

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & HOLY ROSARY

*Rev. John B. Jacquell, Pastor*

January 17, 2021 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### St. John the Baptist Church

Located at 509 E. 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, PA 16504

### Holy Rosary Church

Located at E. 28th & East Avenue, Erie, PA 16504

### SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

#### SATURDAY EVENING MASS 4:00 PM

St. John the Baptist (April to September)

Holy Rosary (October to March)

#### SUNDAY MORNING MASS

8:00 AM at St. John the Baptist

10:30 AM at Holy Rosary

*Reminder: Call the church office to reserve a seat*

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Mon & Thurs at Holy Rosary

8:00 AM Wed & Fri at St. John the Baptist

**CONFESSIONS:** 2:30-3:30 PM Saturday at Holy Rosary  
or by appointment

### PARTNERED PARISH OFFICE

2701 East Avenue, Erie, PA 16504-2917

St. John the Baptist 814-454-2873  
[secretary@sjberie.org](mailto:secretary@sjberie.org)

Holy Rosary 814-456-4254  
[parish.secretary@holyroaryerie.org](mailto:parish.secretary@holyroaryerie.org)

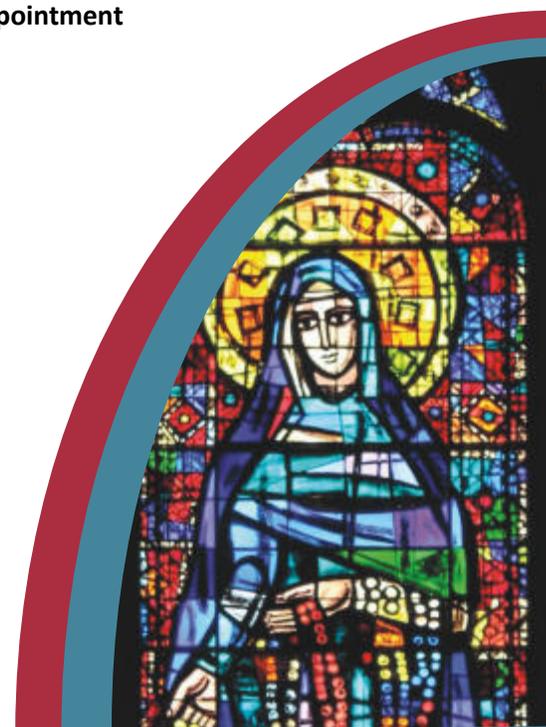
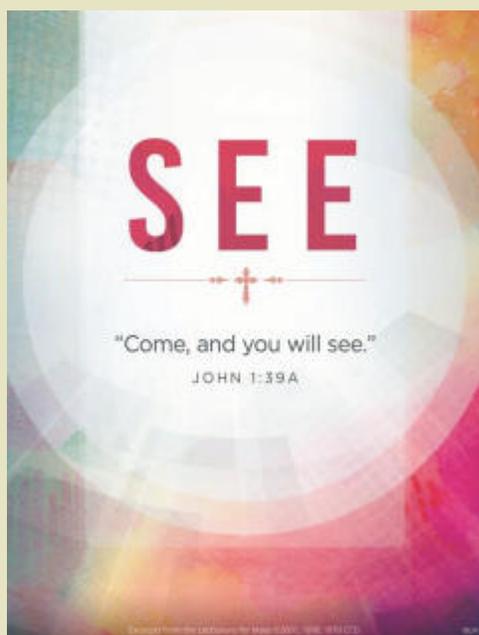
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.  
Office **CLOSED** Fridays

### FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY:

St. Luke FF Director: Sister Carmen Maldonado, SSC  
Adult FF Director: Mary Hickin 920-7525

PARTNERED PARISH WEBSITE: [stjohn-holyrosary-erie.org/](http://stjohn-holyrosary-erie.org/)

PLEASE CHECK THE "ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST / HOLY ROSARY ERIE PA"  
YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED LIVESTREAM MASS.  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCut5zg6K8S33pN5roPo3cgg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCut5zg6K8S33pN5roPo3cgg)





## FROM THE PASTOR

As winter continues, perhaps with the pandemic still restricting our “usual” activities, it would be good to grab some reading. Here are some suggestions:

A book I found just when I needed it was BrenÉ Brown’s *Braving the Wilderness* (2017). She does not back down from using profanity or prayer – it’s in her nature to do both. She addresses our need for belonging in a world torn asunder by self-interest, where we all feel such hostility in our culture. Talk about election amid pandemic, racism, and polarization! She urges us all to go back and really listen to each other – and ask why we are so strongly defending our points of view. By being generous in our responses to others, we can help our words to be less “weaponized.” I especially liked her chapter on “Speaking Truth to Bull#%@” If we do not attempt to understand each other, it will spell doom.

