

**Feast of the Epiphany
January 2, 2022**



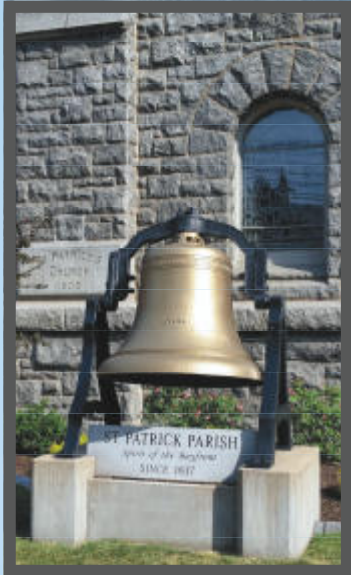
Saint Patrick Parish

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 Feast of the Epiphany, a celebration of the manifestation of divinity. Our first reading comes from the part of the Book of Isaiah written after the return of Judean exiles from Babylon. This was a difficult time because their oppressors had occupied the land and did not welcome them. Here the prophet conveys a message of hope to Zion, encouraging the people to recognize their new reality. God's glory is described as light dawning on a world once covered in darkness, and his people are described as reflecting his glory, so much so that they will be a light to the Gentiles. Nations will bring abundance of wealth to Jerusalem and her exiled children will return from Babylon. God's promise to these people of old, that their hearts will overflow with joy, is the same promise he continues to make to you and me.

Today's reading from the Letter to the Ephesians celebrates the revelation of God's ongoing plan of salvation. The author reminds his Gentile readers of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to Paul for their benefit. The Greek word is *oikonomia*, referring to the oversight or management of someone else's property. This grace which was not revealed until now is a free gift from God. It is, of course, the mystery of Christ, God's hidden purpose or intention for humanity. What is the mystery? Notice how the author keeps us in suspense until the very end of the reading. It is that God's plan for salvation includes the Gentiles as joint heirs, joint partakers with the Jewish people of God's gifts.

Today's gospel is familiar to most Christians, and it is the scriptural basis for the feast of the Epiphany. Remember that the people whom Matthew says come from the East were magi, not kings. The early Christian writer Tertullian (AD 150-220) was the first to suggest that they were kings. But magi describes a category of scholars who engaged in dream interpretation, astrology and predictions of the future. Matthew does not tell us how many there were; that concept would be added much later. As Matthew tells the story—and it is only told in Matthew—these magi saw a

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

star, believed to signal the birth of a king, and they had come to worship him. Not knowing exactly where to find him, they were in danger of falling into a trap. When they inquired in Jerusalem, word reached Herod who wanted to know where the Messiah was to be born. "Bethlehem," they answered, to fulfill the prophecy in Micah "from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people." The gifts are fit for a king, but myrrh was also used as a painkiller and in burial. If bringing a symbol of suffering and death to a tiny baby is not troubling enough, Herod asks that the magi return to him after they find the child. For 32 years, Herod oppressed the people of Palestine at the expense of his massive building projects. His greed for power forced him to put down anyone who would oppose him. The stories that follow today's reading detail the escape of Mary, Joseph and Jesus to Egypt and Herod's slaughter of the babies in Bethlehem.

During the month of November, our parish Food Pantry distributed 10,735 pounds of food. This distribution involved 392 households who are in need of additional food to get through the week. Thanks to your ongoing generosity, we are able to help them. So far this year, we have distributed 97,896 pounds of food. None of this would be possible without your ongoing support and help. I'm also very grateful to the volunteers who come every week and see that this process runs as smoothly as it does. It's putting our faith into practice.

I am rather overwhelmed by your response to our Giving Tree. If you recall, envelopes were on that tree which you could take, purchase a \$100 gift card from Walmart, and return. We then work together with St. Martin's Center and see that these cards are distributed to children who would otherwise never have a Christmas gift. There are an amazing number of very poor people living in Erie, and your generosity makes a major difference in the life of a child—as well as a parent who has to feel guilt that they cannot afford gifts for their children.

Totaled, you contributed \$11,000.00 toward this project. That is an incredible response. I hope you know how God smiles on anyone who helps his poor. Jesus himself said that he came "to proclaim the good news to the poor," and the poor have to be at the very center of who we are as a believing people. I have never been in a place

where people have the care and concern for the less fortunate than you have. It has become a hallmark of St. Patrick's Parish, and it's what living our faith is all about.

