Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 23, 2022

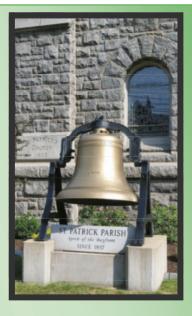


"Jesus Teaching in the Temple"
Stained Glass Window
St. Patrick Church
photo by
Tom Golab

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: 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 in Ordinary Time. The OT books of Ezra and Nehemiah are often treated together, and for much of their history, they



were part of the same book. Nehemiah was living in exile under the Persian King Azraxerxes in the 5th century BC and served as a cupbearer in his court. Around this same time, Cyrus the Great, the Persian king, was rising to power and would capture Babylon in 539 BC. With the king's permission, some of the Judeans who had been displaced in the Babylonian exile were returning to Jerusalem but the city was in ruins. When Nehemiah heard of their plight he went there and served 12 years as governor of Judea. Ezra was a Jewish priest and scribe living in Babylonia during the time of King Artaxerxes when he was directed to lead a group of exiles back to Jerusalem and to teach God's law to those who did not know it. Today's reading begins as they return and hear Ezra explain the law. The book to which the author refers is the Torah, also called the Pentateuch, the first five books of the OT. He read from dawn until mid-day and it should have been a glorious event, but the people were weeping because they were not aware of the high standards to which they were expected to live. but the prophet calls them to stop weeping and rejoice.

Today's reading is a continuation of last Sunday's which focused on spiritual gifts—a source of contention in Corinth—and a reminder that these gifts come from the Spirit and are not a measure of their status in the community. Paul addresses their divisions by using the metaphor of the human body. He shows them that the body works together and so must they. He emphasizes that no part of the body can declare itself separate from the rest of the body and secondly, each part of the body needs the other parts to function. He reminds them that if one part of the community suffers, all share in that suffering. He also ranks 3 spiritual gifts: apostles, prophets and teachers.

Today's gospel is the prologue (opening) and Luke's account of Jesus' first public teaching in the synagogue. Like the first and second

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

readings, it is all about proclaiming God's word. He addresses himself to a scribe, Theophilus, and tells him that he has examined the other gospels and talked to eyewitnesses of the Jesus story, so they can know with certainty the teachings they have received. What are these teachings? A guest was often asked to do one of the Torah readings and give a brief homily. Jesus accepts this invitation and reads from Isaiah. His brief homily is simply that "today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And he goes on to note that he has come to teach that the poor will know the good news, captives will be rescued, the blind will see and the oppressed will be freed.

I realize I'm late in doing this, but with the schedule over Christmas and New Years, several of the bulletins had to be in a week earlier than normal. I want to thank you for your incredible generosity with our Giving Tree at Christmas. We were able to give St. Martin's Center almost \$10,000 in gift cards for children who otherwise would not have any Christmas presents. I don't think I've ever been in a parish setting where people are as caring and generous to the poor and needy as you are here. I continue to be amazed by it. I hope you know that God smiles in a special way on anyone who cares for his poor. That type of caring also washes away a number of our failings which we might otherwise be held accountable for.

I mentioned in last week's bulletin, the continued decline in Mass attendance in our diocese, a decline of 48.8 percent since 2012. I think that figure represents the most dramatic reversal of basic religious behavioral attitudes certainly in my lifetime.

Beyond that, a new study released by the Pew Research Center, reveals that people who are religiously unaffiliated, that is, they have no affiliation with any religion despite, in many cases, having been raised in a religious home, has been rising sharply in recent years. Commonly known as "nones," they constituted 19% of adults in 2011. By 2016 that percentage had increased to 23% and today it is at 29%. In other words, almost one-third of American adults now identify themselves as having no religious affiliation whatsoever. Nearly 60% of them say they were raised in a religious home, and they now vary dramatically in their "religious response," despite being identified as "nones." This recent study shows

that 30% of them say they meditate and 26% say that they pray privately at least a few times a month while a very small number say they consult periodically with a spiritual leader for advice.

