

Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 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

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:**

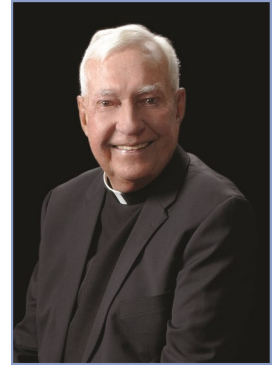
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

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 Second Sunday of Advent. Isaiah's vision of a world transformed "on that day," was written when the kingly descendants of David were weak, unjust and lacking in knowledge. The eighth-century BC Davidic kings were a mere "stump" of the tree that grew from the root of Jesse, the father of King David. Today's reading opens and closes with a promise that new life will arise from the stump. These future kings will be filled with the Lord's spirit which will be a source of wisdom, understanding, counsel and fear of the Lord. The effects of such spirit-endowed governance will extend beyond the power of the kingdom. Nature itself will be transformed. Animals that ordinarily relate as predator and prey will live in harmony. And like the new harmony in nature, there will be harmony between the house of David and the Gentiles.

Two themes tie the first and second readings together: hope and harmony. The hope of Isaiah's peaceful kingdom has not yet been brought to fulfillment when Paul wrote his letters. Jews and Gentiles could not even eat together, and there was dissention among the many factions within Judaism. In Rome's Christian community, there was rivalry between Gentile and Jewish believers. Isaiah's vision of harmony remained a distant hope. Paul reminds his audience that they learn from the Scriptures. He inserts a brief prayer between instruction and exhortation. Paul asks that the God of endurance and encouragement will inspire them to live in harmony with one another. He gives his audience clear instruction as to how they are to welcome one another: as Christ has welcomed them.

The first two chapters of Matthew's gospel tell of the announcement of Jesus' birth, the birth itself and events surrounding it. After this, Matthew jumps immediately to the adult Jesus, his ministry, death and resurrection. Today he gives us an account of John the Baptist, who prepared the way of the Lord. He appears as a prophet in the

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

way of the Lord. He appears as a prophet in the tradition of Elijah and Isaiah, calling the people to repentance. His strange clothing, desert diet and demanding message attract the people in large numbers. While there were many symbolic acts involving water in ancient Judaism, such as ritual cleansings and ceremonial washings, John's baptism was a one-time event of repentance and forgiveness. John declares that those immersed into baptismal waters must produce good fruit as evidence that they have truly changed. The final part of our reading moves to "the one who is to come after me," in which he does not name Jesus but notes how much mightier he will be than is John.

People are asking about the Christmas Mass schedule so that they can plan family events. We will have a 5 PM Vigil Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 24, as well as a 9 PM Vigil Mass. On Christmas day, there will be an 8 AM and a 10:30 AM Masses.

I always give the parish staff off the week between Christmas and New Years. It is the slowest time of the year here and it gives them a chance to enjoy the holidays with their families. The office will close at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and reopen on Thursday, January 2.

During the month of October, the parish distributed 14,258 pounds of food through our Food Pantry. The total cost was \$541.90 and, once again, I did not have to use any parish funds because of your ongoing generosity in supporting this outreach. The Food Pantry is also going to be distributing coats, hats and gloves to clients during December. Most of the coats come in the form of donations raised by the employees at the Barber Center, and then we make up any difference that remains.

St. Patrick's Church was awarded 2019 Best of Erie Awards in the category of Religious Organizations. This award is presented to local businesses that enhance the positive image of small business through services to the people and its community. It's good to know that people appreciate our liturgies and good music as well as the hospitality here. People are always telling me

they have never felt so welcome in a Catholic church as you make them feel here.

We are exploring the possibility of installing solar panels on the south roof of the rectory. Our electric bill is approximately \$1,800 per month, and I think a large part of that comes from the floodlights that are on the church from dusk to dawn. If we could garner some electricity from solar panels, it could result in a significant savings for the parish. As soon as we get more information, I'll sit down with the Finance Council and get their input on it and we'll go from there. We certainly have more than our fair share of cloudy days, but we also get a lot of sunshine, and we could store that electricity and apply it toward our usage.

You might notice the growing amount of on-line giving that we receive each week in the Offertory. It is very easy to sign up for this option. There are cards in the back of church near where the bulletins are placed which explain how you can do it. We also have a growing number of people who make a once a year donation to the church. If you are over the age of 70, you have to make withdrawals from your IRA each year, and if you use that money as a donation to a non-profit, you do not have to pay taxes on it.

Two more parishes in the Diocese of Erie have been merged into other parishes. St. Stephen Parish in Oil City is merged into St. Joseph Parish, and St. Elizabeth Parish in Corry is merged into St. Thomas Parishes. That means that in the last month, we have now 2 less parishes than we had the month before.

Have you ever considered remembering your parish in your estate planning? You can leave an inheritance for a particular reason or you can leave it for the general parish. We also have the St. Patrick Foundation which exists solely for the ongoing maintenance of St. Patrick's Church. That money may not be used for any other purpose, and a gift to this will enable this beautiful building to continue to be maintained.

