

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & HOLY ROSARY

Rev. John B. Jacquell, Pastor

March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent

St. John the Baptist Church

Located at 509 E. 26th 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

Holy Rosary 814-456-4254
parish.secretary@holyroaryerie.org

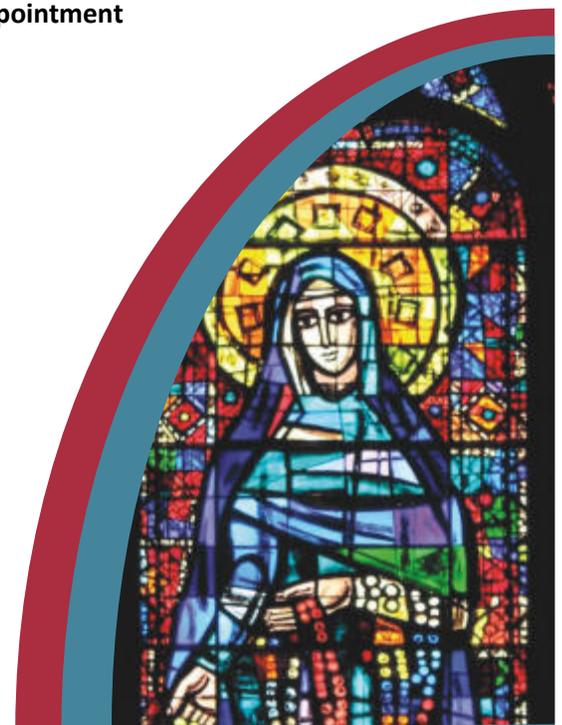
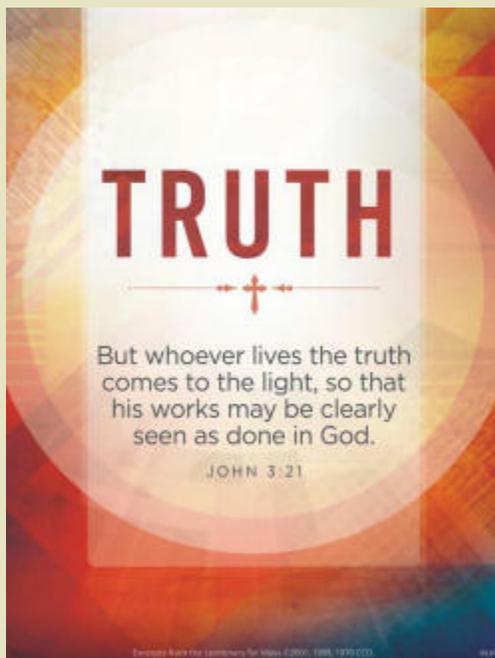
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Office **CLOSED** Fridays

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/

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





FROM THE PASTOR

There are confessions and then there are confessions. I've just read over the *Confession* of St Patrick and I'm currently re-reading the *Confessions* of St Augustine.

These are aptly entitled "confession" because they relate both saints' feelings of unworthiness due to sin – and because they give witness to the working of God in each of them and their profession of faith (the other definition of confession). Both confessions have autobiographical accounts – upbringing, journeys (both geographical and spiritual) and how God had spoken in each of their hearts. Patrick's is only about 10 pages long – Augustine's is several hundred.

Both are easy to find on the Internet, but I prefer holding a book, especially when it comes to Augustine's – since there are more theological concepts expressed in this professor's writings. Remember, Patrick was a boy in Britain, captured and enslaved in Ireland, who later escaped – only to study abroad (on the European continent) and discern a call to priesthood. He was sent by the Pope to be missionary bishop in Ireland. We have only his Confession and one letter. Augustine was an intellectual and spiritual scholar who, having met the Bishop of Milan (St Ambrose) finally realized he could not resist God (inner conflicts) and was baptized in 387. He returned home to northern Africa, only to be ordained a priest 4 years later against his will. Chosen Bishop of Hippo, he lived there in community with the clergy of the city where he preached and taught and wrote prolifically.

