

Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018



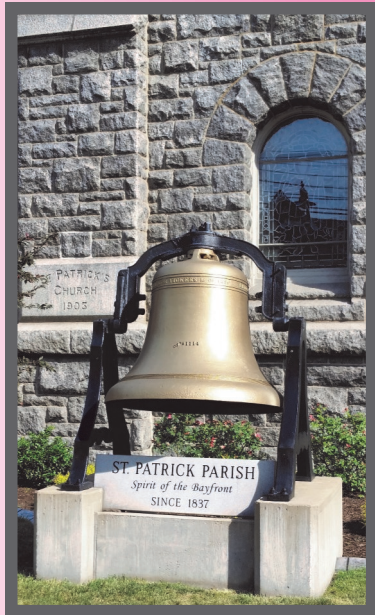
Saint Patrick Parish

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 Third Sunday of Advent. The prophet addresses the people affectionately with the term "daughter of Zion"; and in spite of her infidelities, announces salvation. At a time when Israel felt the threat of formidable enemies and did not expect the solution to their difficulties, God promises salvation that will gladden the people. In the face of danger and struggles, God is on our side, ever ready to save us because he loves us. Zephaniah announces the end of the exile and the return from Babylon with a vibrant oracle, a joyful hymn to Jerusalem. The reasons for joy are twofold. First, God revoked the sentence of condemnation and has dispersed the enemies, and second, the Lord promises never to abandon his people.

Paul encourages the Philippians even as he challenges them. When we are kind and perform our service with a view to the good of all, we can live free from the anxiety that spoils peace and harmony. The encouragement "Have no anxiety at all" moves the church to be at peace even amidst persecution, with the guarantee that "The peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." These consoling words do not eliminate the rude drama of life, but they dismiss panic and despair. Joy reverberates throughout the whole of this letter because, as Paul says, "The Lord is near."

Announcing the urgency of conversion, John the Baptist advised his audience to show forth the fruits of a change of attitude and life. When people asked what they should do, John tells them to share everything they have with others. To government people who asked the same question, he replied, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." To soldiers, he advises "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone and be satisfied with your wages." Recognizing that the Messiah is at the door, John presses for a more compassionate, less selfish conduct. His advice astonishes us by its simplicity. Conversion will be manifested in dealing with one's neighbor,

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

being generous, kind and compassionate.

People are asking about the Christmas Mass schedule. On Christmas Eve, we will have two Masses: 5 PM and 9 PM. On Christmas Day we will have two additional Masses at 8 AM and at 10:30 AM. Please remember that the Christmas Eve, 5 PM Mass is always the largest Mass of the entire year. The church will be completely full by a half hour before the Mass. I ask that people not send someone from a family to hold a pew open for them. Because of the large crowd, we simply can't do that. That Mass usually has the entire church full, the balcony and a good hundred or so people standing.

Thank you for your support of the Shining Star program to provide Christmas gifts for children in Erie who would not otherwise have them. Be assured that God does not forget your care for the poor and less fortunate. It covers a multitude of our failings. .

The office will close on Friday, Dec. 21, at the end of the workday and re-open Wednesday, January 2. I am here the entire time if you need anything. My private number is 454-4032. There will not be a weekday Mass or Communion Service all of that week between Christmas and New Year's.

A new Pew Research Center survey found that 1.5 million Americans say they practice Wicca or paganism, a rise from an estimated 8,000 in 1990. The report suggests that there are more self-identified "witches" in the United States than members of some mainline Protestant denominations. For example, in 2017 there were 1.4 million Presbyterians in the United States.

The Vatican has issued its annual report on the number of Catholics, etc. In 2017, Catholics numbered 1.3 billion with an increase from the previous year of 14,249,000. There were increases in America, Asia and Oceania and decreases in Africa (-0.18) and Europe (-0.11). The average number of people each priest served is 3,130. The total number of priests decreased again to 414,969. The number of Women Religious decreased everywhere except Asia. And finally, the church has 96,573 elementary schools and

47,862 secondary schools.

As part of Pastoral Planning for the Diocese, we are now in year three. The first year dealt with the consolidation of schools, the second year with the consolidation of parishes and now we begin a program of Faith Formation. The first stage in this asks parishes to examine how we welcome people and make them feel that they are part of the parish. A committee of nine people is working on this project and noted a number of things we hope are making people feel welcome. First is my greeting people before and after Mass, opening the rectory to people, having the bridal couples for dinner in the rectory, hosting cocktail parties for the chairpersons of the various programs in the parish, ie., the Irish Festival, the Homeless Shelter, etc. We also have cocktail parties for everyone who donated more than \$400 to the Catholic Services Appeal. Additional ways are the way people visit with one another before and after Mass, asking people to introduce themselves to strangers at Mass, to congratulate parents who are having a baby baptized, etc. We also noted how Anne Causgrove does the Baptismal Preparation Class one on one rather than waiting and having a large class. Mark Alloway and Jan Gervasi spend a great deal of time with bridal couples planning their liturgy, music, etc. We also distributed name tags for the Greeters, Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers which will help people know who they are.

One new idea that emerged is that we are going to try to get a small group of volunteers who will phone new parishioners about 3 months after they have joined the parish and ask them if they feel welcome, what needs are we not meeting, what can we do for them, etc. We hope this one additional step will help people feel welcome.

Lady Astor once said to Winston Churchill: "If you were my husband, I'd poison your brandy," to which Churchill replied, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it." It's not true that married men live longer than single men., It only seems longer.....Marriages are made in heaven; but then again, so are thunder and lightning.....For 20 years my wife and I were happy. Then we met.....A woman put an ad in the paper saying "Husband wanted." The next day she got over a hundred e-mails all saying the same thing: "You can have mine."



