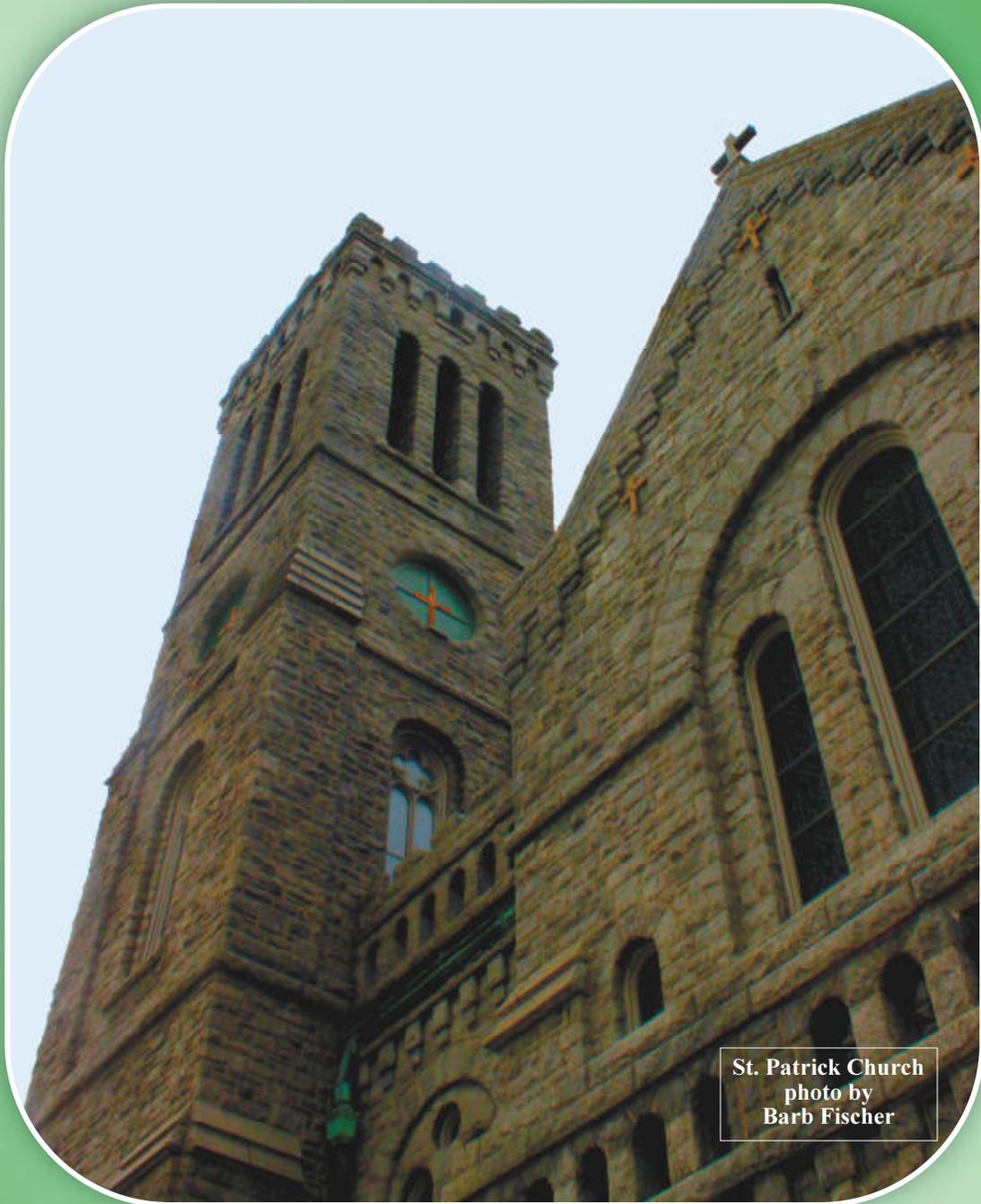


Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 1, 2021



St. Patrick Church  
photo by  
Barb Fischer

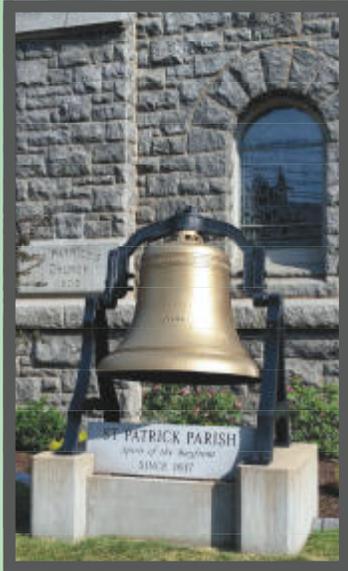
## Saint Patrick Parish

*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](mailto:stpat@neo.rr.com)

Website: [www.saintpatrickparisherie.org](http://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 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our first reading gives us the historical background for our gospel. At the beginning, the people grumble against Moses and Aaron, because they were hungry, so much so, that they regret leaving Egypt. They are grumbling against God because they know well that it was he who rescued them from Egypt. Notice that God does not retaliate but gives into their demands and tells Moses that he will provide bread and meat. This bread comes down from heaven but with strings attached. They must precisely follow God's instructions concerning its collection order to show that they acknowledge God as their God and themselves as God's people.