A man was telling his neighbor, "I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me \$4,000, but it's state of the art. It's perfect." "Really," answered the neighbor, "What kind is it?" "Twelve-thirty."



# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection 11/24/19	\$ 7,875.00
Online Giving	<u>1,717.30</u>
Total Income	\$ 9,592.30
Offertory Collection 12/1/19	\$ 8,344.00
Online Giving	<u>2,177.30</u>
Total Income	\$ 10,521.30

*Thank you for your generosity!*



Let us *Welcome*  
**Aubrey Jane Exley**

child of  
Jason & Jacqueline (Bacco) Exley  
who will be baptized  
after the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday

**Support aging religious.** Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

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:

- ◆ **Emory Lang** from Mary Atzert
- ◆ **John & Marjorie DeBias** from Kevin & Margaret Cohick
- ◆ **Margaret Taft** from Mary Ellen Dahlkemper
- ◆ **Joe DeAngelo** from Kathy DeAngelo
- ◆ **Tom Miller** from Mary Ellen Demyanovich
- ◆ **Richard Miller** from Lynne Miller
- ◆ **Ray & Olive Blair** from Barbara Rothman
- ◆ **Robert Goden-Swager** from Robert & Carolyn Schenker
- ◆ **Dennis Bailey** from Patricia Schmidt
- ◆ **John A Rzomp, Sr.** from David & Mary St. George
- ◆ **Son, Daniel Brian Snyder, Daughter, Linda Louise Winkelman** from Marjorie Stuart

Also donations from:  
Tom & Linda Anderson, Barbara Brairton, Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon, Geoffrey Gloekler, Bill & Patty Gloekler, Phil & Denise Rewers and Dave & Julie Sanner

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

### Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 5:00 pm**

Lector: *Mary Pat Schlaudecker*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Kay Mannino, Wendy Sadlier, Roseanne Brown, Diane McCarthy, Phyllis Marchinetti*

Greeters: *Mike & Pat Tellers*

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

**Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 8:00 am**

Lector: *Lisa Straub*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Tom Golab, Lisa Straub, Kathleen McCabe, Nancy Andrzejewski*

Ushers: *John Maloney, David Korn, Chuck Straub, Mike Nies*

**Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 10:30 am**

Lector: *Mary Duncan*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Cyndi Pristello, Candy Bukowski, Dotty Schloss, Luke Gilmore, Kathleen Pae*

Greeters: *Tom & Linda Brunner*

Altar Servers: *needed*

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

### Christmas Services

*Tuesday, December 24, 2019*

*Christmas Eve*

*5:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

*Wednesday, December 25, 2019*

*Christmas Day*

*8:00 AM & 10:30 AM*



### 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.



## LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Dec. 7** *Saturday, Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM JIM & IRENE WILKINSON  
(DAVID & DARLEEN WILKINSON)

**Dec. 8** *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM JOHN SLOWIKOWSKI  
(ANN & ANNETTE STAROCCI)

10:30 AM MICHAEL CUMMINGS (DONNA CUMMINGS)

**Dec. 9** *Monday, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

12:00 PM INA RAE COREY (MARY PAT SCHLAUDECKER)

**Dec. 10** *Tuesday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM ALICE CARLOTTI, ANNIV. OF BIRTH  
(CHERYL HIRST)

**Dec. 11** *Wednesday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM MARY JOAN SAKACH  
(BILL & BETTY ANN FILIPKOWSKI)

**Dec. 12** *Thursday, Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:00 AM MARILYN LECHNER (PAT MARINCE)

**Dec. 13** *Friday, Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

**Dec. 14** *Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM LEN & JOE ALECCI ( FAMILY)

**Dec. 15** *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM LARRY BAUMANN (BILL & KATHY MASEK)  
10:30 AM BOB SAUERS (JIM SPIEGEL)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

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

- 12/07** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P  
**12/10** 9:45 AM Food Pantry - PR  
**12/11** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR  
**12/14** 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

### Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments - Keeping God's Children Protected and Safe:

To know that we are children of God is to live in complete love, with deep abiding security and the ability to dream, to sing, to create, to laugh and to play without worry. As we grow older, we face a new reality—we cannot approach all God's creation with the same trust and confidence. We learn, through sometimes hurtful and damaging experiences, that some people reject the ability that God gave them to love and respect others—they ignore God's call. The diocesan program to safeguard children helps remind us of these very facts. With the help of this program, the faithful are guided and educated about the responsibility of how to keep God's children protected and safe. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit

<https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/>

**St. Patrick's Church** will again be hosting Our Neighbor's Place, the seasonal  
**VOLUNTEER** homeless shelter, from **January 29 through February 5** at

Church of the Nativity's social center. This will be our 6th year of doing this ministry which is so vital to the marginalized in our community. The majority of our volunteers have been doing this since we began. We are in need of new volunteers to step up and help with this crucial service. No experience needed, just compassion and a willingness to follow the example of Jesus by giving comfort to those most in need.

