

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & HOLY ROSARY

Rev. David Baetzold, Pastor

*Deacon Assistant Denis Coan, Deacon Assistant Matthew Ochalek
& Deacon Francis Lombardo*

December 25, 2022 The Nativity of the Lord



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:

Faith Formation @ St. Luke: 814-825-6920
Adult FF Director: Mary Hickin 814-392-6162

PARTNERED PARISH WEBSITE: stjohn-holyrosary-erie.org/

All are welcome! / ¡ Todos son bienvenidos aquí!

St. John the Baptist Church

Located at 509 E. 26th Street, Erie PA 16504

Holy Rosary Church

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

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY EVENING MASS 4:00 PM AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (Holy Rosary)

SUNDAY MORNING MASS

8:00 AM at St. John the Baptist

10:30 AM at St. John the Baptist (Holy Rosary)

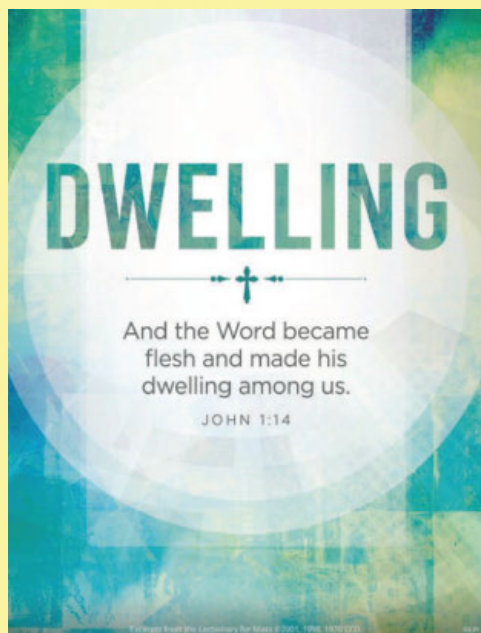
WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM Tues & Thurs at St. John's (Holy Rosary)

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

CONFESSIONS: 2:30-3:30 PM Saturday at St. John the Baptist or by appointment

All Holy Rosary Masses are at St. John's until further notice.



From the Pastor: Merry Christmas to All!

One of the things we all do on Christmas is gather with family and remember our Christmas celebrations of the past. I have my own personal favorite I know. But this Christmas 2022 I would like to share a beautiful story from the life of Catherine Doherty, which can be found in her book Not Without Parables, which took place in Harlem in the 1930's. Enjoy!

Just as I was leaving for Midnight Mass I was met at my door by a very handsome black man and his wife, who was holding a baby in her arms. Very politely the man told me that he and his wife were lost in this big city. He was a carpenter, hoping to get a better job than the one he had had in the little village they came from in the South. They didn't have any money, that is, not quite enough for a night's lodging. Perhaps I could tell them where to go, what to do. His wife, who had not said a word, just smiled at me once or twice. It was almost 11 o'clock, and on Christmas Eve! Whom could I find at this time? And where? And if I did, this poor family would have to brave strange subways. But the Family Shelters of New York separate families sometimes, because of the lack of room. Lack of room! Christmas Eve! Man, woman, child. It all suddenly hit me. No, this was not the time to send such a family anywhere. This was the time to offer them personal hospitality, if for no other reason than to atone for the hospitality that was not given almost 2,000 years ago.

My room had a desk, a bed, and gas stove complete with oven. I had been given a tinsel Christmas tree about six inches high. I had placed under it a miniature crib. I had intended to place the Infant into it when I came back from Mass. I invited them to stay in my room, apologizing for its humbleness. Their smiles broadened. The man voiced his thanks. Once in the room I made them as comfortable as I could. The baby, finally out of its wrappings, was lovely. I had not heard it cry. The man said it was a boy, their firstborn. I made them coffee, fried some eggs, set the table, and told them I would peek in after Mass. \

The Mass over, I rushed back to my room. To my astonishment I found the front door ajar. The room was empty. The dishes had been washed and stacked away. No signs of occupancy were left whatsoever. The Infant I had meant to put now into its tiny crib under my tinsel tree was already there, and a candle was lit in my window!

May we all see and love Christ in all those the Good Lord puts in our path this Christmas.

Fr. David



Our Neighbor's Place 2023

We need your help with Season 11 of Our Neighbors' Place, a seasonal overflow shelter for adults who are homeless. This year the shelter returns to St. John the Baptist and will be set-up in Pastors' Hall. **Our first session will be January 11 - January 24 and the second session will be March 22 - April 4.** We need volunteers to work 4 hour shifts, provide bagged meals, and provide donations. For more information or to volunteer, contact Mary Ellen Lieb at melieb4@gmail.com or Mary Hoffman at mymary14@gmail.com

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, and 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 and prayer commitments:

Dec 25	Rochelle Vicentini
Dec 26	Cindy DeCoursey
Dec 27	Mary Tighe
Dec 28	Marge Burbee
Dec 29	Bill Dopierala
Dec 30	Morgan & Erin Eastman
Dec 31	Denny & Joanne Deiner

Prayer for Vocations

*O God, who wills not the death of a sinner *but rather that he be converted and live* grant we beseech you* through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin* Saint Joseph, her spouse* St. Junipero Serra* and all the saints* an increase of laborers for your Church* fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls* through the same Jesus Christ* Your Son* Who lives and reigns with You* In the unity of the Holy Spirit* God forever* and ever. Amen.*

Serra Prayer for Vocations

Staff of St. John the Baptist & Holy Rosary

Pastor: Rev. David Baetzold
SJB Deacon Assist: Rev. Mr. Denis Coan 814-314-9050
HR Deacon Assist: Rev. Mr. Matthew Ochalek
HR Deacon: Rev. Mr. Francis Lombardo
Bookkeeper: Ryan Coletta
Office: Marsha MacKinnon McKinley
HR Maintenance: Eric Hardner
Music Directors: Pat Marshall, Daniel & Emily Cabanillas

Office Reminders

Church Office Closed Christmas through New Year's: The SJB & HR Partnered Parishes church office is closed **now through January 1, 2023.** Regular office hours resume on Monday, January 2, 2023.