Despite these rather serious figures, the study also shows that Americans remain more religious with higher rates of daily prayer and belief in God as described in the Bible. According to a 2018 Pew study, about two-thirds of Americans say they pray daily, compared to 6% in Britain and 9% in Germany.

The growth of nones in the U.S. has come largely at the expense of the Protestant population. The study says 40% of U.S. adults are now Protestant, down from 50% a decade ago. Many of the people polled in these studies reveal that their faith journey has taken them often times all over the place. Some have found great comfort in their faith while facing tragedies in life while others have not found any comfort. Even in their personal philosophies, America's nones vary widely. For example, 30% say they feel some connection to God or a higher power and 19% say religion has some importance to them even though they have no religious affiliation. The studies reveal that there are people who do actually practice, but in non-traditional ways. They do not feel affiliated with a particular religion and certainly do not belong to a parish, etc. But they practice some sort of spirituality in their own way. As one of the people in the study said, "It just means finding meaning and maybe even spirituality without practicing a religion, pulling from whatever makes sense to me or whatever fits with my values."

The bottom line of the study is "this generation can be the first generation to be majority non-religious versus majority religious.."

The parish recently received a check for \$2,150.00 from the Cauley Trust. That Trust Fund was established with the Diocese of Erie by the Cauley brothers and is intended to distribute the interest each year to the parish. That trust was established in the early 1950s and has been distributing money to the parish ever since.

"Whenever my wife uses the phrase, 'I was thinking,' I know I'm have to move, build, paint or buy something." "The irony for mankind is that a computer program asks a human to prove that they're not a robot." "Remember when we used to line up at a fair and pay to see a fat tattooed lady? Now they're everywhere."



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Offertory Collection} & \$ & 7,027.00 \\ \text{Online Giving} & & \underline{3,058.00} \\ \text{Total Income} & \$ & 10,085.00 \\ \end{array}$

Thank you for your generosity!

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:

- ◆ Thomas Cook, Jr. from Lynda Cook
- Vern Dawson from David Duska & Anastasia Lachica
- ♦ Bloss family from Judy Freiwald
- Mark Borowy from Joyce Gunter
- Charles L. Dahlkemper from Bill & Patty Jackson
- Rich Miller from Lynne Miller
- ◆ Jeanne & Jim Hunkele, Dorothy & Jack McManus from Luigi & Sue Ellen Pasquale
- ♦ John & Lois Pfister from John & Barbara Miles
- ◆ Aunt Dorothy from Tim & Sheila Mack
- ◆ Leo Schlecht from Phil & Denise Rewers
- ♦ *Mary Novotny* from Robert & Carolyn Schenker
- William Straub on his birthday from Steve & Ann Scutella
- Joan Heubel, Ron Angelotti from Frank & Carol Vona
- Sister Pascal from Joseph & Lucy Walach
- ◆ Lu Yochim from Nancy Yochim

Also donations from:

Victoria Abbott, John & Ruth Alberstadt, Chris Antolik, Paul & Nancy Ditmore, Ken & Jan Gervasi, Geoffrey Gloekler, Kathleen Horan, Jay & Carol Habas, Robert & Kathryn Maholic and Scott Little

Special Thank You!!! to Panera Bread & Edible Arrangement's Haborcreek

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.