Augustine's father was a pagan, but his mother (St Monica) prayed earnestly for her son to experience God's grace. His father was also received into the church and baptized just before his death. Patrick's parents were both Christians, but they just presumed he perished after he was kidnapped. They were astonished to see him home but were none too excited to see him go away for studies or return to the land from which he had escaped.

Augustine wrote his Confession somewhere between 397-400 A.D. and St Patrick composed his near the end of his life (about 50 years later). But they still speak to us, profoundly, today!

Fr. John



Virtual pilgrimage during the Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of St. Joseph in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as patron of the Universal Church. To honor this event, the Diocese of Erie is hosting a virtual pilgrimage with livestreamed Masses from each of the seven churches in the diocese named for St. Joseph.

The Masses will take place throughout the year, with the **first stop of the pilgrimage scheduled on the feast of St. Joseph on March 19 at 7 p.m.** Father Larry Richards, pastor, and the people of St. Joseph/Bread of Life Parish invite everyone to participate in the Mass via Father Larry Richards' YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/c/FrLarryRichards. Bishop Lawrence Persico will be principal celebrant for this first step of the journey.

A Time of Reflection

I heard it said, "Things would get worse before they get better." The COVID vaccine has sparked my hopes for better days ahead while I'm not forgetting last year when the current safety COVID protocols left me searching for closure after my family and I were separated from my father-in-law at the time of his death. It seemed unreal when it was time for a phone call to say goodbye because we never saw him sick. He had tested positive so we couldn't be there to care for him when he became sick or visit him after he was hospitalized.



Julie Sins — a member of Holy Rosary

Heartbroken and confused I listened closer to the words of scripture. I connected to the bible story of the Death and Resurrection of Lazarus (John 11:1-45). Jesus' friends, Mary and Martha, let me watch as they responded to Lazarus' death and their honest friendship with Jesus, crying out, "Lord If you had been here, my brother would not have died" (John 11:21,32). Like them, I was feeling sorrow and uncertainty by the time and situations we were living in. As Mary, Martha and I felt we were already living in the worst of times it was just then that Jesus showed us his light. By staying within the story of Jesus's social circle I received comfort and strength from the way Jesus responded to our cries and Jesus's answer to death left me astonished but secure.

In the past, Jesus' friendship was better than any of us could've asked for or imagined and I believe it's the same today. This Bible story went beyond closure for me because it opened me up to a more sincere friendship with Jesus. Now, I'm trying each day to remain close to Jesus through prayer and watching my friendships get better.

Contributor: Julie Sins



MARCH 28 / PALM SUNDAY: Masses at 8:00 a.m. at SJB and 10:30 a.m. at HR /Both Masses livestreamed

MARCH 29/ CHRISM MASS: 1:00 p.m. / livestreamed / Erie Diocese

MARCH 31/ WAY OF THE CROSS (STATIONS): 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist

APRIL 1 / HOLY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper— 7:00 p.m. Mass at Holy Rosary / livestreamed/ Vigil until 10:00 p.m. in the Chapel

APRIL 2 / GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross at 12 noon at St. John the Baptist. Liturgy—3:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary / Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion / livestreamed

APRIL 3 / HOLY SATURDAY: Blessing of Food at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary and St. John the Baptist. Easter Vigil— 8:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Rosary/livestreamed

APRIL 4 / EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD: Masses at 8:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist and 10:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary / Both Masses livestreamed



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 15

8:00 am HR Catherine Kraft (Margaret Balter)

Wednesday, March 17

8:00 am SJB Linda Palombi (Carl Mrozowski)

Thursday, March 18

8:00 am HR Alice Del Porto (Margaret Balter)

Friday, March 19

8:00 am SJB For All Living & Deceased Members of the Maras Family (Faye & Jerry Maras)

Saturday, March 20

4:00 pm HR Joanne McIntire (Jack & Nancy Lacey)

Sunday, March 21

8:00 am SJB For all Living & Deceased Parishioners
10:30 am HR Carmen Pontoriero (Family)

Readings Next Weekend

Fifth Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Jer 31:31-34

2nd Reading: Heb 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-33



A Family Perspective

Today's gospel speaks of light and darkness. Often a parent is deliberately "left in the dark." Darkness can be comforting for it makes no demands on us. Light can be disturbing for it forces us to take action. Parents walk a delicate balance of when to "sit in the dark" and when to "turn on the lights."

