

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & HOLY ROSARY

*Rev. John B. Jacquel, Pastor*

December 26, 2021 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

### St. John the Baptist Church

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

### Holy Rosary Church

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

### Mass Schedule

#### SATURDAY EVENING MASS 4:00 PM

St. John the Baptist (April 10 to September)

Holy Rosary (October to March)

#### SUNDAY MORNING MASS

8:00 AM at St. John the Baptist

10:30 AM at Holy Rosary

#### WEEKDAYS

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)

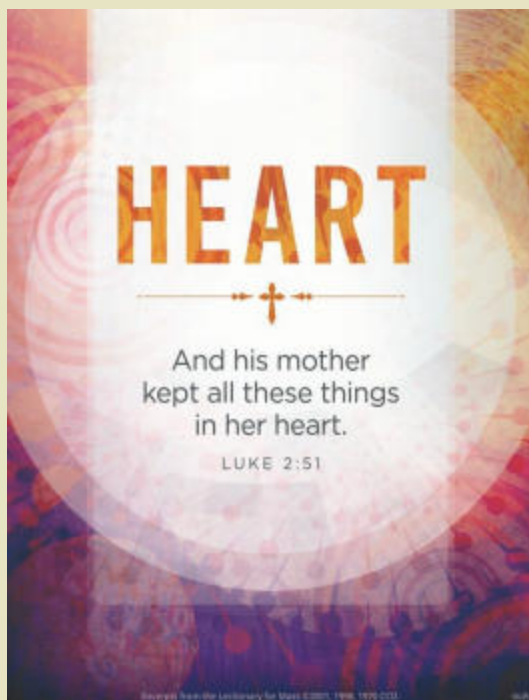
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.  
Office **CLOSED** Fridays

#### 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/)

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**





We as a church are a **Holy Family** – we are all siblings with our brother, Jesus the Christ, under one Father, united in the Spirit. I always tell people the family is the best place to learn about love because if you don't care, forgive, and extend kind gestures you *could* kill each other. Maybe not literally, but we are called to not only survive, but thrive – and the family is the place for this to be learned and nurtured.

We also want to find ways to grow closer to each other and hear each other out. Sometimes that requires a family meeting. That's precisely what we're trying to do with this Synod Process. Just like in a family, you don't get "majority rule," but you *do* get to be heard.

Alice Kendziora, Deacon Matthew Ochalek, Anna Kirk, and Mike Forish are spending time looking over documents and preparing us for a couple of listening sessions in our parish. There is some preparation (reading and reflecting) required – but if we stretch ourselves a little, I sincerely believe we will have a better church – better parish – and all of us better disciples.

Please be patient – in order to do this right, it requires a careful and time-consuming preparation. We want as many of you as possible to participate and we will be having sign ups soon for our own parish listening sessions. These will require attendees to review some of the literature as well. It could feel overwhelming (it did to me!), but let's give it some time and attention and we will all benefit from this process.

Remember, "synod" means walking together – not stuck – and not a race – but accompanying each other on the way to God's Reign in its fullness. Where would we be without Mary and Joseph's walking together?

*Fr. John*

**St. John's /Holy Rosary 31 Club**

Each member chooses one day of the month to pray for an increase of vocations for the church. You can attend a Mass, say a rosary, or offer special prayers on that date. There is a great need for more vocations! If you would like to become a member of the St. John's/Holy Rosary 31 Club, or have questions, please call Joanne Deiner at 814-899-1968 or email joannedonohue50@gmail.com.

Upcoming Mass commitments:

Dec 27	Mary Tighe
Dec 30	Morgan & Erin Eastman
Dec 31	Denny & Joanne Deiner
Jan 1	Paul Gostomski and Lori Follett

**A Christmas Message**

*"Ensure that Holy Christmas is never a celebration of consumerism, appearances, useless gifts, or excessive waste, but that it is a celebration of joyfully welcoming the Lord into the crib and into the heart."*  
 - Pope Francis



**A Christmas Prayer**

"O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
 Grant that we may share with all our hearts  
 in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
 Put into the hearts of men and women this peace  
 For which they sometimes seek so desperately  
 And which you alone can give to them.  
 Help them to know one another better,  
 And to live as brothers and sisters,  
 Children of the same Father.  
 Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity.  
 Awaken in their hearts  
 Love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.  
 Join them all together in your love.  
 And give us your heavenly peace. Amen."  
 - Pope John XXIII