Contact Information: If you have changed phone numbers or addresses, or have dropped a land line, please contact Marsha in the church office so we can update our database.

Tax Statements for 2022: Please call the church office in January to request your statement.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tuesday, December 27, 2022 (at SJB)
8:00 am HR Mary Kitch (Kay & Sue)

Wednesday, December 28, 2022
8:00 am SJB William Verdecchia (Children)

Thursday, December 29, 2022 (at SJB)
8:00 am HR Tim Kujan (Mom & Debbie)

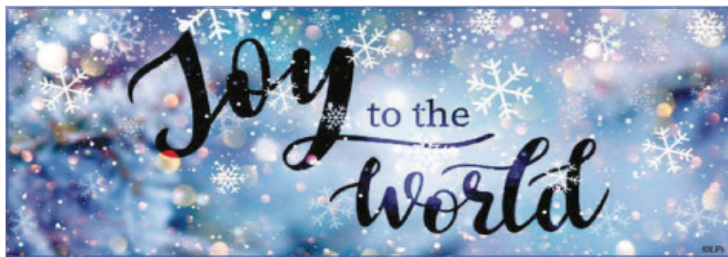
Friday, December 30, 2022
8:00 am SJB Jim Lieb (Mary Ellen Lieb)

Saturday, December 31, 2022 (at SJB)
4:00 pm SJB Ray Kowalik (Nels & Karen White)

Sunday, January 1, 2023 (at SJB)
8:00 am SJB For all Living & Deceased Parishioners
10:30 am HR Viola Lintelman (Rob & Gina Lintelman)
(at SJB) All Holy Rosary Masses are at St. John's until further notice.

All Daily Masses are now held in the Chapel at the SJB Rectory.

The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Tim Kujan (Mom & Debbie).

Luke 2: 10-11

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy for all people. For today in the city of David, a savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord."

Readings Next Weekend**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

1st Reading: Nm 6:22-27

2nd Reading: Gal 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**New Year's Day**

January 1 (SJB) 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John's

January 1 (HR) 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. John's

Lector Schedule

Dec 31 4:00 p.m. Rob Kocur
Extraordinary Minister: Jim Cavicchio

Jan 1 8:00 a.m. Bill Dopierala
Ordinary Minister: Deacon Denis Coan

Jan 1 10:30 a.m. Pat Fronzaglia & Kay Kitch
Extraordinary Minister: Dan Pollock

Faith Formation at St. Luke

K-5 Grade at St. Luke: Jessica Anaya 814-825-6920
6-8 Grade & Youth Ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel:
Rebecca Wiest 814-825-7313

Mustard Seeds Meetings

The St. John's/Holy Rosary Mustard Seed group reads and discusses the scripture readings for the upcoming week. This group meets on **January 12 & 26 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** in the conference room at St. John's Rectory. All are welcome! Call Mary Margaret Skladanowski at 814-520-8903.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meetings

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Holy Rosary and St. John's encourage you to join this group if you like to knit or crochet. This group meets on **January 12 & 26 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** in the upstairs sitting room at St. John's Rectory. All are welcome! For more information or to receive a shawl, call Mary Margaret Skladanowski at 814-520-8903 or Debbie Totzke at 814-825-4493.

Vocation Chalice Program

Be part of helping vocations grow. All parishioners from St. John's and Holy Rosary are invited to take a turn bringing the traveling chalice and book of prayers into their homes and pray for more young women and men to answer God's call. To get on the schedule please contact Allene Kraus at 814-825-3501 or Julie Sins at 814-384-1412 or juliesins@aol.com

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

Communion Visits to those at home

If you wish a Communion home visit, please call the church office and ask for Marsha so that regular home visits can be scheduled. We are here for you and care. If you or a family member desire home communion visits, please **call the church office at 814-456-4254.**

Little Free Pantry needs you!

To help our neighbors and support our Little Free Pantry (LFP), your food donations are needed. If you can add just one item each month to your grocery shopping and then donate it to our LFP, there would always be food for our neighbors in need. One item per month from our several hundred partnered parish families would ensure our pantry is stocked all the time. Our wonderful volunteers check the pantry several times a week and keep it stocked. Please consider donating, and THANK YOU to all who have been supporting our pantry. You have made a difference in the lives of our neighbors. Please call Mary Hickin at 814-392-6126 if you have any questions.

Souper Chili Saturday: Save the date

Souper Chili Saturday is coming! Our partnered parishes, and the Mercy Center for Women, will hold a soup and chili cook off on **Saturday, February 4 after the 4:00 p.m. Mass.** It will be held in the former Hastings Hall from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.. Watch the bulletin and flyers at the church entrances for more details on tickets or entering your soup or chili! Proceeds benefit our sister parish in Mexico and our adult faith formation program.

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