When I first thought about getting involved with the shelter I had many questions and concerns as I expect most potential volunteers do. For this reason I will be holding an **INFORMATION NIGHT Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 PM** at the Church of the Nativity Social Center, 109 German Street to give an overview of what we do at the shelter and answer your questions. Please contact me at [angiekontur@gmail.com](mailto:angiekontur@gmail.com) or 434-9653 (call or text) if you plan on attending so I will have sufficient materials. Keep in mind that by attending this meeting you are NOT committing to volunteer, only getting information to help you decide if this is something you are willing to do.

Angie Kontur

### COLLECTION OF PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FOR THE OVERFLOW HOMELESS SHELTER.



**Items most needed are: deodorant, shaving cream, & razors for men & women, and lip balm.**

St. Patrick's Parish will be hosting the overflow homeless shelter at the Russian Church of the Nativity Social Center from January 29 to February 5. 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 inside the church's main entrance before each mass during the months of November and December. Items can also be placed in the storage bin located outside the entrance to the rectory's side porch. IN ADDITION, MONETARY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED. We greatly appreciate your donations. The response the past few years has been amazing.

Thank you very much for your generosity.

**Enjoy 'Follow the Star' concert**  
Tennessee Backporch will present  
its "Follow the Star" concert — fea-  
turing Bongos from Heaven — **Dec.**  
**8 at 4 p.m. at St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Church,** 48 S. Pearl St., North East. Tick-  
ets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students, and  
may be purchased at the door or at the parish of-  
fice, 136 W. Main St., North East. For more infor-  
mation, call the parish office at 814-725-9691.



**Dan Schutte to perform at Our Lady of Mercy**



Acclaimed Christian songwriter and li-  
turgical musician Dan Schutte will pre-  
sent an Advent concert, **"In God's Per-  
fect Time,"** on **Dec. 15 at 3 p.m.** at Our  
Lady of Mercy Church, 837 Bartlett  
Road, Harborcreek. The concert is free and open  
to the public. A reception follows.

**Engagement Encounter—**

Planning for your marriage in 2020/2021?  
An Engagement Encounter is schedules for  
January 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at St. Mark Cath-  
olic Center in Erie. EE satisfies diocesan  
requirements for marriage in the Church.  
Space is limited, so please register early by calling  
814-824-1261 or by email at [familylife@eriercd.org](mailto:familylife@eriercd.org).  
Visit our Web site at [http://www.eriercd.org/  
familylifeoffice.asp](http://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice.asp) for more information. Remember,  
*"A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a life-  
time"*. Catholic and interfaith couples are encouraged  
to attend.



**MARCH FOR LIFE**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**  
**JANUARY 24, 2020**  
*"Life Empowers"*  
— 2020 theme —

**ANNUAL BUS TRIP**

Leave Erie Thursday evening, January 23 at 11 p.m.  
March in Washington, DC on Friday, January 24  
Return Saturday morning, January 25 about 1:30 a.m.

- ✓ Takes just a little more than 24 hours
- ✓ Limited to three buses: Make reservations early!
- ✓ \$55 / seat
- ✓ Early Birds: \$50 until December 21
- ✓ Sponsorship inquiries welcome!
- ✓ Call or e-mail to learn more

**PEOPLE FOR LIFE**

1625 West 26th St., Erie  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1126; Erie, PA 16512  
(814) 862-1333 • (814) 459-1333  
office@peopleforlife.org  
[www.Facebook.com/MarchForLifeBusTrip](http://www.Facebook.com/MarchForLifeBusTrip)  
[www.PeopleforLife.life](http://www.PeopleforLife.life)

**Surviving Divorce Ministry**, a 12-week group to help  
those who are separated or divorced, will run on  
Wednesdays from February 12-May 6, 2020 from 6:30  
p.m.-8:00 p.m at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie  
(cost is \$15 for nook/journal). Many topics to begin  
healing will be addressed through DVD's with experi-  
enced presenters and real men and women who have  
felt the pain of divorce. Please call the Family Life Of-  
fice, 814-824-1261 or email:  
[familylife@eriercd.org](mailto:familylife@eriercd.org) for more information and/or to  
register.

**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



## Have an Irish Christmas

& shop at Saint Patrick's Trinity Gift Shop!

Spread a little  
**Irish joy**  
this holiday season!

Looking for a unique specialty gift item, *we can help you find it!*  
Our store has religious gifts of crucifixes, cards, candles, jewelry, cook books & more!  
Get a Saint Patrick tee shirt or sweatshirt for any gift!

***Happy Holidays***

*from your friends at  
Trinity Gift Shop!*

We are located inside at the south east corner of the church, stop by & see us!

We're open before & after  
5:00 PM & 10:30 AM  
weekend masses!



*Trinity Gift Shop*  
at Saint Patrick's Church

Feel like spreading  
**Irish luck**  
for the New Year?

Irish gifts of trinity crosses, angels, statues & Irish plaques make great stocking stuffers. The History of Saint Patrick's Church book also makes for a great gift!

