

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017



The Advent Wreath
St. Patrick Church

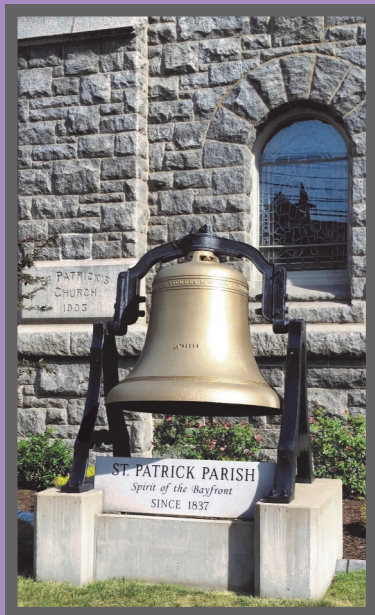
Saint Patrick Parish

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: stpat@neo.rr.com

Website: 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...



The Book of Isaiah is a compilation of over two centuries of prophecies from three distinct periods in Israel's history.

Today's reading comes from the second of these periods, the sixth century B.C., at the end of the exile in Babylon. This part is chapters 40 through 55, and is usually called Deutero (or Second) Isaiah. Today's reading from chapter 40 is the beginning of that section and offers the people in exile words of hope and comfort. Such comfort was sorely needed by the exiles, who had endured years of separation from the land God had promised their ancestors. Today's words tell them that their time of punishment has come to an end. Now that their guilt has been expiated, the prophet announces that God is about to do new things, extraordinary deeds compared to the signs and wonders of old. Deutero-Isaiah calls on messengers to tell the people to prepare for their great journey home. It will be no ordinary highway but the "way of the Lord." The image of filled-in valleys, lowered mountains, all the rough and rugged places made smooth describes the road on which a powerful king would return home in triumph. But the final image is not of a mighty king, but a shepherd who feeds the flock, carries the lambs in his bosom and leads with care.

Written late at the end of the first century or early in the second, 2 Peter may be the last book in the New Testament. By its time, the church had been waiting well over a half century for Christ to return. The author is telling his readers that no one knows when he will return but that they must remain attentive. The people are running out of patience because they were given to believe that Christ would return within their lifetime. The author tells them that, with God, one day is like a thousand years. The author notes that it is not the people who are patient, but it is God.

Three biblical figures express in different ways the spirit of Advent: the prophet Isaiah whose words create hope and expectation; Mary, whose obedience opened the door to the incarnation;

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

and John the Baptist whose ministry was to prepare the way of the Lord. Each point to Jesus as does Mark in the opening verse of his gospel. We encounter John the Baptist whose strange attire is reminiscent of that of the prophet Elijah, thus portraying John as another prophet. And Mark makes it clear that even though John drew huge crowds, he was only a messenger, a herald for the one mightier than himself.

You may have seen the late October issue of the Erie Times magazine section which rated various establishments in Erie from favorite restaurant, favorite bar, etc. St. Patrick's Church was voted the favorite place of worship in the Erie area!!!

Just an update on the work of restoring our 110 year old pipe organ. Work is well underway on the new console and eventually that will be lifted up into the balcony. We will use the organ for Christmas and then it will be shut down. Every pipe has to be taken apart and much of the mechanism inside the organ replaced. We had hoped to have the pipe organ working for Easter and the wedding season, but they are now telling us that it is going to take a bit longer than we originally planned. There's nothing we can do about it. Over at the cathedral, they will remove the pipe organ next year and they will be without an organ for 3 years while that one has to be taken to Montreal where it was made and completely rebuilt. I guess we're lucky that most of our work can be done on site.

I suspect that there will be a great deal of dirt once they start taking all of the pipes out to clean and repair them. There are slightly more than 3,000 pipes, ranging from a few inches to the largest which are 18 feet long. Once the work is done, we'll have the entire church cleaned, including a cleaning of the Stations of the Cross.

At the same time, once we are done with the pipe organ restoration, we're going to carpet the balcony which is badly in need of new carpet. A parishioner is underwriting the cost of this project. At the same time, we're going to replace the tiles in the back of church. If you step on them as you come in or leave church, you can feel how many of them are loose. It is only a matter of time until they become a hazard. With both of these

projects, we will get three bids. Depending on the cost of the tile, we might simply replace that inside the church as stage one and then do the vestibule as stage two. If we can afford it, we may do all of it at once.

