

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & HOLY ROSARY

**Rev. David Baetzold, Pastor**

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

**April 2, 2023 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

### 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 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

#### WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM Tues & Thurs - chapel at Holy Rosary

8:00 AM Wed & Fri - chapel at St. John's Parish House

**CONFESSIONS:** 2:30-3:30 PM Saturday at St. John's 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.**

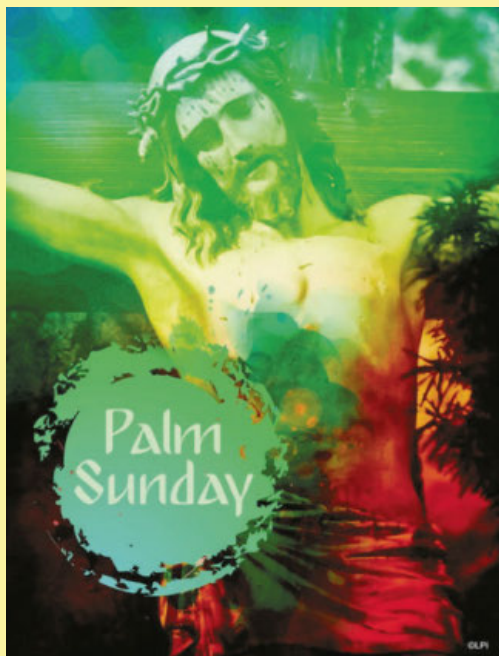
Office **CLOSED** Fridays

#### **FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY:**

Faith Formation @ St. Luke: 814-825-6920

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

**All are welcome! / ¡ Todos son bienvenidos aquí!**



### Palm Sunday

Holy Week 2023 is upon us already with the celebration of Palm Sunday this week. So much can be said about each of the days, (and will be!), but the true beauty of this week is experienced in the Liturgical celebrations each day. Holy Thursday Mass will be very special as Fr. Bill will celebrate the mass in this 40<sup>th</sup> year of his priesthood. Good Friday has always been a sacred day for me, one I try to spend in silence to contemplate Our Lord's Passion. And of course Jesus' Holy Mother Mary suffered right along with Him, as was foretold by the prophet Simeon in the Temple: "A sword shall pierce your heart..." (Luke 2:35).

The Passion of Jesus and Mary is so moving that it inspired the creation of what many consider the greatest work of art ever to be made: Michelangelo's Pieta.



I would like to share one of my favorite poems from the great English writer Hilaire Belloc that for me sums up the Passion and Love of Jesus and Mary:

They warned Our Lady for the Child  
That was Our Blessed Lord,  
And She took Him into the desert wild,  
Over the camel's ford.

And a long song She sang to Him  
And a short story told:  
And she wrapped Him in a woolen cloak  
To keep Him from the cold.

But when Our Lord was grown a man  
The rich they dragged Him down,  
And they crucified Him in Golgotha,  
Out and beyond the town.

They crucified Him on Calvary,  
Upon an April day;  
And because He had been Her little Son  
She followed Him all the way.

Our Lady stood beside the Cross,  
A little space apart,  
And when She heard Our Lord cry out  
A sword went through her heart.

They laid Our Lord in a marble tomb,  
Dead, in a winding sheet.  
But Our Lady stands above the world  
With the white moon at her feet.

*Blessed Holy Week!*

*Fr. David*

*(Photo above: Michelangelo's Pietà in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.)*

### Reflection

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, Father David held a Spanish Women's Retreat in Pastors' Hall for over fifty women. Describing the retreat, he said that in addition to Mass there would be some talks, small group discussions and a Holy Hour. Fr. David asked if I would help with the Holy Hour, with the theme of the woman who was cured by touching the hem of Jesus' garment.

Of course, I said I would be happy to help and thought this would be a great topic for my Lenten reflection. Here is a little background as to why this was a perfect topic.

In June of 2018, Mary and I traveled to the Holy Land and one of the sites we visited was Magdala, home to the beautiful Duc In Altum, located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

Duc In Altum, which provides a place for worship, mass, and prayer, draws its name from Luke 5:4 where Jesus instructs Simon Peter to "launch into the deep." The building is composed of six chapels, including the main boat chapel, four smaller lateral mosaic chapels, an atrium dedicated to women; as well as the lower-level Encounter Chapel.

The Encounter Chapel, shown to the right, was painted by Daniel Cariola and titled "Encounter." The painting portrays one of the most significant miracles in the gospel: "... because she thought, 'If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.'" Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering." (Mark 5:28-29).



This Gospel story unfolds in Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee. Jesus was teaching when he was approached by a man identified as a worker in the local synagogue. He came to Jesus in distress, begging for a visit to his home where his 12-year-old daughter was sick unto death. Jesus immediately moved in the direction of this man's house.

The crowd he was teaching went with him. A woman in the crowd was seeking to be delivered from a 12-year illness. Her journey of healing took her to every doctor she knew and every cure, whether legitimate or not. Scripture says she was now broke. Jesus was her last hope so she crept behind Jesus, believing that if she touched his clothes, she would receive healing. And she did.

As soon as she received healing, Jesus stopped dead in his tracks. "Who touched me?" he asked. The woman was both afraid and ashamed to come forward but as Jesus gave her his attention, she explained everything that had happened to her. Jesus responded positively, telling her that her faith had healed her.

I share this story because during the Holy Hour, the women were invited to kneel in front of the Blessed Sacrament, touch the fringe of the Humeral Veil that enveloped the Monstrance and ask for healing.

