

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
January 10, 2021



“Baptism of the Lord”
Stained Glass Window
St. Patrick Church
photo by Tom Golab

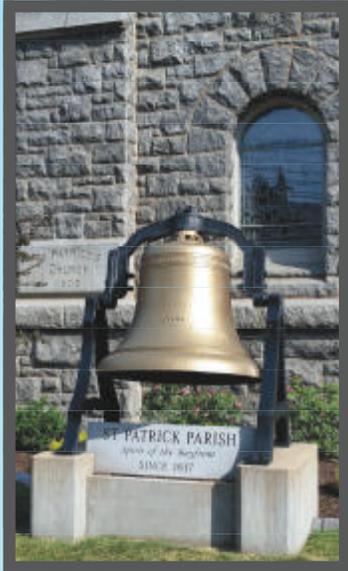
Saint Patrick Parish

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: stpat@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 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The Old Testament is filled with stories of prophecies that warn against the failure to seek conversion and follow the Lord. Most are in the form of warnings such as Jonah's forecast to the Ninevites: "Forty days more and Niveveh will be no longer." Today's reading from Isaiah has the prophet inviting us rather than warning us. Rather than forecasting gloom and doom, Isaiah proclaims the bounty of a God who freely gives. All he asks in return is that we listen to him. Isaiah tells us what listening to God is like. First, God's ways are beyond human understanding. Thus, listening to God requires suspending human expectations. Second, listening means that one is able to see that God's actions in this world achieve his intentions.

Due to a vision he received in a trance, Peter recognizes that God does not show favoritism. His vision includes animals which he considers unclean to eat, but a voice tells him that what God has created is always clean. Then Peter is invited to the home of Cornelius, a Roman centurion considered unclean, but Peter recalls the dream and goes. Today Peter is standing before a large crowd in Cornelius' house and what we hear is part of a brief catechesis on the person of Jesus. As he preaches, the Holy Spirit comes upon the crowd. Though there is resistance to Gentiles, Peter orders that all be baptized. Baptism is the social leveler that breaks down division between male and female.

Many theologians have struggled to make sense of Jesus' baptism by John in the Jordan. If he is the Son of God, why does he have to be baptized? Jesus is showing that, by his baptism, which he does not need, he is giving us a visible means of sealing conversion. His willingness to be baptized shows his total allegiance to the Kingdom. What John has been pointing to is now fulfilled in Jesus. For this reason, the Holy Spirit plays an important role. Jesus realizes that what he does from this moment forward he does not do alone. Jesus is not simply to convert hearts but to establish a relationship in which we know

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

we are loved by God.

We will soon compile and print out the reports on your donations to the parish in 2020 and mail those out to parishioners. If you do not receive one by the end of January, please contact the office and we will see that you get one.

Father Mike DeMartinis is the chaplain at Villa Maria Academy and he tells me that the girls are fully cooperative and supportive of the upcoming merger with Cathedral Prep. They realize that the two schools can no longer survive on their own and that this is a necessary step.

We're going to be a stage where we're going to experience a great deal of "letting go" of things, institutions, schools and parishes that are very dear to our hearts. No one likes to hear that a school or parish has to close, but that is where we are right now. And we're going to experience a good deal more of this in the future. Some of our schools simply can no longer survive. The birth rate has dropped dramatically in northwest Pennsylvania and even more frightening is the fact that the baptismal rate is down by over 55% since 1990. That raises the ultimate question of who is going to be sitting in those seats in another ten years. The diocese has to plan so we can manage the necessary changes or the change will manage us.

While this is happening in the parishes throughout the northeast, areas of the southeast and southwest find their Catholic churches literally bursting at the seams. They have more people than they can accommodate and are continually building new churches. A new seminary even opened in one of our southern dioceses. It's simply a matter of changing demographics.

Some random thoughts: "Never sing in the shower! Singing leads to dancing, dancing leads to slipping, and slipping leads to paramedics seeing you naked. Do remember: don't sing in the shower!" ... "I see people my age mountain climbing. I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing the battle." ... "A definition of a Coronacoaster: a noun, the ups and downs on a pandemic. One day you're loving your bubble, doing work outs, baking banana bread and going for long walks and the next you're crying, drinking gin for breakfast and missing people you don't even like."



Saint Patrick News



The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Theresa Carney
from Richard Johnson family

LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Jan. 9 Saturday, Vigil: Baptism of the Lord**
5:00 PM ERIC LAMPE (CHRIS & VCKIE LAMPE)
- Jan. 10 Baptism of the Lord**
8:00 AM RONALD ANGELOTTI, ANNIV. (FAMILY)
10:30 AM PATRICK MIKULA (MIKULA FAMILY)
- Jan. 11 Monday, Weekday**
8:00 AM Jeffrey Bomba, Anniv. 1/13
(Mom, Dad, Megan, Luke, Ben,
Delainey & Norah)
- Jan. 12 Tuesday, Weekday**
8:00 AM SALLY KOHLER (TIM TORREY)
- Jan. 13 Wednesday, Weekday**
8:00 AM STEVE BOHEN (MARY PAT SCHLAUDECKER)
- Jan. 14 Thursday, Weekday**
8:00 AM FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. PATRICK CHURCH
- Jan. 15 Friday,**
NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE
- Jan. 16 Saturday, Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
5:00 PM EUGENE & CLARA KULIG (JAY & CAROL HABAS)
- Jan. 17 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
8:00 AM JAMES KONTUR (ANGIE KONTUR)
10:30 AM FR. MIKE ALLISON (JACK BERTGES)

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 16, 2021 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Minister: Jay Habas, Carol Habas

Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 8:00 am

Lector: Fred Olds

Eucharistic Minister: Kathryn Olds, Nancy Andrzejewski

Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 10:30 am

Lector: Dario Cipriani

Eucharistic Minister: Dario Cipriani, Mary Kearney

Stewardship

Offertory Collection—Christmas	\$41,129.00
Offertory Collection—12/27/20	\$ 5,505.00
Online Giving	<u>3,025.00</u>
Total	\$ 8,530.00
Offertory Collection—1/3/21	\$ 8,309.00
Online Giving	<u>4,572.50</u>
Total	\$ 12,881.50

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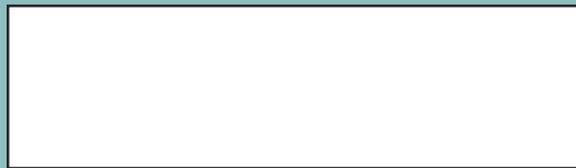
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