In addition to the gifts that you contributed, parishioner and Erie attorney Andy Sisinni reaches out to the attorneys and judges in the city to also gather gift cards for these children. He was able this year to raise \$5,800 from the attorneys and judges to help with additional gift cards.

Those responses are just amazing.

It's hard to believe that we are beginning another new year. I am constantly asking myself, "Where does time go?" It's slightly more than twelve years ago that I came to St. Patrick's and it seems like yesterday. I also have to tell you what a fun time it has been. You all rallied to the call to restore and preserve our beautiful church which we did with a \$2 million restoration project in the year 2012. Later, thanks to the generosity of Morgan and Kathy Jacox, our historic 1906 pipe organ was restored at a cost in excess of \$700,000. I think you would agree with me that St. Patrick's certainly ranks as one of the most beautiful churches in the diocese.

St. Patrick's will make history this year when the ordinations to the priesthood will be held here at the end of May. As you know, the cathedral is closed for several years while a major interior restoration is underway. Parts of the side aisles are now completed and there is some limited seating in the very front of the church, but the entire center aisle is still covered while work is being completed. I think Father Ferrick told me that the plan is to have the work completed in time for Christmas 2022.

Prior to the dedication of St. Peter's Cathedral in 1892, St. Patrick's Church served as the pro-cathedral of the diocese from the time the diocese was formed in 1852 until 1892. That church was not the present St. Patrick's, but the second such St. Patrick's Church. It was a rather nondescript brick church located approximately where the rectory is today.

Just before the funeral service, the undertaker came up to the very elderly widow and asked, "How old was your husband?" "98," she replied, "two years older than me." "So you're 96," the undertaker commented. She responded, "Hardly worth going home, is it?"



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	12/19/21	\$ 5,955.00
Online Giving		<u>3,228.00</u>
Total Income		\$ 9,183.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Due to early publication deadlines the offertory collection for Christmas and 12/26/21 will be published in the January 9, 2022 bulletin

Pay Pal has been added to the St. Patrick Parish website as a donation option. With live streaming the Masses we have had requests to enhance our website with this option. St. Patrick's has viewers from all over the United States.

We continue to thank those who make special donations to our parish and we pray for those people in whose honor and memory the donations were made:

Sr. Mary Pascal Food Pantry

Donations to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- ◆ **Jim Herdzyk** from Mary Beth Abbott
- ◆ **Stanley & Pearl Andrzejewski** from Leonard Andrzejewski
- ◆ **Richard Miller, Frank & Rita Clancy** from John C. & Colleen I. Bloomstine
- ◆ **Ben & Florence Reske** from Michael & Paulanne Reske
- ◆ **Jim Kaveney, Andy Samsel** from Michael & Jo-Anne Samsel
- ◆ **Kathryn Vickey, Nancy Vickey** from Geraldine Valahovic
- ◆ **Rob Vitron** from Bobbie Vitron
- ◆ **Bob & Sally Wagner** from David & Kathy Wagner
- ◆ **Bobby Wheeler, Betsy Maloney** from Patricia Wheeler
- ◆ **Deceased family members** from Gerald & Patricia Wolf
- ◆ **Kay Wright** from Nancy Yochim

Also donations from:

Kathleen Horan, Beverly Johnson, Joe & Heather Kimball, Bill & Loretta Legler, Ken & Pattie Marchant, Mark & Annette Rennie, Mary Ann Schmitz and Mark & Susan Sullivan

Special Thank You!!!
to **PANERA BREAD & EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT'S HARBORCREEK**



The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Linda Winkleman
from family



Congratulations to
Ron & Kathy Agresti Brown who
recently celebrated their
50th Wedding Anniversary!

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Lector: *Mary Kearney*
Eucharistic Ministers: *Mary Kearney, Kathy Sertz, Patty Dailey, Phyllis Marchinetti*
Ushers: *Jim Sertz, Rob Oligeri, Chris Lampe, Phil Rewers*

Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 8:00 am

Lector: *Lisa Straub*
Eucharistic Ministers: *Lisa Straub, Joseph Schneider, Steve Scutella, Ann Scutella*
Ushers: *Chuck Straub, John Maloney, Mike Nies, David Korn*

Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 10:30 am

Lector: *Dario Cipriani*
Eucharistic Ministers: *Dario Cipriani, Erin Wachter, Nancy Gittere, Luke Gilmore*
Ushers: *Chuck Agresti, Dave Taccone, Jim Wehan, Randy Pristello, John Purvis, Tom Welch (4)*
Offertory Counters: *Dario Cipriani, Donna Cipriani, Michele Wheaton, Tim Torrey*

Additional Christmas Flower Offering...

