

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2016



The Advent Wreath
St. Patrick Church

Saint Patrick Parish

Saint Hedwig Parish

Serving the East Bayfront of Erie since 1837

Daily Mass 8 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass 5 PM

Sunday 8 AM & 10:30 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass 4 PM

Monsignor Henry Kriegel, Pastor

Saint Patrick Parish

130 East Fourth Street

Erie, PA 16507

454-8085 FAX 459-8685

stpats@neo.rr.com

www.saintpatrickparisherie.org

Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9 AM - 4PM;

Friday **OFFICE & CHURCH CLOSED**

Saint Hedwig Parish

521 East Third Street

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From the Pastor's Desk.....

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The first section of the Book of Isaiah collects numerous oracles the prophet proclaimed over a span of nearly four decades. As the people turned to pagan worship, Judah's kings turned to various foreign nations for protection from invasion and attack. The prophet admonished the people to offer sincere worship, care for the poor and turn to God rather than foreign nations for their security. Though Isaiah's calls fell on deaf ears, he gave them visions of God's ultimate help. Today's readings is of one of these hopeful visions. Isaiah expresses trust that the God of Israel is a saving God who will, at an unknown future time, bring unimagined new life to his people. The land itself will be renewed with lavish growth, revealing to all the life giving power of the Lord. Divine deliverance will bring freedom from oppression and captivity at the hands of foreign nations.

Our second reading comes from a collection of NT letters called the "Catholic letters." Here "Catholic" means universal. The Letter of James bears a strong Jewish character, focusing primarily upon ethical conduct expected in the lives of Christians. Today's passage notes that the return of Christ is immanent, bringing with it final judgment. The early church firmly believed that Jesus' return would come soon and bring God's final act of salvation.

Last Sunday's gospel from Matthew introduced John the Baptist's call to repent in order to prepare for the arrival of God's final rule which he describes as "the coming wrath." He notes that he is not the Messiah, but a forerunner. At the time of today's reading, the imprisoned John sends some of his followers to Jesus to inquire if he is the Christ. Matthew notes the difference between the two messages: John emphasizes divine anger and judgment. Jesus' message has

embodied healing and mercy. This discrepancy is what leads John to ask the question: are You the Messiah or not? As is common in Matthew, Jesus refers to the Old Testament for his response, alluding to several passages from Isaiah that envision future salvation as a time of merciful healing, wholeness and re-creation of all things. Jesus then defines John as the prophet like Elijah.

Paul Mulryne is a Manchester United footballer who has shared the field with David Beckham and brought fame to Ireland with 27 caps in his athletic career. The 38-year-old Irishman began his career in football as a kid in 1994. After a series of major injuries ended his career in 2008, he quietly entered the Irish Pontifical College in Rome and began studies to be ordained a priest. Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin ordained him a Dominican deacon last week and he will be ordained a priest in 2017.

Each year the Employees Service Fund of the Dr. Gertrude Barber National Institute allocates gifts to numerous charitable groups. We recently received a check for \$1,000 as a donation to our Food Pantry.

I'm in need of 4 or 5 people from both parishes to form a Transition Team, the purpose of which is to assure that the Pastoral Planning process is ongoing whether a parish is being merged (St. Hedwig's) or stand alone (St. Patrick's). If anyone is interested, please call the office and I'll contact you when we set up a meeting.

Once again your incredible generosity has come through with gifts for the children at St. Martin's Center. We had 150 ornaments on the Christmas tree in the church vestibule, and they were all taken. In fact, other people came to me disappointed that they were not able to get one. Each year we have increased the number of ornaments and will do so again. When we began this

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

we took 75 ornaments and they were gone after the Saturday evening Mass. Last year we increased it to 100 and they were also gone so this year we increased it to 150. God bless you for your generosity.

Because of the large crowds we get for so many of the Christmas Masses, we always run out of missalettes. This year we are having a program printed which will include the readings as well as the hymns we will be singing.

I'm looking for someone to take pictures at the Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass. I would like some photos of the crowd and then some individual or family, etc. shots. If anyone is interested, please give me a call. I can offer some great discounts in confession in exchange for this!

Talk about political correctness carried to absurdity: the mayor of Bloomington, IN has changed the names of Good Friday and Columbus Day to the "Spring Holiday," and the "Fall Holiday." He contends the change accommodates the city's diverse workplace!!

I hope you might consider a little extra gift to the parish in our Christmas collection this year. Please remember that we tithe 10 per cent of that collection and give it to St. Martin's Center. If I remember correctly, last year we sent them a check for \$2,000.

Immediately after Christmas we will start gearing up for our Homeless Shelter in February as we seek volunteers, contributions, meals, etc.

Some wisdom on old age! I talk to myself because sometimes I need expert advice. My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work. When I was a child I thought a nap was punishment time; now it's like a mini vacation. The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrible to think about. Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes and come out wrinkle free and three sizes smaller. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees. At my age, getting lucky is walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.

Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of **Paul Wernicki** from sisters & brothers.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Helen Kurpiewski** from Eric & Amy Jaglowski.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Albert "Mickey" Mabie** from Jim & Linda Lentin.

Please remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing care, the military and the homebound.

The offertory for Saturday, December 3rd was \$541.00.

Parishioner, **Bobby J. Sulecki** has created a website on the history of St. Hedwig Church and Erie's Polish Community and Churches and still needs your help. He is looking for your old photos (such as class pictures or any school pictures, church related, church wedding pictures, pictures of immigrant families, neighborhood pictures, corner stores, etc.) All items will be returned to you. If you would like to share your memories of St. Hedwig's growing up Polish, etc., there will be memory sheets located on the display table in the vestibule of the Church. Your stories need to be told. Your memories matter, no matter how big or how small.

Bobby's sites at: <http://sthedwighistoryerie.com> and <http://eriepoloniahistory.com/> Email at suleckibobby@gmail.com Phone 899-2731 after 3pm.

Dziekuje!

Holy Trinity Annual Christmas Market

The Holy Trinity Parish Catholic Education Program will sponsor its annual Christmas Market on Dec. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m., and Dec. 17 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Holy Trinity Social Center—The Gathering Place, 2220 Reed St., Erie. Food items may be limited during the market due to pre-orders.

St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule

December 17, 2016 at 4:00 PM

Saturday

Lector	Barb Juchno
Eucharist	Charlotte Mabie
Ushers	Ray Nowosielski
	Tom Kurpiewski
Altar Servers	Nowosielski Family





Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 9,030.00
Online Giving	<u>1,295.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 10,355.00

Thank you for your generosity!

We offer our sincerest condolences to the families and friends of Lynne Long whose passed away on November 29, 2016, Patrick Doyle, father of Dan Doyle who passed away on December 2, 2016, Luke Purvis who passed away on December 4, 2016 and Marion Randazzo, mother of Roselle Walkiewicz who passed away on Sunday, December 4, 2016. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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 made in memory of:

- ♦ **Michael Schloss** from Mary Anne Ashworth, Mark & Eileen Behringer, Robert Ebach, Arthur & Mary Lindquist, John & Lucy Nesbitt, Richard & Mary Beth Wachter, Andrew & Nancy Scrymgeour, and Jim & Kathy Sertz,
- ♦ **McGraw & Lynch families** from Daniel & Mary Lee Lynch
- ♦ **Norman Murphy, Ruth Janoski, and Ronnie Chesko** from Patrick Murphy
- ♦ **Veda & Anthony Savelli** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ♦ **Mmgr. Biebel** from Yvonne Gersims

Also donations from:

Ed Chizewick, John & Cynthia Purvis,
Phil & Denise Rewers, Joel Walz & Jill Balga-Walz,
Dave & Julie Sanner, Nick Straub, and
Bill & Mary Flanagan

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

Looking for resources for your family?

Visit the Diocese of Erie Family website at:
<http://www.eriercd.org/fam.htm> and discover why families always matter!



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Rose Marie Agnello DiTullio
from the Candela family*

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Ministers: Jay Habas, Carol Habas,
Shirley Winschel

Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan

Altar Servers: **NEEDED**

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

Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 8:00 am

Lector: Nick Straub

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Audrey Reigel,
Lisa Straub

Ushers: John Maloney, Dave Korn, Chuck Straub

Sunday, December 18, 2016 at 10:30 am

Lector: Mary Duncan

Eucharistic Ministers: Cyndi Pristello, Ed Brown,
Colleen Welch

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

**Ushers and Greeters are still needed for the
5:00 & 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Services. If you are
interested, please contact the office by email at
stpats@neo.rr.com or phone at 454-8085.**

Thank you!

A Family Perspective—



The question put to Jesus is today's gospel is also put to us today: "Are you the one?" Are you the one who will give guidance to the children in you life or must they look to TV sitcoms, Face Book, videos or music lyrics for direction? Are you the one? Will you be the one?

LITURGY INTENTIONS**Dec. 10** *Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent*

4:00 PM MARY ANN DOMOWICZ (FAMILY) - ST.H

5:00 PM WANDA HABAS (DAN & SUE ZIMMERMAN)-ST.P

Dec. 11 *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM ARTHUR C. SCHULTZ - ST.P

(JIM & LORE SCHAFFNER)

10:30 AM MICHAEL CUMMINGS - ST.P

(GEORGE & MARY BARTKO)

Dec. 12 *Monday, Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:00 AM MATT & IRMA LYDEN (BILL & RENEE LYDEN)

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

8:00 AM DAVID BLINZER (RON & SUSAN KINGSTON)

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

8:00 AM THOMAS CICCHETTI (FAMILY)

Dec. 15 *Thursday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 16 *Friday, Advent Weekday*

CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Dec. 17 *Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent*

4:00 PM HELEN KURPIEWSKI (MARY KOHLER) - ST.H

5:00 PM FRANK MARIELLA (FAMILY) - ST.P

Dec. 18 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM FRANCES MAGOC, ANNIV. OF BIRTH - ST.P

10:30 AM GERIE CIACCHINI - ST.P

(Q. GREGORY ORLANDO & FAMILY)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.H=St. Hedwig, St.P=St. Patrick, HR=Holy Rosary

CP=Chapel, PF=Polish Falcons

PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory, CV=Convent

12/10	3:30 PM	Confessions - St.H
	4:30 PM	Confessions - St.P
12/11	9:30 AM	Rel. Ed Kdg.- Gr. 6 - Holy Rosary
	1:00 PM	Rel. Ed 7 - 10 Holy Rosary
12/13	11:00 AM	Food Pantry - PR
12/14	12:00 PM	A.A. - PR
12/17	3:30 PM	Confessions - St.H
	4:30 PM	Confessions - St.P
12/18	9:30 AM	Rel. Ed Kdg.- Gr. 6 - Holy Rosary
	1:00 PM	Rel. Ed 7 - 10 Holy Rosary

HOMELESS OVERFLOW SHELTER—**COLLECTION OF DONATIONS:**

St. Patrick's Parish will be hosting the homeless overflow shelter on February 1-8 at the Russian Church of the Nativity Social Center at Front & German Streets. The outpouring of generosity the past couple years has been amazing. This year, in addition to collecting personal hygiene toiletry items (shampoo, bath products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, combs, brushes, feminine hygiene products & hand sanitizers), we are also seeking 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 beginning in November. We greatly appreciate your donations.



Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners we have meals and volunteers covered for the overflow homeless shelter we will be hosting February 1-8. However, we are in need of monetary donations for the many expenses we incur including dumpster, daily cleaning service, supplies and a donation to Church of the Nativity to cover utilities and miscellaneous items. Contributions can be dropped in the collection basket or sent to the rectory. Envelopes are available next to the bulletins in the back of the church. Thank you for your support of our community members who are in need. If you have any questions about this project contact Angie Kontur 434-9653 or angiekontur@gmail.com.

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.

**MARRIAGE MOMENTS—**

"Be. Patient, brothers and sisters...Do not complain about one another." (James 5: 7-9). Preparation for Christmas can strain even the best relationships. Be gentle and patient with each other as you do the many tasks to prepare for Christmas.

Advent resources available online

The Office of Parish Social Ministry and Respect Life is offering resources for individuals and families for the Advent season. These resources include weekly Scripture for reflection, service suggestions and additional resources for assisting families in preparing for Christmas. Access these resources at <http://www.ErieRCD.org/justice.htm>. For additional information or questions, please contact Erin Landini-Grogan at (814) 824-1254 or respectlife@eriercd.org.

**Advent Vespers continue at St. Peter Cathedral—**

Father Jamie Power will preach and preside at Advent Vespers, December 11th at 4 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral, W 12th and Sassafras Streets, Erie. The Cathedral Children's Choir will lead the singing for the service.



Have an Irish Christmas

& shop at Saint Patrick's Trinity Gift Shop!

Spread a little Irish joy this holiday season!

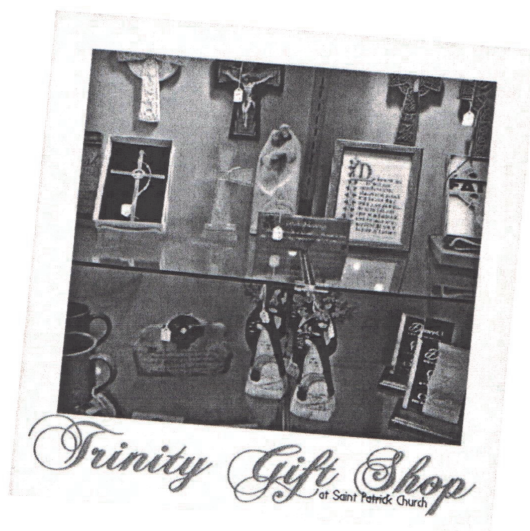
Looking for a unique specialty gift item, we can help you find it! Our store has religious gifts of crucifixes, cards, candles, jewelry, cook books & more! Get a Saint Patrick tee shirt or sweatshirt for any gift!

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 will be closed on
Saturday & Sunday, December 24th & 25th and
Saturday & Sunday, December 31st & January 1st*

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

☐ Saint Hedwig

☐ Saint Patrick

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____ 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

Advertiser of the Week:

We thank ***Orlando FAMILY DENTISTRY***
Dr. Maria Orlando & Dr. Carla Orlando
3235 West 38th St., Erie, PA **814-833-8860**
for advertising in our parish bulletin.