

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018



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: stpat@neo.rr.com

Website: 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. Baruch consoles Jerusalem with the news that her children will return, that the dream of restoration is coming true. Jerusalem is invited to take off her robe of misery and adorn herself with the splendor of God. In language reminiscent of Isaiah, God commands "that every lofty mountain be made low," a reference to the excesses of pride, arrogance and materialism. He also states that the valleys will be filled, a reference to the shortage of justice and obedience to God.

Paul opens his letter with thanksgiving, and the dominant note is friendship between the apostle and his community. He writes that charity is the most effective instrument for infusing meaning in life. Paul reassures the Philippians that God will bring to fruition the work in them and us.

Luke speaks ironically when he lists the superstars of Jesus' time: Caesar Tiberius, Pontius Pilate, Herod and his brother Philip, etc. and then reports that the Word of God arrived in a secluded place to an unexpected person, John, son of Zechariah. It is not to the commercial centers that this takes place, but God's Word arrived in the desert. The evangelist sketches a tension between two poles: wealth and power contrasted with seclusion. In both places, God's Word risks not being heard—in the noise of politics and commerce for its lack of attention, but also in the austere desert, for its lack of audience. The encounter with God does not happen apart from our daily lives. Health, happiness and integrity are not achieved by turning away from who we are, they are found in the fertile soil where God's Word takes root. It is in the fragmented projects of everyday life, where God is revealed. The call to conversion is not heard first in society, not even in the chapel at prayer, but in our everyday lives. The desert is ourselves. There the Baptist's message is received, there we prepare the way, iron out the roughness, fill in the potholes and level off the bumpy places of our character. Here, in the

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

everyday life, under the appearance of seemingly insignificant happenings, in our interior life, God desires to be born in each one of us.

Once again this year we have joined with St. Martin's Center for their Shining Stars program. A tree in the church was filled with stars on it listing the age and sex of a child and a gift they would love to have for Christmas. Parishioners took a star, wrapped the gift and put the star on the outside so that they know who it goes to. We had a deadline for returning the gifts. Last year we had 150 stars and a large number of people wanted one but they were all gone. This year we received 200 stars, thank you to all who helped make Christmas happy for a child whose parents can not afford to give them a gift.

The recent Synod of Bishops on Young People released its final document at the close of the October meeting. The document states that the church has a rich tradition and understanding "on which to build and from which to propose its own teaching" on the subject of sexual morality. "But young people, even those who know and live this teaching express the desire to receive a clear, human and empathetic word from the church." The document goes on to say that sexual morality is often a source of "misunderstanding and estrangement from the Church, as it is perceived as a place of judgment and condemnation." Young people value authenticity, it states, but are often disoriented by the many social changes taking place. "They express more, particularly an explicit desire for discussion on issues related to the difference between male and female identity."

The document goes on to say that "domination and discrimination based on sex offends human dignity," from which even the church needs to free itself. The document also tackles the topic of the body from the angle of sexual immorality, such as promiscuity, sexual tourism, "fascination for risky behaviors," digital pornography and the display of one's body online. "These phenomena, to which the new generations are exposed, constitute an obstacle for a serene maturation. They indicate unprecedented social dynamics, which influence personal experiences and choices, making them the territory of a sort of ideological colonization."

We are going to discontinue the use of the cup at Communion until the flu season is over. We have been doing this each year to help protect people from the flu. We will most likely not resume the cup until Easter.

The superiors of 34 orders of Women Religious in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Luxembourg met recently and are demanding more influence in the church. They are asking that women be admitted to all offices in the church. They wrote, "In the future, more women are to be included at synods of bishops—of course with voting rights. That is the only way they can influence decisions." They called for a new "culture of dialogue, of participation, and of gender equality" in the church. They also noted that the church's teaching should be adjusted to "new scientific findings in the theological and other academic disciplines." They said that an increase of qualified women in the church would bring "diversity and an enrichment on all levels."