The theme of the reading from Ephesians is conversion or transformation of the heart, mind and actions among those who have "learned Christ." The author contrasts their new life with their old life as pagans, which he says was impacted by the "futility of their minds." The Greek word used can also be translated as vanity. The phrase, "put away the old self" and "put on the new self" are traditional baptismal language. In essence, the author is telling them to live their baptismal calling in a robust and truthful way. He invites them to surrender the futility of their own minds and allow themselves to be renewed in the Spirit.

Our gospel is a continuation of last Sunday's story of the miracle of the loaves and the fishes. In some respects, it reflects the dark side of human nature much like last Sunday's first reading from Exodus shows the faithlessness of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. It begins with the crowd seeking Jesus. "Seeking and finding" are central themes in John's gospel and it is associated with discipleship. But when they find him they only address him as "rabbi," and he knows they have not come seeking discipleship but full stomachs. He exhorts them to work for food for eternal life. Consistent with John's gospel, we find a crowd that is clueless and, in some ways, hostile. When they ask what they can do, he responds "Believe in the one he sent." But the crowd wants signs. Seeing and believing are also

*From the Pastor's Desk continued...*

central themes in John. Only those who believe can truly see. And what do they do after Jesus explains that he is the eternal bread? They grumble some more!

You have probably noticed at weekend Masses that our numbers are down and consequently, our income is down. I honestly think this is going to be the new norm. Many people got very comfortable staying at home rather than coming to Mass. Some still are watching it on live stream, but those numbers are about 1/3 of what they were during Covid. We are simply going to have to adjust to the new reality.

We are also witnessing a dramatic drop in the number of Catholics being buried in the church. More and more today, there is no funeral Mass, but instead a service at the funeral home or simply a committal service at the grave. When a parent dies who was an active Catholic and the children are not participating in the life of the church, they feel uncomfortable with a funeral Mass and opt instead for something else. It's simply the reality we are facing today.

While we continue to be rather overwhelmed with the number of weddings that we have, the total number of weddings in our diocese has dropped dramatically. More and more young couples are opting not to be married in the church but in what they view as a more romantic setting.

I recently hosted the 2021 bridal couples for a casual evening in the rectory. We gather for a drink around 5:30 and then have dinner around 6:15. They are some of the most fun evenings of the year. Today's bridal couples are in their late 20s and even into their 30s and it's a whole different ballgame than it was 50 years ago when all of my bridal couples were 20 and 21 years old. All of the couples are sort of in the same boat getting ready for their wedding and so conversation flows very easy. It's also interesting today that a growing number of bridal couples do not go on a honeymoon, but wait a year or more and take a trip then.

My doctor asked if anyone in my family suffered from mental illness. I said, "No, we all seem to enjoy it." .... Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say, "That's close enough." .... I'm a multi-tasker: I can listen, ignore and forget all at the same time!"



## Saint Patrick News



**The Sanctuary Lamp**  
burns in loving memory of  
Joan Heubel, 57th Wedding Anniversary  
from David F. Heubel

### LITURGY INTENTIONS

**July 31 Saturday, Vigil: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 PM KATIE ABBOTT (MOM & ELLIE)

**Aug. 1 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE KONTUR FAMILY  
(ANGIE KONTUR)

10:30 AM BETTY SCULLY (CHILDREN)

**Aug. 2 Monday, Weekday**

8:00 AM JERRY EMLING (BETSY EMLING)

**Aug. 3 Tuesday, Weekday**

8:00 AM JEFFREY BOMBA (MOM, DAD, MEGAN, LUKE, BEN,  
DELAINEY & NORAH)

**Aug. 4 Wednesday, Saint John Vianney, Priest**

8:00 AM KATHLEEN LOREI, ANNIV. OF BIRTH  
(VINNIE & ANN HALUPCZYNSKI)

**Aug. 5 Thursday, Weekday**

8:00 AM DAN LYNCH (FAMILY)

**Aug. 6 Friday, The Transfiguration of the Lord**

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

**Aug. 7 Saturday, Vigil: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 PM KATIE ABBOTT (MOM & ELLIE)

**Aug. 8 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM TERRY PFEFFER (KARL & VIRGINIA KELM)

10:30 AM ANN WYNNE (EITHNE & PATRICK MURPHY)

### Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 5:00 pm**

Lector: Barbara Brairton

Eucharistic Minister: Barbara Brairton, Patty Dailey,  
Phyllis Marchinetti, Ray Fiorelli

**Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 8:00 am**

Lector: Fred Olds

Eucharistic Minister: Kathyrn Olds, Kathleen McCabe  
Pattie Marchant, Joseph Schneider

**Sunday, August 8, 2021 at 10:30 am**

Lector: Mary Williams

Eucharistic Minister: Ed Smith, Mary Williams,  
Luke Gilmore, **1 NEEDED**

### Stewardship

Offeratory Collection	\$ 7,572.00
Online Giving	3,075.75
Total	\$ 10,647.75

*Thank you for your generosity!*

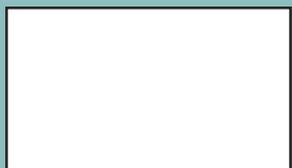
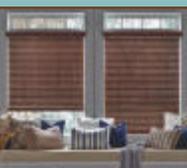


**Save the date!!!**

Erie Gives Day  
Tuesday, August 10, 2021

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