Nick & Terre DeSantis...
IMO Angelo & Susan DeSantis, Andrew & Rita Puskus
James & Lisa DiLuzio...
IMO Charles Rodgers, Dorothy DiLuzio

NEED PRAYERS?

Please call **Mary Alice Hartwell** at **814-454-5908** 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.



LITURGY INTENTIONS

Jan. 1 *Saturday, The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

NO MASSES

Jan. 2 *Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00 AM JOAN ANGELOTTI HEUBEL, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(DAVID F. HEUBEL)

10:30 AM WILLIAM REISER (PAUL & EILEEN BALCZUN)

Jan. 3 *Monday, Christmas Weekday*

8:00 AM KATHY SCHLEY, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(MAUREN SLUPSKI)

Jan. 4 *Tuesday, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00 AM FERDINAND CHAMONI
(MARK & CHELSEY WEISENFLUH)

Jan. 5 *Wednesday, Saint John Neuman, bishop*

8:00 AM MAJOR CHARLES JAMES DEITRICK, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(ROSARY GROUP)

Jan. 6 *Thursday, Christmas weekday*

8:00 AM RONALD ANGELOTTI, ANNIV. (FAMILY)

Jan. 7 *Friday, Christmas Weekday*

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Jan. 8 *Saturday, Vigil: Baptism of the Lord*

5:00 PM WANDA WIENCZKOWSKI
(TOM & SHARON YELKOVICH)

Jan. 9 *Baptism of the Lord*

8:00 AM JOHN HARDNER (JEFFREY HARDNER)
10:30 AM MARTIN HANHAUSER (JACK BERTGES)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.P=St. Patrick, CP=Chapel, PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory

- | | | |
|-------|----------|--------------------|
| 01/01 | 4:30 PM | Confessions - St.P |
| 01/04 | 9:00 AM | Food Pantry - PR |
| 01/05 | 12:00 PM | A.A. - PR |
| 01/08 | 4:30 PM | Confessions - St.P |

ATTENTION ST. PATRICK'S "ON-LINE GIVERS"

Donors can pull their own tax statements in Online Giving.

1. Log in to your Online Giving donor account.
2. Click on **"My Online Giving History.** View a detailed History of your past Online Giving.
3. On the right side, click the **"Print"** button.
4. Set your date range from 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021.
5. Change the report type to **"Full Detail Report (Tax Purposes)"**.
6. Leave the tax filter option checked.
7. Click **"Print"**.
8. Your report will open a new window
9. You will need to export the report to a PDF to print the full report. (To print, click on the PDF link at the top of the screen. This will open the report as a PDF and will let you print the report).

PARISHIONERS WHO USE OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: We will be sending tax statements to you shortly. If you received a statement last year, you are on our list and will receive one this year. If you have not received one, please call the office and we will get one to you. 814-454-8085

257 DAYS TO THE 2022 ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL



If Lucille Ball were alive and walked through your door at exactly 12:01 AM on New Year's Day....

You'd be in trouble, at least according to Irish customs. Part of the traditional celebration of New Year's in Ireland is to ensure that the first person to walk through your door on New Year's Day is the right person and a red-headed woman is not the right person—bad luck! Even worse would be Emma Stone—a young red headed woman! Good luck? Make sure a black haired man is the first across your threshold. A dark haired young man can make quite a haul on New Year's eve in Ireland because, even though custom dictates no food should be taken away from a house on that night (to ensure plenty in the coming year), dark haired boys are given treats and gifts for popping in right after midnight and bringing good luck to the homes. Tradition also dictates that anyone entering the home by the front door after midnight has to leave by the back door—more good luck.

In fact, New Year's in Ireland is THE time to get your good luck lined up for the coming year—since the Irish believe there is only so much luck to go around, you don't want to miss out on your shot and have to live through a whole year of bad luck and want. So the Irish do lots of crazy things to get their share of luck, like banging the doors and walls of the house with bread. This either frightens away evil spirits or invites in good spirits. Either way, it helps ensure plenty in the coming year, as does gorging yourself on New Year's Eve—the "night of the big portions." An extra full belly also helps ensure lots of food in the coming year. And clean your house! A house that is spotless when the year changes ensures a fresh start for everyone inside it.