The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Greg Stoffer
from Brian & Annie Candela

Welcome New Parishioners

Jon & Stephanie Atkinson
John & Denise Janis
Daniel Post
William & Deborah Post
Gary & Mary Weibler
Douglas & Nicolle Chuzie
Mark Cable
Charles & Kathleen Tann
Jonathan & Tricia Taccone

Ministry Schedule Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Angie Kontur

Eucharistic Ministers: Shirley Winschel, Vickie Lampe, Roseanne Brown, Phyllis Marchinetti Ushers: Jim Sertz, Rob Oligeri, Chris Lampe, Phil Rewers

Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 8:00 am

Lector: Dan Bergell

Eucharistic Ministers: Steve Scutella, Ann Scutella, Pattie Marchant, **1** NEEDED

Ushers: Chuck Straub, John Maloney, Mike Nies, David Korn

Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 10:30 am

Lector: Luke Gilmore

Eucharistic Ministers: Luke Gilmore, Erin Wachter,

Mary Williams, 1 NEEDED

Ushers: Chuck Agresti, David Taccone, Jim Wehan, Randy Pristello, John Purvis, Tom Welch (4) Offertory Counters: Michele Wheaton, Tim Torrey,

Susan Merski, Mary Frick

Food Pantry Director Position

We have an opening for the Director of the Food Pantry. This is a perfect position for a retired person as it only requires a few hours per week and is salaried. It requires being present from 9 - noon every Tuesday when we have Food Pantry, and then some additional time ordering some things. If interested, please contact the parish office for a job description and salary.

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Jan. 22 Saturday, Vigil: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm Herbert Arthur Dietz

(FRIENDS OF NANCY CHRISTINE ROSSMAN)

Jan. 23 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am andrew adams

(MICHAEL & CHERYL STEPHANY)

10:30 AM JUDY KUBANEY (POWELL FAMILY)

Jan. 24 Monday, Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM FRANK LAROCCA, ANNIV. 1/11 (ANGIE KONTUR)

Jan. 25 *Tuesday, Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle* 8:00 AM JAMES KONTUR, ANNIV. (ANGIE KONTUR)

Jan. 26 Wednesday, Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

8:00 am James Villella (Karl & Ginny Kelm)

Jan. 27 Thursday, Weekday

8:00 AM MAX KOLODZIEJCZAK, ANNIV. OF BIRTH (SISTER, ANN)

Jan. 28 Friday, Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Religious and Doctor of the Church

NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Jan. 29 Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00 pm Emilia Malinowski

(DAUGHTER, PAULINE OSMER)

Jan. 30 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am marge stewart, anniv. of birth 1/29 (family)

10:30 am Marge Griffey (ron & Karen Rudler)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

01/22 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

01/25 9:00 AM Food Pantry - PR

01/26 12:00 PM A.A. - PR

01/29 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.
- 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
- 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 ENVE-

LOPES: 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

236 DAYS TO THE 2022 ERIE IRISH FESTIVAL WHO INVENTED MOONSHINE,

STOCKCAR RACING,
AND COUNTRY MUSIC?

WHY, THE IRISH, OF COURSE!

In the 1600's, the English were bent on punishing the Irish nobles in the

northern province of Ulster who would not cooperate with the English occupation, so they created a plantation system, throwing the Irish Catholic nobles off of their ancestral land and replacing them with English and Scotish protestants. The descendants of these new Irish landowners are still there in Northern Ireland. Or at least most of them are, because a century later a whole bunch of them moved here.

The first wave of Irish immigration to the United States occurred during the 1700's when around 250,000 Irish Protestants from Ulster moved to the colonies, along with about 100,000 Irish Catholics. They arrived mostly in eastern Pennsylvania, then moved west and then south into the coal country and hills of Appalachia, the Blue Ridge, and the Smokies and quickly came to dominate the culture and politics in those areas. By 1828, they had helped America win her independence and had put one of their kids into the White House—Andrew Jackson was the son of Irish immigrants from County Antrim.

When the potato famine struck Europe in the 1840's and Irish Catholics arrived in the States in the millions, the older Irish immigrant community started referring to themselves as "Scots Irish" so they wouldn't be mistaken for the new wave of mostly poor Catholics. And they were fruitful and multiplied. And they adapted to the new world. Instead of malt and barley, they grew lots of corn, so they made corn liquor instead of Irish whiskey. And to get that corn liquor from place to place and not get caught by the government agents who wanted to tax it, they souped up their regular looking, off-the-lot, "stock" cars, and when they weren't outrunning the revenuers, they raced their stock cars around dirt tracks. They took their fiddles, and Irish harps, and tin whistles, and, with some help from their African-American neighbors, they invented new music-hillbilly music (later called "country" music). And guess what, my friends? A bunch of them are coming to the 2022 Erie Irish Festival!