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 7,074.00
Online Giving	<u>1,287.30</u>
Total Income	\$ 8,361.30

Retirement for Religious	\$ 2,676.00
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Thank you for your generosity!



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Mildred Krauchen, Anniversary
from Barbara Krauchen Thompson*

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 to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- ♦ **Teresa Callaghan, Frances Gehringer, Howard Gehringer and Dorothy Chessario** from Michael & Mary Callaghan
- ♦ **JoAnne Barber McCormick** from Ryan Carey & Maureen Barber-Carey
- ♦ **Rich Miller & Mike Schloss** from John & Carolyn Bauman
- ♦ **Nancy Gallagher** from Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon
- ♦ **Ron Homicz** from Joanne Homicz
- ♦ **Helen Hodas Kirsch** from Eileen McLaughlin
- ♦ **Norman Murphy, Ruth Janoski, Ronnie Chesko and Harry Miller** from Patrick Murphy
- ♦ **May Nason** from Deborah Musolf

Also donation from:

Tammy Birkmire, Ann Downing, Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon, Theresa Rotunda, and Nick Straub

**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.



Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 22, 2018 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Bill Power

Eucharistic Ministers: Bill Power, Carolyn Power, Wendy Sadlier

Greeters: Mary Anne Ashworth

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

Sunday, December 23, 2018 at 8:00 am

Lector: Fred Olds

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Kathryn Olds, Joe Schneider

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

Sunday, December 23, 2018 at 10:30 am

Lector: Karyn Polaski

Eucharistic Ministers: Cyndi Pristello, Kathleen Pae, Tim Scully

Greeters: Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin

Altar Servers: Juliette Morales, Sarah Pristello

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

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



Christmas Services

Monday, December 24, 2018 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Minister: Jay Habas, Carol Habas, Ed Smith, Joe Schneider, Shirley Winschel, Steve Scutella, Ann Scutella

Greeters: Jim & Kathy Sertz, **2 NEEDED**

Ushers: Dave Taccone, Phil Rewers, Jim Sertz, Rob Oligeri, **4 NEEDED**

Monday, December 24, 2018 at 9:00 pm

Lector: Mary Williams

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Williams, Dario Cipriani, **1 NEEDED**

Greeters: **2 NEEDED**

Ushers: **4 NEEDED**

Tuesday, December 25, 2018 at 8:00 am

Lector: Nick Straub

Eucharistic Ministers: Tom Golab, Lisa Straub, Nancy Andrzejewski

Ushers: Chuck Straub, **3 NEEDED**

Tuesday, December 25, 2018 at 10:30 am

Lector: Michele Wheaton

Eucharistic Ministers: Michele Wheaton, Ray Fiorelli, Charla Leemhuis

Ushers: **4 NEEDED**

LITURGY INTENTIONS

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)

Dec. 17 *Monday, Late Advent Weekday*

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

Dec. 18 *Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM FRANK MARIELLA, ANNIV. (FAMILY)

Dec. 19 *Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday*

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

Dec. 20 *Thursday, Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 21 *Friday, Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and
Doctor of the Church*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 22 *Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent*

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

Dec. 23 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM HELEN LAROCCA, ANNIV. OF BIRTH -12/27
(ANGIE KONTUR)

10:30 AM BOB MCCARTHY (DIANE & FAMILY)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

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

12/18 9:45 AM Food Pantry - PR

12/19 12:00 PM A.A. - PR

12/22 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 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.

"A Holiday Night to Remember"

A holiday concert, *Thursday, December 27th at 7:30 p.m.* featuring Saint George Parish's own Daniel Cabanillas.

Join Daniel with a 20 piece orchestra for an evening of music you will not soon forget..



Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in the Saint George Rectory office by cash or check **made payable to Saint George Church** or online at www.stgeorgeerie.org.

Daniel's newly released CD, *"Everlasting Love"*, will also be available for purchase at the concert. CDs are \$15. Ticket holders can buy one for \$10 with proof of ticket purchase.

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



***St. Martin Center
Shining Stars
Christmas 2018***



Thank you St. Patrick parishioners
and friends for making this year's
Shining Stars shinier than ever!!!





Have an Irish Christmas

& shop at Saint Patrick's Trinity Gift Shop!

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

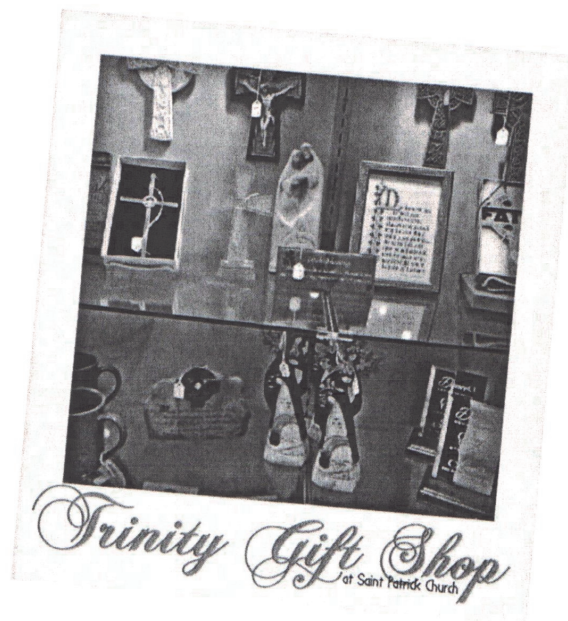
Looking for a unique specialty gift item, *we can help you find it!*
Our store has religious gifts of crucifixes, cards, candles, jewelry, cook books & more!
Get a Saint Patrick tee shirt or sweatshirt for any gift!

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!