It seems that everyone is pleased with the new doors on the front of church, the new tile in the vestibule and back of church and the new Men's Room off the vestibule. With the completion of this work, we will now complete the balcony. The center section of the balcony is going to have a wooden floor which will better reflect the sound of the pipe organ, and this area will not be open to the public. The east and west sides of the balcony will be open, but not the area in front of the organ. Once that work is done, the only thing left to do in the church is erect scaffolding and repair the little bit of damage high on the east wall of the church. That area has been dry for several years and the situation has not worsened, so we're now ready to repair it. We're exploring a variety of ways to do the balcony ranging from carpeting parts of it to putting down linoleum or putting a laminate wood floor up there. The decision depends on the condition of the present floor.

Eighty-five year old Harry invites his friend Dick for dinner. At the dinner table Harry talks to his wife using endearing terms such as Honey, My Love, Darling, Sweetheart, Pumpkin, etc. When Harry's wife is out of the room Dick says, "That's really nice. After all these years of marriage, you still call your wife pet names." Harry whispers back, "It sounds good but to tell the truth, I forgot her real name three years ago."



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 10,648.00
Online Giving	<u>1,527.30</u>
Total Income	\$ 12,175.30

Thank you for your generosity!

Annual Collection this weekend for
Retirement Fund for Religious
December 8th and 9th.

Your support helps provide medications, nursing care and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

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

The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week by Kathy Alessi.

Donations to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- ♦ **Rosemary Kephart** from Christopher & Kristen Sinnott
- ♦ **Vera Stout** from Theresa Stout
- ♦ **Dr. Forrest Mischler** from James & Patricia Thomas
- ♦ **Michael Dailey** from Matthew & Abby Lechner
- ♦ **Mary Corbett, Paul Corbett** from Richard & Margaret Bonniger
- ♦ **Vera & AJ Savelli** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ♦ **Thomas Kaminski** from Michael & Paulanne Reske

Also donations from:

Tom & Linda Anderson, Maggie Bahm, Robert & Mildred Biebel, Ken & Jan Gervasi, Steven & Kelly Kams, Bill & Mary Flanagan, Kathleen Horan and Gloria Walker

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

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
Peter Cipriani
from Audrey Metzgar*

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Ministers: Jay Habas, Carol Habas,
Ray Fiorelli

Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan

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

Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 8:00 am

Lector: Nick Straub

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Lisa Straub,
Nancy Andrzejewski

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

Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 10:30 am

Lector: Christine Mitchell

Eucharistic Ministers: Michele Wheaton, Ed Smith,
Charla Leemhuis

Greeters: **NEEDED**

Ushers: Dave Taccone, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan,
Paul Balczun

Offertory Counters: Michele Wheaton, Tim Torrey,
Susan Merski, Mary Frick

Christmas Services

Monday, December 24, 2018
Christmas Eve

5:00 PM & 9:00 PM

Tuesday, December 25, 2018
Christmas Day

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



A Family Perspective

Today's gospel shows John the Baptist and parents have similar vocations. Like the Baptist, parents are asked to make "rough ways smooth" and to "prepare the way of the Lord" for their families.

This Advent ask: "Does my life hinder or help my family to know Jesus?"



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Dec. 8 *Saturday, Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent*

9:00 AM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:00 PM CHARLENE BURKHOLDER, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(FAMILY)

Dec. 9 *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM EUGENE AND CLARA KULIG
(JAY & CAROL HABAS)

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

Dec. 10 *Monday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM ALICE CARLOTTI, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(THERESE M. DONOFRIO)

Dec. 11 *Tuesday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM DR. FORREST MISCHLER (BOB & BARB TIMMONS)

Dec. 12 *Wednesday, Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:00 AM ROBERT GALLO (MATT & ABBY LECHNER)

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

8:00 AM PRO POPULO
"FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. PATRICK"

Dec. 14 *Friday, Saint John of the Cross,*

Priest and Doctor of the Church
NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 15 *Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM WILLIAM ALEX (TOM & LINDA BRUNNER)

Dec. 16 *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM DELPHINE & VINCENT ARDUINI
(DAUGHTER, GLORIA)

10:30 AM THOMAS COOK (BOB LAFARO)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

12/08 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

12/11 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR

12/12 12:00 PM A.A. - PR

12/15 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

Child Protection and Crating 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 Diocese of Erie's program to safeguard children helps 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 create safe environments check out

<http://www.eriercd.org/protectyouth.htm>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will again be hosting the **Overflow Shelter** for the homeless **January 30 -February 6** at Church of the Nativity social center 109 German St. This is an opportunity for us to live the gospel of Jesus by serving those who are in greatest need, the marginalized, the neglected, those who are unable to provide for themselves the basic necessities of life. We need volunteers, age 18 and over, for the following:

PROVIDE EVENING MEAL FOR 40-60 GUESTS.