New Year's Eve is also the time for any single men and women to get going on finding a mate. Singletons can place a bit of mistletoe under their pillows on New Year's Eve and they will dream of their future spouses, or they can place a bit outside their doors to attract just the right kind of spouse.

New Year's in Ireland is not, however, all jockeying for good luck. The Irish also take New Year's Eve as an opportunity to remember loved ones who passed away during the year by setting a place for them at the dinner table and leaving the door unlocked to invite them in. A wonderful custom that we share here at St. Pats, as we pause on New Year's to remember the parish family members we've lost this year. Happy New Year and Good Luck in 2022.

Well, it's finally 2022! Happy Festival Year! Gary and Becky Johnson, Festival Chairs, can be reached at gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com or beckykj@neo.rr.com.



Engaged couples: Plan ahead for a happy, healthy marriage—Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter this January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide engaged couples the tools for a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. Here’s what folks have loved in the past: Time as a couple to focus on their relationship, a community that prays and has fun together, a non-judgmental atmosphere, the chance to set a good foundation for their marriage, and the opportunity to retreat from busy wedding details and enjoy each other. Learn more or register at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

The **Erie Cursillo Movement** is currently planning and accepting candidate applications for a Men’s Cursillo from February 11 to 13, 2022 and a Woman’s Cursillo from April 29 to May 1, 2022.

Applications can be found on the Cursillo Website at eriecursillo.org, calling the Cursillo office at 814-824-1119, or by asking someone you may know who has completed a Cursillo weekend who would be willing to serve as your sponsor.



First Fridays
for **Families**

Join Blessed Sacrament parish during the 2022 year in a unique prayer experience!
Every First Friday of the month,
 we will offer a guided Eucharistic Adoration program geared toward children and families of all ages on Friday evening at 6pm.
 Everyone is welcome to this experience to be with Jesus in a very real and unique way.

2022 Schedule

January 7th	July 1st
February 4th	August 5th
March 4th	September 2nd
April 1st	October 7th
May 6th	November 4th
June 3rd	December 2nd

Contact Jen Durney, jdurney@bserie.org, with any questions



10:30 AM SUNDAY MASS IS ON LIVESTREAM OR WEEKLY INSPIRATION.

Be sure to check out St. Patrick’s web-page to watch St. Patrick’s Sunday, 10:30 AM livestream Mass. Go to saintpatrickparisherie.org Click on “livestream” AT 10:30 AM or “weekly inspiration” to watch the Mass at a later time. The video Masses are available on “You Tube” and can be watched by clicking on the bar that says “You Tube” on that page.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM
Saint Patrick Parish

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

HEAD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____
 SPOUSE _____ BIRTHDATE: _____
 CHILD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____
 CHILD _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration Change of Address Moving Want Envelopes

PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rectory

Synod: Key Term #4

What is discernment?

Discernment is the process for finding out what we should be doing. It might involve doing research or making a list of pros and cons, as you would for any major decision, but it is more than that. Especially in a religious context, discernment means trying to recognize God's will. Fruitful discernment takes place in a space of prayer and study. It includes sincere conversations with appropriate people, self-reflection, and attempting to read the signs that God may be placing around us.

We often speak of someone "discerning their vocation," which is something every person should do. In a similar way, discernment also happens on a communal level, from the local all the way up to the universal Church. Councils and Synods are always attempting to discern the will of the Holy Spirit, so that what they decide and teach may be what God wishes in that particular context. For communal discernment, dialogue is always more helpful than debate. Discernment should help us to understand our own needs and desires, but the final goal is to accept the will of God.

What is the Synod on Synodality?

Pope Francis has asked the entire world to participate in a synod on the topic "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission." The central question he asks of everyone is:

A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, "journeys together." How is this "journeying together" happening today in our diocese? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?

You may be invited to participate in listening sessions at your local parish, or you may wish to give your input online. Participation in a synod should always involve prayer, listening, discussion, and above all, discerning the way that the Holy Spirit is guiding us. Hopefully these questions and answers can help you as you prepare your input.

*Series of articles on the synod by Maria Caulfield
Graduate theology student, Franciscan University of Steubenville
Executive Assistant to the Offices of the Vicar General and the Chancery
Diocese of Erie*



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission



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