**Keeping Christmas**

Are you willing...  
 To forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you?  
 To ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world?  
 To close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness?  
 Are you willing to do these things even for a day?  
 Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing..  
 To stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children?  
 To remember the weakness and loneliness of people growing old?  
 To stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough?  
 To try to understand what those who live in the same home with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you?  
 To make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open?  
 Are you willing to do those things, even for a day?  
 Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing...  
 To believe that love is the strongest thing in the world, stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death - and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem two thousand years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love?  
 Then you keep Christmas.  
 And if you can keep it for a day, why not always?  
 But you can never keep it alone.  
 - Henry Van Dyke

[Mass Intentions for the Week](#)**Monday, December 27, 2021**

8:00 am HR Cynthia Nitzczynski (Joe &amp; Mary Anne Lican)

**Wednesday, December 29, 2021**

8:00 am SJB John Auer (Estate)

**Thursday, December 30, 2021**

8:00 am HR Tim Kujan (Mom &amp; Debbie)

**Friday, December 31, 2021**

8:00 am SJB Jim Lieb (Mary Ellen)

**Saturday, January 1, 2022 – Solemnity of Mary**

9:00 am HR Annette Kruszewski (Holy Rosary)

**Saturday, January 1, 2022**

4:00 pm HR For all Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners

**Sunday, January 2, 2022**

8:00 am SJB Adam Grise (Family)

10:30 am HR Susan Horvat (Family)

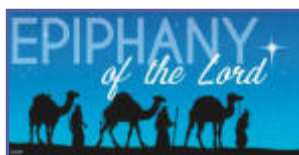
**The Sanctuary Candle** is lit this week in memory of Allan Gerber (Kathy Anysz).

[Readings Next Weekend](#)**Epiphany of the Lord**

1st Reading: Is 60:1-6

2nd Reading: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

[Family Perspective](#)

Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting: "but his parents did not know." One of the reasons parenting is so difficult is because our children don't tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us?

[The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God](#)

January 1 9:00 a.m. Mass

Holy Rosary Chapel

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.)

[Livestream Mass Schedule](#)

Go to YouTube and search for *St. John the Baptist Holy Rosary Erie PA*. Livestreaming is available at St. John for 8:00 a.m. Mass Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday.

[Lector Schedule](#)

Jan 1 9:00 a.m. Volunteer

Jan 1 4:00 p.m. Tom DiVecchio

Jan 2 8:00 a.m. Joanne Deiner

Jan 2 10:30 a.m. Cindy DeCoursey &amp; 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

[Online giving just got easier](#)

We encourage those who do not currently use online giving, to try it. Log on to the St. John/Holy Rosary website <https://stjohn-holyrosary-erie.org/> and click the 'Online Giving' tab.

[Faith Formation at St. Luke](#)

At St. Luke/Director: Sr. Carmen Maldonado 825-6920 Ext 237

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION** /Director: Mary Hickin 920-7525

(Masks/social distancing required)

**January 2022**

- Jan. 23 at 10 a.m. Parents/Students in the school cafeteria - morning prayer together - Unit 3
- Jan. 30 at 10 a.m. Parents/Students in the school cafeteria - morning prayer together

[Special retreat opportunity for young adults](#)

The Diocese of Erie is sponsoring a retreat Jan. 3—7 for college-age young people and adults under the age of 35 at the Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center south of Sharon. For more information, contact Jillian Zaczek at [jzaczek@eriercd.org](mailto:jzaczek@eriercd.org) or Dave Roncolato at [droncola@allegheny.edu](mailto:droncola@allegheny.edu). The application is online under Young Adult Ministry (Silent Retreat) at <https://www.eriercd.org/youth/silentretreat.html>.

[Holy Hour](#)

Holy Hour is every month on Thursday before the first Friday at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church. **The next Holy Hour is on Thursday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist.**

[Marriage preparation retreat](#)

Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter marriage preparation **weekend on Jan. 28-30, 2022**, at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie. Learn more and register at <https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>.

[Office Reminders](#)

The SJB & HR Partnered Parishes **church office will be closed on Monday, December 27 through Friday, December 31**. If you need to contact the church office, please do so before by December 22. If you need a tax statement for 2021, call Marsha in the church office in January to make your request. It will be mailed to you via USPS. Tax statements WILL NOT be sent electronically.



*Sacrament of Baptism at Holy Rosary*

*The Sindahigaya family celebrated the Baptism of its youngest member—Niyonkuru Luwiza Alexis on Sunday, December 12, 2021. Father, Alexis, is holding Niyonkuru and standing beside mother Niyonzima, and their other three daughters Nishimne, Ninahaze and Niyomizero.*

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