For anyone who is an expert caterer or chef this project can be taken on individually. Most people who have done this formed a group of 2-4 people to do it. Dinner is served at 8:00 PM. If possible we like those who prepare the meal to also serve it but we have volunteers who can do that. Preparation can be done at home or in the kitchen at the facility. There are ovens and stove for heating. If you are interested in doing this call Maureen Beck at 864-8446.

SHIFT VOLUNTEERS

6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

11:00 PM - 3:00 AM

3:00 AM - 7:30 AM

At least one woman and one man is needed for each shift. Volunteers will be working under the direction of an experienced staff member. If you are interested in working a shift contact Angie Kontur at 434-9653 (call or text) or email angiekontur@gmail.com.

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 30 to February 6**. 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 greatly appreciate your donations. The response the past few years has been amazing. Thank you for your generosity.

Crèche display highlights Advent activities

A tri-parish display of family Nativity sets is scheduled at the social center of **St. Paul Church, 435 W. 16th St., Erie, Dec. 8 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and Dec. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Advent is a perfect time to contemplate different artist portrayals of crèches, some of them heirlooms. A free will offering will be accepted and will benefit Erie Dawn. For more information, call Kate at 814-454-8732. This event is sponsored by the partnered parishes of Sacred Heart, St. Andrew and St. Paul in Erie.

**'Follow the Star' concert features Tennessee Backporch**

Tennessee Backporch will perform its **"Follow the Star"** concert at **St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Church, 48 South Pearl St., North East, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.** Also featured will be students from St. Gregory Parish. Admission cost is \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets are available for purchase at the parish office at 136 West Main St., North East, or by calling 814-725-9691. Tickets also are available at the door.

**Catholic Young Adult Ministry (CYAM) Christmas Party**

5:00 pm Saturday, December 15th—Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall

CYAM would like to invite young adults (ages 18-39) to our Christmas gathering at Blessed Sacrament Parish for good food, friends and fellowship. We will be meeting after the Vigil Mass at 4:00 pm (feel free to visit the parish for Mass beforehand!). We invite you to bring a potluck dish to share with a few friends if you wish. This is a family-friendly event, so if you have little ones know that they are more than welcome to join! Check out www.facebook.com/cyamerie for more information and to RSVP.

**Planning Your Wedding?**

An Engagement Encounter weekend is scheduled for January 25th through 27th at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. EE satisfies diocesan requirements for marriage in the Church. Catholic and interfaith couples are encouraged to attend. Partial scholarships are available for those who qualify. Contact Family Life Office at 814-824-1261, or by email at familylife@erieRCD.org or visit our Website at <http://www.erieRCD.org/ee.htm> for more information or to register. Remember, "A wedding is one day, marriage is for a lifetime".



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!

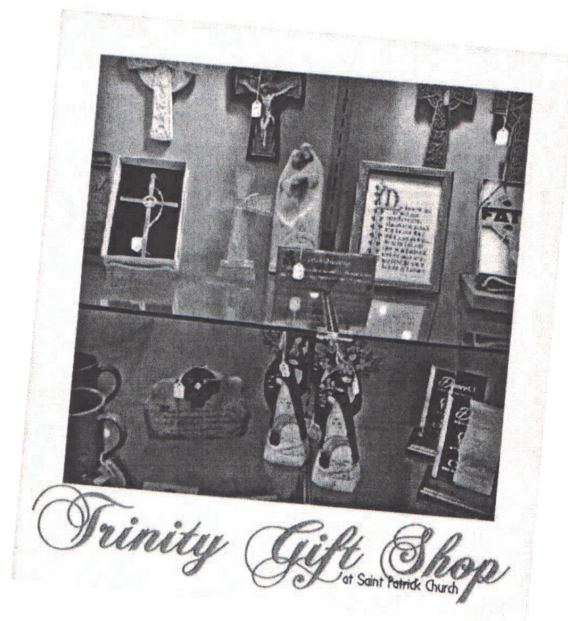
Spread a little **Irish joy** this holiday season!

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!**



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!