This was a very powerful experience for me as I witnessed, one after another, these beautiful women clutching the Humeral Veil and silently asking Jesus to heal their brokenness through their tears. I was privileged to see their faces as many of the burdens they carried were lifted from them.

I came across the following saying: "When you are hanging on by a thread, make sure it's the hem of his garment." How many times in our lives have we been hanging on just by a thread.

This week we celebrate the Easter Triduum unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery, may we allow ourselves to reach out and touch the hem of Jesus' garment and allow ourselves to be healed.

*Deacon Denis Coan*

[Mass Intentions for the Week](#)**Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

8:00 am HR Taylor &amp; Wozniak Families (Family)

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023**8:00 am SJB Lisa Marie Palombi Woodruff  
(Dad & Brother Ron, JR.)**Thursday, April 6, 2023 - Holy Thursday**

7:00 pm HR John Mattis (Joe &amp; Patti Mattis)

**Friday, April 7, 2023 - Good Friday**12:00 pm SJB Stations of the Cross  
3:00 pm HR Liturgy / Passion, Veneration of the Cross &  
Holy Communion**Saturday, April 8, 2023 - Holy Saturday**

2:00 pm Blessing of the Food at both St. John's &amp; Holy Rosary

**Saturday, April 8, 2023 - Easter Vigil**

8:30 pm HR For all Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners

**Sunday, April 9, 2023—Easter Sunday**9:30 am SJB Angelo & Mafalda Cipriani  
(Dom & Joanne Cipriani)**\*There is ONE Mass on Easter Sunday  
at St. John the Baptist at 9:30 a.m.**[Readings Next Weekend](#)**Easter Sunday**

1st Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

2nd Reading: Col 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9

[A Family Perspective](#)

*The cruel death of Jesus tells us bad things can and do happen to very good people. It also tells us God is present during the suffering. Bad things happen but God does not abandon us.*

[Lector Schedule](#)

Apr 8 8:30 p.m. *Easter Vigil*  
Richard Marshall, Rob Kocur, and  
Joanne & Denny Deiner  
Ordinary Minister: Deacon Matt Ochalek

Apr 9 9:30 a.m. *Easter Sunday*  
Rachel Allburn  
Ordinary Minister: Deacon Denis Coan

[Holy Week](#)**April 3 / Chrism Mass at 1 p.m.** at St. Peter Cathedral.**April 6 / Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m.** at Holy Rosary / Vigil until 10 p.m. in the Holy Rosary Chapel.**April 7 / Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at 12 noon** at St. John the Baptist. **Liturgy at 3 p.m.** at Holy Rosary—Passion, Veneration of the Cross, & Holy Communion.**April 8 / Holy Saturday: Blessing of Food at 2:00 p.m.** at St. John the Baptist and Holy Rosary. **Easter Vigil: 8:30 p.m.** at Holy Rosary.**April 9 / Easter Sunday: There is ONE Mass on Easter - Sunday, April 9 at St. John the Baptist at 9:30 a.m.**[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[Our Neighbor's Place 2023](#)

The second session of Our Neighbors' Place Season 11 began March 22 and continues to April 4 at St. John's Pastors' Hall. Coordinators Mary Hoffman & Mary Ellen Lieb report the volunteer schedule is full as well as the meal schedule for every night. However, there is an ongoing need for donations. Contact Mary at [mymary14@gmail.com](mailto:mymary14@gmail.com) or Mary Ellen at [melieb4@gmail.com](mailto:melieb4@gmail.com) to see what is needed. Thank you to everyone who made this beautiful ministry possible. Continued prayers are always welcome!

[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 **April 13 & 27 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** 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 **April 13 & 27 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.

[Faith Journey](#)

Please pray for the two ladies that will complete their faith journeys and come into full communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. We will welcome catechumen Isabella Estrada and candidate Christal Ross. May God bless them richly as they bless our parishes as new members!

[Holy Rosary Knights of Columbus Fundraiser](#)

The Knights are offering coupons for freshly baked goods from Erie's Oldest Grocery Store - Serafin's Food Market. Items: 6" Combo Sub—\$5.00 /Ham & Cheese Pretzel—\$6.00 /Pepperoni Bread—\$10.00. To purchase coupons, contact Chuck Santi at 814-825-9101. Every year the Knights raise funds to support direct outreach ministries in our community.

[Pastoral Council Meeting](#)

The next meeting of the St. John the Baptist & Holy Rosary Partnered Parishes Pastoral Council is **Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Mercy Anchor Community Center (MACC) conference room.

[Office Reminders](#)

**2023 CSA: Thank you to all of those who have already pledged to the 2023 campaign.** If you would like to make a pledge, please use your CSA envelopes, or pick up a **CSA pledge envelope** at church or contact the church office. Thank you!

**Church Office Closed:** The church office will be closed **Holy Thursday—April 6 through Easter Monday, April 10.**

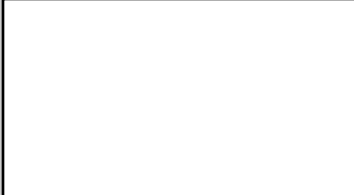
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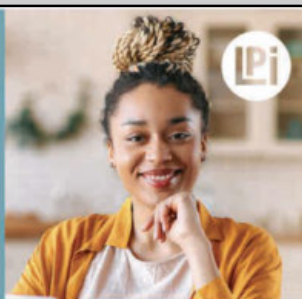
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