FAMILY)

**Dec. 9** *Saturday, Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM BOB MCCARTHY

(DIANE MCCARTHY &amp; FAMILY)

**Dec. 10** *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM LYNNE LONG (JAY &amp; CAROL HABAS)

10:30 AM MICHAEL J. CUMMINGS (WIFE, DONNA)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**St.P=St. Patrick, HR=Holy Rosary  
CP=Chapel, PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory**12/02** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P**12/05** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**12/06** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**12/09** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P**COLLECTION OF PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FOR THE OVERFLOW HOMELESS SHELTER.**

St. Patrick's Parish will be hosting the overflow homeless shelter at the Russian Church of the Nativity Social Center from January 31 to February 7. We are collecting personal hygiene toiletry items (shampoo, bath products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, combs, brushes, **feminine hygiene products & hand sanitizers**), as well as **cough drops, lip balm** and hand warmers. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE ARE THE ONLY ITEMS WE CAN ACCEPT.** Collection bins will be located in the church's main entrance at each mass during the months of November and December. Items can also be dropped off on the rectory's side porch. In addition, monetary donations are needed. We appreciate your donations. The response the past few years has been amazing. Thank you for your generosity.

**HOMELESS SHELTER**

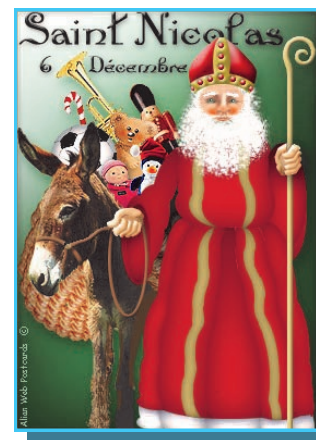
St Patrick's will again host the overflow homeless shelter at the Church of the Nativity at Front and German Streets. Our week this season will be January 31 - February 7. We have several volunteer opportunities to choose from:

Each night we need one or two people to be present during each shift. The shifts are 6:30 PM - 11:00 PM, 11:00 PM - 3:00 AM and 3:00 AM to 7:30 AM. If you are willing to do one of these shifts for one evening or several evenings and are age 18 or older contact Angie Kontur 434-9653.

Calling all cooks!! Each evening we serve dinner to anywhere between 40 and 60+ guests. We need volunteers to prepare (in your kitchen or at the church) meals and serve them. If you are a master caterer and can do this all by yourself then you are truly amazing! However, you may want to get together with a couple of friends and make this a group project. If you are interested contact Carm Tellers 873-8539.

This is our 4th year of hosting the shelter. We have been doing this with essentially the same core group of team leaders. We love what we do and we have found it very rewarding and enlightening but we are getting old - at least some of us are. We are looking for individuals who would consider taking the plunge and shadowing us with the thought of stepping into a leadership position in the future. Only requirement is that you have compassion for those who are in need of shelter. For details contact Angie Kontur 434-9653.

And we need funding. Our expenses for operating the shelter for the week average \$6,000 - \$7,000. This includes utilities, trash removal, cleaning service, supplies (you can't believe how much toilet paper we go through) and other needs of our guests that may arise. Please consider making a monetary donation. Any amount will be appreciated.





# BINGO

Holy Trinity Parish Catholic Education Program  
presents:

## An Old Fashion Bingo! All CASH Prizes!!!

- Singles \$100
- Doubles \$125
- Jackpot \$1,000

\*Instants \*Tip Boards\* 50/50 Games

- ◇ Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ◇ Holy Trinity Social Center, 23<sup>rd</sup> & Reed
- ◇ 1:30 pm, Doors Open at 11:30 am
- ◇ Chicken & Biscuit Lunch Special  
and Finger Foods
- ◇ Auction
- ◇ Door Prizes



## Disabilities Office prepares for Christmas



The Diocese of Erie's Office for People with Disabilities invites people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to attend an afternoon of Christmas preparation and fellowship Dec. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. To register, go to [www.ErieRCD.org/disabilities.htm](http://www.ErieRCD.org/disabilities.htm) or call 814-824-1257.

## MP's Dance Team presents

### ~Kid's Night Out~

**Saturday, December 9 from 6-9:30**

**Children 5-12 MP's Cafeteria**

**Dancing, movie, craft and popcorn!**

**For the safety of the children space will be  
limited and all adults will have**

**PA State Clearances.**

**\$25 per child, additional child \$15 (same family)**

**Reserve your spot today-call/text Lisa Keating at**

**814-881-3335**

## Advertiser of the Week:

We thank **GEIGER & SONS**  
*Monuments and Granite Countertops*  
2976 West Lake Road 838-3588  
for advertising in our parish bulletin.

## MSGR. KRIEGLER'S HOMILIES ARE ON-LINE IN AUDIO AND VIDEO FORMAT.

Be sure to check out St. Patrick's web-page to listen to Msgr. Krieger's homilies.

Go to **[saintpatrickparisherie.org](http://saintpatrickparisherie.org)** Click on "homilies" on the bar to the right, For the audio version just click on the date of the homily you want to hear. The video homilies are available on "You Tube" and can be watched by clicking on the bar that says "You Tube" on that page.



## 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**