

Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2020



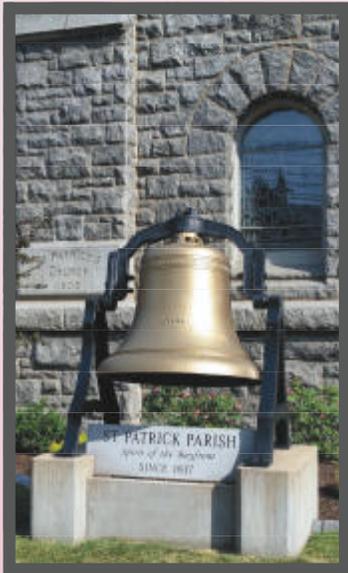
Saint Patrick Parish

Serving the East Bayfront of Erie since 1837

Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday 8 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 PM

Sunday: 8 AM & 10:30 AM



Saint Patrick Parish

130 East 4th Street
Erie, PA 16507

Pastor—

Monsignor Henry A. Kriegel

Weekend Assistant, In Residence—

Father Michael DeMartinis

Janine Carch Sliker—Office Manager

Ann Halupczynski—Director of Finances

Tom Golab—Sacristan

Mark Alloway—Organist, Music Director

Jan Gervasi—Wedding Coordinator

Anne Causgrove—Baptismal Preparation

*Mary Pat Schlaudecker—Archivist,
Genealogy research*

Phone: 814-454-8085

FAX: 814-459-8685

Email: stpats@neo.rr.com

Website: www.saintpatrickparisherie.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

Saturday Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Holy Day Mass: 12:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk...



Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. The proclamation is the very one that Jesus read in the synagogue at the beginning of his ministry. These words are directed at Israel as they return from Babylon in 538 BC. Once that happened, both Greece and Rome occupied Israel and so religion was thrown into turmoil with competing sects that sought to win the people's loyalty. The Hebrews return to find their land devastated and they cry out wondering why they had been led out of slavery into an experience of such hunger and desolation. Isaiah writes to remind them that God will bring "glad tidings" to the poor, "healing" for those who mourn and "liberty" to captives. While it is easy to see destruction everywhere, Isaiah sees only potential and hope. He sees this homecoming as a renewal of the covenant with God.

Paul reminds his audience to be sober and alert for the coming of the Lord. He contends that vigilance is tied to patience and caring for others. He admonishes them because of their reputation as busybodies. He offers three basics as the foundation for holiness. First, followers of Jesus are to always be people of joy. Second, they must be people who pray regularly and, finally, they are a people who give thanks. Joy, prayer and thanksgiving are to be the pattern of life for all who await the coming of the Lord. The passage ends with a fervent affirmation of faith. Paul prays for their resolve to live without fault and to know that God will bring this work to completion.

This third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday," which comes from the entrance antiphon "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say rejoice." Today's liturgy calls us not to anticipation as does the rest of Advent, but to the theme of joy. While we wait for his return, we draw nearer to our annual joyful celebration of his birth. We hear John the Baptist proclaiming the need for the people's repentance and their baptism into the Kingdom. John knows his ministry is one of preparation and freely acknowledges that he is not the Messiah nor does he want to be considered as a prophet. John appears as a figure of great humility. We can learn from John the virtue

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

of joy. He is very much satisfied to take on the role of precursor, of one who prepares the way and then steps aside for another to take over.

I was told last week that the exterior of the rectory has to be pointed. That means that we will have to award a contract to a company who will come in and go over the entire building to point the mortar between the bricks and make sure that everything is secure.

Each year we help St. Martin's Center by purchasing gifts for inner city children who otherwise would not have a Christmas. Your generosity in this project has been overwhelming. This year, because of the Covid virus, they are asking for \$100 gift cards. If anyone is interested in helping, contact the rectory.

Just a reminder that we are curtailing our number of Christmas Masses this year because it is simply not safe for people to come together in large crowds as has been our experience in the past. We will have a Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass which will be live cast and on Christmas day an 8 AM Mass and a 10:30 Mass (which will also be live cast). We are not having a Christmas Eve 9 PM Mass this year. As you know from the letter which I sent to the parish this past week, I am suggesting that we do not attend Mass on Christmas, but watch one of the live stream Masses and then I suggested that you do something as a family to celebrate this feast. This Christmas is going to be unlike any that we have ever celebrated and we simply need to be patient and careful less we spread this virus anymore than it is already. I hope you understand the precautions we are taking.

Our weekend Masses are getting between 75 and 100 people at each Mass. The Sunday morning 8 AM Mass is our largest and the Sunday morning 10:30 our smallest. I'm very comfortable with these numbers. We're all accustomed to seeing St. Patrick's packed full for Masses.

Nothing like working with the elderly!!!! An elderly patient paid me a wonderful compliment. "You're beautiful," she said. I must have looked skeptical because she was quick to assure me that she was sincere. "It's just that I rarely hear flattering comments about my looks," I explained. "She smiled understandingly. "That's because you're fat. But it doesn't mean you aren't pretty."



Saint Patrick News



The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Thomas Cook
from family

LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Dec. 12 Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent**
5:00 PM MICHAEL CUMMINGS (DONNA CUMMINGS)
- Dec. 13 Third Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM MICHELE MCLAUGHLIN (EILEEN MCLAUGHLIN)
10:30 AM GARY DRAPCHO (CHOIR)
- Dec. 14 Monday, Saint John of the Cross.**
Priest and Doctor of the Church
8:00 AM MARGARET "PEGGY" SERTZ
(BILL & BETTY ANN FILIPKOWSKI)
- Dec. 15 Tuesday, Advent Weekday**
8:00 AM FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. PATRICK
- Dec. 16 Wednesday, Advent Weekday**
8:00 AM FRANK MARIELLA, ANNIV. (FAMILY)
- Dec. 17 Thursday, Late Advent Weekday**
8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE
- Dec. 18 Friday, Late Advent Weekday**
NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE
- Dec. 19 Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent**
5:00 PM MARY TELLERS (MR. & MRS. PATRICK MASTRIAN)
- Dec. 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM RICHARD WALACH (HONARD FAMILY)
10:30 AM EVELYN DEXTER (COUSINS, DIANE ESSER,
ANNA MAY ROSE & FLORENCE ZUNT)

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Minister: Jay Habas, Carol Habas

Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 8:00 am

Lector: Lisa Straub

Eucharistic Minister: Lisa Straub, Noelle Colpoys

Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 10:30 am

Lector: Christine Mitchell

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Kearney, Ed Smith

Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 7,223.00
Online Giving	4,075.00
Total	\$ 11,298.00

Thank you for your generosity!

NEED PRAYERS?

Please call **Mary Alice Hartwell** at **454-5908** to have your prayer intentions placed on our joint parish prayer wheel. Please be assured that your prayer requests will be treated with respect and confidentiality.



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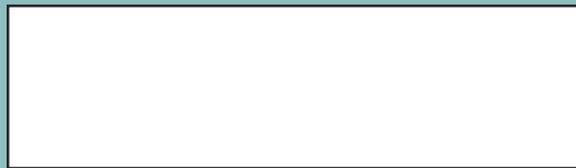
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