Saint Patrick's Food Pantry served 572 families during the month of October. Those included 52 new families. Among them were 101 elderly people and 274 children. We distributed 13,185 pounds of food at a cost to the parish of \$574.00. Once again, all of that cost has been absorbed by your generous support of this project. And with all that is involved, we do not have one paid person involved. Everyone is a volunteer.

Angie Kontur is again chairing the Overflow Homeless Shelter which we will staff for a week in February. Once again we will rent the Parish Center at our neighboring Church of the Nativity. That week involves a score of volunteers and costs the parish approximately \$6,000. Your January packet of envelopes will include one to make a donation to help with these costs. Additionally, if you would like to volunteer to help with the project, please call the parish office and someone will be in touch with you.

People have been asking about the Christmas Mass schedule. We will have the regular weekend Mass schedule on Saturday, Dec. 23rd, and Sunday, December 24. Then we will begin the celebration of Christmas with Mass on Sunday evening at 5 PM and again at 9 PM. On Christmas Day, we will have Masses at 8 and 10:30 AM. I'm not doing any baptisms that weekend simply because the schedule is so crazy. But we are having baptisms on Tuesday, December 26, at 10 AM. I've had several requests for weddings on that weekend, but again have said that we simply have enough going on.

Some Irish words of wisdom: "every woman's dream is that her ideal man takes her in his arms, throws her on the bed and cleans the whole house while she sleeps." "The brain is the most amazing organ. It works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from birth until you fall in love." "I don't like to think before I speak. I like to be just as surprised as everyone else about what I say." It doesn't matter how big your house is, how much money you have, or that you wear expensive clothes. Our graves will be the same size."



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 9,297.00
Online Giving	<u>1,614.30</u>
Total Income	\$ 10,911.30

Thank you for your generosity!

Annual Collection for Retired Religious is December 9th and 10th.

This collection has significant benefits for the retired Sisters, Brothers and religious order priests. The Retirement for Religious offers financial support for these religious who often worked for years for small stipends. Your generous gift provides vital support!

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

A donation was made in honor of the Baptism of **Dylan Marie Lynch** from Dan & Mary Lee Lynch.

Donations were made in memory of:

- ♦ **Norann Brugger** from Mary Ellen Demyanovich, Warren & Suzanne Weber and Douglas & Paula Vantassell
- ♦ **Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Brennan** from Nancy Yochim
- ♦ **Tim Yochim** from Mark & Susan Sullivan

Also donations from:

Kathy Alessi, Frank & Christine Altadonna, Electronic Communication Systems, Kathleen Horan and Dr. Carla Orlando

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

The Food Pantry is in need of packaged diapers—



They can be dropped off at all Masses and left in the vestibule or at the Parish Office. Thank you !!!

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.



Let Us *Welcome* **Chase David Grab**

child of
Patrick & Emily (Taccone) Grab
who will be baptized
after the 10:30 AM Liturgy on Sunday



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Bernadine Zdunski
from Bob & Mary Lou Maracci*

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Ministers: Jay Habas, Carol Habas
Ray Fiorelli

Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan

Altar Servers: **NEEDED**

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

Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 8:00 am

Lector: Nick Straub

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Lisa Straub,
Kathryn Olds

Ushers: John Maloney, Dave Korn, Chuck Straub

Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 10:30 am

Lector: Karyn Polaski

Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani, Tim Scully,
Mary Williams

Greeters: Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin

Altar Servers: Juliette Morales

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

Offertory Counters: Bill Welsh, Cindy Welsh,
Tim Donlin, Kay Sauers

Peter Mayer Group to perform at OLP

Peter Mayer, the lead guitarist for Jimmy Buffett, will perform with his band Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th St., Erie. The concert, titled "Stars and Promises 2017," will feature singing and stories on the theme "When You Come Home." The cost is \$50 for artist circle seating, available online only at www.itickets.com. General admission tickets are \$25, available online and at the church office. For more information, contact Cynthia Berarducci 814-833-7701, ext. 201

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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

5:00 PM BOB MCCARTHY

(DIANE MCCARTHY & FAMILY)

Dec. 10 *Second Sunday of Advent*

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

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

Dec. 11 *Monday, Advent Week*

8:00 AM BERTHA MARIELLA, ANNIV. OF BIRTH 10/16
(FAMILY)

Dec. 12 *Tuesday, Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:00 AM JACOB PAKULSKI (DAVE & JOAN HEUBEL)

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

8:00 AM FREDERICK ALOIZ, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(MARGARET IZAJ & CORY IZAJ)

Dec. 14 *Thursday, Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

8:00 AM DR. WILLIAM GARVEY
(MARY PAT SCHLAUDECKER)