A more intensive (if not exhaustive) look at Church history in our nation can be gathered from *American Catholics* (2020) by Leslie Woodcock Tentler, retired professor from the Catholic University of America. She divides the history of Catholic faith in our borders into five segments – Missionaries, Growth of the Nation, Mass Immigration, Early Twentieth Century, and Recent Developments – with a profile of a saintly person prefacing the details of these eras. The book mentions Erie Bishop Josue “White” (sic – it’s actually Young) (as being a vocal abolitionist on p.120) and how the Cursillo and Charismatic Movements helped shape the Church (p.309-310) She does have more stories from Michigan than you would expect, but that’s where she grew up.

What helps me “reset” my spiritual focus is retreat time, backpacking, or picking up one of the classics of the Church. I had a retreat a couple weeks before I began to ‘plow through’ *The Spiritual Canticle* (1584) by St John of the Cross. There are thirty stanzas of the canticle on which his commentary is based to flesh them out. Some are a bit of a stretch, it seems, but many are amazing and rich reflections upon a passionate love affair with God. This work (and others) made him a literary genius in Spain, but for believers he fans into flame our own meager expressions and emotions toward the Almighty.

To read some good fiction and come to understand our culture from a different point of view, I read both of Toni Morrison’s books *Sula* (1973) and *Beloved* (1987). For these and other works, she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993. These are pain-filled stories, the latter being loosely based on the true experiences of Margaret Garner – who escaped slavery in 1856 – although the story told here has some unique creative plot twists. We really have no idea how so many Americans suffered through the realities of slavery, racism, discrimination, poverty, and hatred. And we’re not only talking about African Americans. Hope you find some ways to get some new perspectives, too.

Fr. John

### **Bishop to celebrate Respect Life Mass**

Join Bishop Lawrence Persico in celebrating a Respect Life Mass at Erie’s Our Lady of Peace Parish on January 24 at 11 a.m. The Mass is in person or can be viewed livestreamed on Our Lady of Peace’s YouTube page. Let us pray for the protection and respect of all life, from conception to natural death. Questions may be directed to the Social Justice & Life Office at [sjl@ErieRCD.org](mailto:sjl@ErieRCD.org).

### **A Time of Reflection**

This time of year traditionally presents a good opportunity to reflect on the year that was, and prepare for the year to come. The pandemic has us in a holding pattern regarding regular activities and norms, however, we are adapting to our circumstances. Even so, that doesn’t mean we are standing still.

Over the next several weeks you will hear from members of St. John the Baptist and Holy Rosary. I’ve asked them to share their thoughts and insights on their favorite Scriptures, and why, especially at this time, they offer comfort, hope and peace.

Marsha MacKinnon



Mary Hickin, is our Faith Formation Director. She’s also the Director of Catechesis and Sacraments for the Diocese of Erie. Mary’s share this week is on 1 Corinthians 2 verse 9:

*This was one of the first verses I ever looked at in a personal way. It was explained to me by a friend who is a minister. Although she no longer resides in Erie, I have always been grateful to her for citing this verse to me and giving me a sense of what it means for all of us...*

*One of my favorite verses is in Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. Chapter 2, verse 9 says:*

*But as it is written: “What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him....”*

*Many people may not realize that Paul begins this verse with “it is written” because he is citing a Scripture passage from the Old Testament. This verse comes from Isaiah chapter 6. It is worded slightly differently but has the same meaning. Isaiah said it in this way: “... you worked awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as had not been heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you working such deeds for those who wait for him.”*

*So, what does it mean? I believe it is a promise of what God has in store for us. There are so many verses in the Bible that promise God’s love and glory for us if we only love Him. This verse says that we have never seen, never heard, cannot even fathom in our hearts what God has in store for us. He has prepared something so magnificent for us we cannot even imagine it! It makes my heart race to think of it!*

*Remember when you were a kid waiting for your birthday or Christmas to come so you could receive something you were hoping for - a gift given to you because someone you loved simply loved you back. This verse promises me that the gift God is preparing is something beyond what I have ever hoped for. He gave us life and now when we meet Him in death, we will be given an even greater gift as we enter our eternal life with Him. That kind of promise gives me joy and excitement!*

Contributor: Mary Hickin

### **Eucharistic Adoration Day**

*While social distancing and safety protocols remain in place, those who wish are invited to join the Son of God Charismatic Prayer Group for a day of Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, January 29 beginning at 10:00 a.m. This day of Adoration will continue until midnight.*



**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, January 18**

8:00 am HR Marcus Mendolia (Deacon Denis & Mary Coan)