The *Tan and Sober Gentlemen*, a band of good old boys from the backcountry of North Carolina will be serving up the Gaelic roots of hillbilly music right here on 4th Street. They'll have you stomping, smiling, and drenched in sweat just like the audiences on their recent tour of Ireland. And we'll make sure to bring in some Irish moonshine to get us all in the mood because these guys are the best dancing and drinking band anywhere! You will not want to miss this for any reason. I guar-on-tee it.

It take a lot of work to make this happen. If you are interested in joining the team, we could sure use you. Gary and Becky Johnson, Festival Chairs, can be reached at gjohnson@brotolocsouth.com or beckykj@neo.rr.com.

Watch & Share Erie Catholic School

System's New Video

We are SO excited to share Erie Catholic's new video

- · View at https://bit.ly/ECSSvideo
- · Watch our video, share with your family and friends #FaithInOurFuture
- A random winner will be selected during Catholic Schools Week and win a school swag item from Milagaro School Uniforms & Goods



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.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html. We would love to welcome you this January!

Knights of Columbus sponsors benefit raffle, dinner

The Knights of Columbus #14437 of St. Andrew Parish, Erie, is sponsoring a 50/50 raffle and a Salisbury steak dinner to benefit Michael Lombardozzi. Mike has been dealing with medical issues and is in need of assistance. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and are for sale after the 11 a.m. Mass or by contacting the Knights (John Skrzypczak at 814-440-9157, Tom Klemm at 814-323-5222, or Pat Nenno at 814-812-4238). The dinner will be held Feb. 6 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Msgr. Gannon Auditorium, 1116 W. 7th St., Erie. Tickets will be available at the door.

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.

Ninth annual Catholic men's conference is less than one month away

Men are invited to attend 22:32 Men, a half-day event based on the theme of Luke 22:32, "But I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." The conference will be held Feb. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at St. Jude the Apostle Church, 2801 W. 6th St., Erie. Enjoy fellowship and inspiring national speakers Bear Woznick and Father Anthony Marie Baetzold, CFR. The event will conclude with Mass offered by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Discounts available for groups of eight or more, as well as for high school students. Visit www.2232Men.com or call 814-455-7364 for more information and to register.



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-1	MAIL:		
HEAD	BIRTHDA	ATE:	
SPOUSE	BIRTHDATE:		
CHILD	BIRTHDATE:		
CHILD	BIRTHDATE:		
PLEASE CIRCLE ON	IE BELOW:		
New Registration	Change of Address	Moving	Want Envelopes

PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rectory

Synod: Key Term #1

What is a synod?

"Synod" comes from ancient Greek. It can be translated as "journeying together." Its literal meaning reminds us of Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6) and of Christians as followers of the Way (Acts 9:2). In Christianity it became the proper term for an assembly specifically called to discern, in accordance with the Holy Spirit, answers to important questions for the Church. One of the earliest examples is the Council of Jerusalem, described in Acts 15. Synods have been used at all levels of the Church, from local diocesan synods all the way up to the Synod of Bishops for the universal Church. They generally deal with how we can best live out our faith in practice.

A synod can be thought of as a type of family meeting. By this analogy, the bishops are like the head of a household, with responsibility for the Church and authority to make decisions for her. In order to make the best possible decisions, they check in with the rest of the family and ask for our experiences and input. Then, taking everything into consideration, they make the decision. Bishop Persico, for example, is using this method for Pastoral Planning in our diocese. A synod is not democratic, and it is not majority rule. It is a means of discussing and discerning God's will, the God who is drawn always to the poor and little ones.

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

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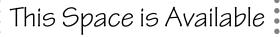






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