Dec. 15 *Friday, Advent Week*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 16 *Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent*

5:00 PM FORREST & GERTRUDE SHORTS
(TOM & SHARON YELKOVICH)

Dec. 17 *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM NICHOLAS KONZEL (RON & PATTY MERSKI)

10:30 AM ROBERT VITRON
(TIMOTHY & MARIANNE STEVENSON)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

12/09 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

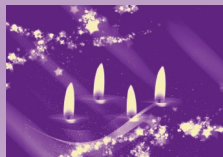
12/12 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR

12/13 12:00 PM A.A. - PR

12/16 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

Advent vigils planned at monastery

All are welcome to attend Advent vigils at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie, on Dec. 9, 16 and 23, at 7 p.m. each day. For more information, contact Sister Marilyn Schauble, OSB, at marilynosb@mtstbenedict.org or call 814-899-0614.



Vespers celebrated during Advent

St. Peter Cathedral, W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie, will celebrate vespers on the second and third Sundays of Advent: Dec. 10 at 4 p.m., with Father Jason Mitchell as homilist; and Dec. 17 at 4 p.m., with Bishop Lawrence Persico as homilist. The youth choir will lead the singing of vespers on Dec. 17, and then present a short program of Advent and Christmas music.

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.



Thank you!

The response to our collection of personal care items for use at the overflow homeless shelter was once again overwhelming. We sincerely appreciate your generosity.



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!

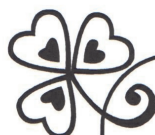
Our store has religious gifts of
crucifixes, cards, candles,
jewelry, cook books & more!
Get a Saint Patrick tee shirt or
sweatshirt for any gift!

Happy Holidays

*from your friends at
Trinity Gift Shop!*

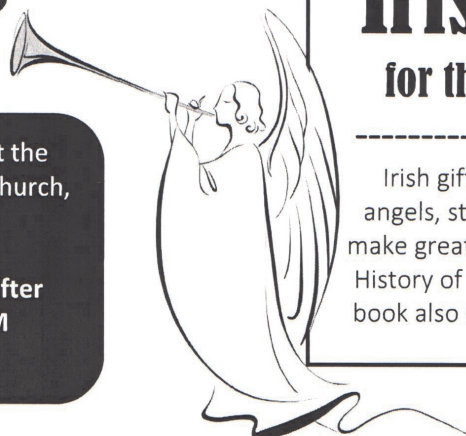
We are located inside at the
south east corner of the church,
stop by & see us!

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!



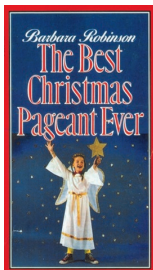
*Trinity Gift Shop is open before and after
Saturday, 5:00 pm and Sunday, 10:30 am Masses*

Cathedral Prep and Villa Maria Academy

presents

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

December 14-16 at 7:00 PM and December 17 at 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Performances will be at the Villa Maria Academy Auditorium, 2403 W. 8th St. Erie. Tickets are available at the door.



In this hilarious Christmas classic, based on the novel by Barbara Robinson, a couple struggling to put on a church Christmas pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids - probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won't believe the mayhem - and the fun - when the Herdmans collide with the Christmas story head on! This delightful comedy is adapted from the best-selling book, and has become a holiday staple for groups across the United States. Featuring 30 young performers, a few Christmas carols, and lots of laughs, this heartwarming show is sure to be a hit and will get the whole family in the Christmas spirit.

Advertiser of the Week:

We would like to welcome and thank
Alkeme, A Mediterranean Cafe
18 North Park Row *814-616-8578
 now offering Sunday Brunch
 for advertising in our parish bulletin.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday December 17, 2017

8:30 - 12.00.

Mt. Calvary R.C. Church.

2022 East Lake Road;

Breakfast includes sausage, fruit cup, juice, coffee and all the pancakes you can eat!



Tennessee Backporch will be featured in 'Follow the Star' concerts

St. Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish, 48 South Pearl St., North East, will present "Follow the Star," a popular Advent/Christmas concert starring Tennessee Backporch and featuring students from St. Gregory School and McDowell High School, on Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. The event is handicap accessible. Refreshments will be offered. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for all students, and are available at the parish office, located at 136 West Main St., North East, or at the door the evening of the performance.

A "Follow the Star" concert, featuring Tennessee Backporch and the Westlake School vocal ensemble, will be held Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. at ***St. John Parish, 101 Olin St., Girard.*** Admission is \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets will be sold at the door.

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