Livestream Mass Schedule

Go to YouTube and search for *St. John the Baptist Holy Rosary Erie PA*. All Masses at Holy Rosary are livestreamed.

Lector Schedule

March 20	4:00 p.m.	Bonnie Prokocki
March 21	8:00 a.m.	Denny Deiner
March 21	10:30 a.m.	Cindy DeCoursey

1:38 Women's Conference

You can still register for the 6th Annual 1:38 Women Conference on **Saturday, March 20, from 9 am to 12 noon**. Two highly regarded national speakers will appear via Zoom for participants who will be able to select from a range of options for attending. Go to the 1:38 Women website to register: <https://www.138women.com/>

St. John /Holy Rosary 31 Club

Praying for vocations every day of the year!

Each member chooses one day of the month and then goes to Mass on that day and offers it for an increase of vocations for the Church. There is a great need for more vocations!

If you would like to become a member of the St. John/Holy Rosary 31 Club, or have questions, please call Joanne Deiner at 814-899-1968.

Upcoming Mass commitments:

Mar 15	Joan Fye
Mar 18	Julie Sins
Mar 19	Mary & Lee Simmons
Mar 20	Pat Bielenski

FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL

At St. Luke/Director: Sr. Carmen Maldonado 825-6920 Ext 237
ADULT FAITH FORMATION /Director: Mary Hickin 920-7525
(Masks/social distancing required)

April 18 - 2:00 p.m. First Communion Retreat—Students/Parents in the church and rehearsal (Only FF3, 3A, 3B)

Soup & Soul

Join us for a virtual Soup & Soul this year. Deacon Matt Ochalek presents *"An Exploration of the Beatitudes"* on **Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**. Contact Mary Hickin in advance to get the link and passcode to this Zoom event. Heat your soup up and enjoy the wonderful talk by Deacon Matt!

Way of the Cross

During Lent, join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist to make a spiritual pilgrimage with Jesus on his way to Calvary. We'll stop at all 14 Stations of the Cross for prayers and reflections. **We're skipping Wednesday, March 24, for a presentation on Fr. John's trip to El Salvador and Guatemala on the feast of St Oscar Romero, bishop and martyr.** This Zoom event begins at 6:30 p.m. Contact Mary Hickin in advance for the link and the passcode.

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



A few words from Saint Patrick

The patron saint of Ireland is St. Patrick. He is also the patron saint of the Diocese of Erie. Each year the Erie Diocese celebrates the feast of St. Patrick on March 17, the date of his death. Fr. John has chosen the following selection from St. Patrick's Confession (written before 461, the year he died). The church established the saint's feast day in 1631.

"I, Patrick, a sinner, a most simple countryman, the least of all the faithful and most contemptible to many, had for father the deacon Calpurnius, son of the late Potitus, a priest, of the settlement [vicus] of Bannavem Taburniae; he had a small villa nearby where I was taken captive. I was at that time about sixteen years of age. I did not, indeed, know the true God; and I was taken into captivity in Ireland with many thousands of people. (1)

"And there the Lord opened my mind to an awareness of my unbelief, in order that, even so late, I might remember my transgressions and turn with all my heart to the Lord my God, who had regard for my insignificance and pitied my youth and ignorance. And he watched over me before I knew him, and before I learned sense or even distinguished between good and evil, and he protected me, and consoled me as a father would his son. (2)

"I am, then, first of all, countryfied, an exile, evidently unlearned, one who is not able to see into the future, but I know for certain, that before I was humbled, I was like a stone lying in deep mire, and he that is mighty came and, in his mercy, raised me up and, indeed, lifted me high up and placed me on top of the wall. And from there I ought to shout out in gratitude to the Lord for his great favors in this world and forever, that the mind of man cannot measure." (12)

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