**Wednesday, January 20**

8:00 am SJB Communion Service

**Thursday, January 21**

8:00 am HR Communion Service

**Friday, January 22**

8:00 am SJB Communion Service

**Saturday, January 23**

4:00 pm HR Ruth Sins (Family)

**Sunday, January 24**

8:00 am SJB Jack Dobrzynski (Wife—Barb)

10:30 am HR For all Living & Deceased Parishioners

**The Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week in memory of Regina Kowalski (Family).

**Readings Next Weekend  
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Jon 3:1-5, 10

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20



**A Family Perspective**

*Jesus' question in today's gospel is still valid today: "What are you looking for?" What do you want from your spouse, children or parents? Families are populated with imperfect people. To expect perfection is unreal. To expect and accept imperfection is wisdom.*

***In Remembrance***

***Our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Trenton Mickel & Alberta (Deceder) Mushalansky.***

***May they rest in peace.***

**Livestream Mass Schedule**

Go to YouTube and search for St. John the Baptist Holy Rosary Erie PA.

January 17	10:30 a.m.	HR
January 24	8:00 a.m.	SJB
January 31	10:30 a.m.	HR
February 6	4:00 p.m.	HR
February 14	8:00 a.m.	SJB
February 21	10:30 a.m.	HR

**Lector Schedule**

Saturday, January 23	4:00 p.m.	Rob Kocur
Sunday, January 24	8:00 a.m.	Denny Deiner
Sunday, January 24	10:30 a.m.	Pat Fronzaglia
Saturday, January 30	4:00 p.m.	Bob Zimmer
Sunday, January 31	8:00 a.m.	Jay Breneman
Sunday, January 31	10:30 a.m.	Lisa DiLuzio

**To request prayer or to join the people praying:**

HR: Jean Zimmer at 814-746-9396 or Bob Zimmer at robertzimmer379@gmail.com

SJB: Allene Kraus at 825-3501 or Lois Reiser at 459-3373

**FAITH FORMATION AT ST. LUKE**

Director: Sr. Carmen Maldonado 825-6920 Ext 237

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** /Director: Mary Hickin 920-7525  
(Masks/social distancing required)

**March 7** - 10:00 a.m. - FF Parents/Students in the church/ Student Materials –Unit IV

**March 14** - 2:00 p.m. First Reconciliation Retreat—Students/ Parents in the church / Sacrament of Reconciliation

**The Bible in a Year**

Have you thought about reading the Bible with one of those one-year plans? Not sure you can make it through, or you tried before and gave up? Ascension Press is offering a free plan with a daily podcast by Fr. Mike Schmitz to accompany it. Having a podcast to help and encourage you may be just what you need. Check it out at: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>. If you want a copy of the reading plan, just call Mary Hickin at 920-7525 and she will get a copy to you.

**Lent Groups**

We will be forming small groups to read and discuss the Sunday readings during Lent. **Sign up for the groups will be in February.** Groups will be held via Zoom, or for very small groups, there will be a few held in-person with proper social distancing and safety protocols. We are looking for volunteers to lead the groups. If you are interested in leading a group, or if you have questions, please call Mary Hickin at 392-6126.

**The Chosen Series**

We will be holding small group discussions for the critically acclaimed video series *The Chosen*. This is the first-ever-multi-season TV show about the life of Jesus. Created outside of the Hollywood system, *The Chosen* allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew him. No matter where you are in your journey with Jesus Christ, this TV show is for you. We will watch the video (less than one-hour each week) together and then have discussion. You will also be given links to watch the video on your own, and then join the group for discussion. **Registrations begin in late January. The group will meet weekly February 1 through March 22.** Call Mary Hickin at 392-6126 for more information or if you would like to lead a group.

*Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,*

*"That you may tell your children and grandchildren." (Ex 10.2) With this opening line, Pope Francis authored his message for 2020's World Communications Day one year ago this month. It is amazing to think how relevant it became, given how little understanding we had at that time concerning the impact COVID-19 world have on the world.*

*What will we share about this past year? Will we focus on fear, separation and hardships? Or will we look at what strengthened us?*

*Pope Francis went on to encourage us to focus on stories that build up rather than tear down; that help us find strength to move forward together.*

*We strive to make that easier with our Communications Office, and on our platforms including Faith magazine, website, e-blasts and social media. These tools proved their importance more than ever this past year.*

*Your contribution to the Help Spread the Faith campaign on the weekend of Jan. 23-24, will ensure we can continue to communicate with all parishioners throughout the diocese.*

*Thank you for your support.*

*Sincerely your in Christ,*

*The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
Bishop of Erie*

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