



ST. MARK & MT. CALVARY *Parishes*



DECEMBER 12, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office is Located At:
695 Smithson Ave. Erie, PA 16511
Phone: (814) 899-3000 or (814) 454-0061

After-Hour Sacramental Emergency Number:
(814)923-9500

Office Hours
Monday– Thursday 8:00 AM– 1:00 PM

St. Mark Church
695 Smithson Ave.
Erie, PA 16511
(Lawrence Park)

Mt. Calvary Church
2022 East Lake Rd.
Erie, PA 16511

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY:

8:00 am at St. Mark Church
12:10 pm at Mt. Calvary Church

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 4:30 pm at St. Mark Church

SUNDAY: 8:45 am at Mt. Calvary Church
10:30 am at St. Mark Church

Third Sunday of
ADVENT

Sunday, December 12—3rd Sunday of ADVENT

8:45 AM Mass (MC) Lector: Barb Sauer
9:00 AM Religious Education
10:00 AM Beads of Peace—Rosary Prayer Group
10:30 AM Mass (SM) Lector: Religious Education
11:30 AM Cookies with Santa

Monday, December 13

6:00 PM Cub Scouts
7:00 PM Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 14

Wednesday, December 15

Emmaus Ground Beef
8:00 AM Daily Mass (SM)
12:10 PM Daily Mass (MC)
1:00 PM Doll Club
6:30 PM Girl Scouts Meeting Daisies & Brownies
7:00 PM N.A.

Thursday, December 16

8:00 AM Daily Mass (SM)
12:10 PM Daily Mass (MC)
6:30 PM A.A.
6:30 PM Choir

Friday, December 17

8:00 AM Daily Mass (SM)
12:10 PM Daily Mass (MC)

Saturday, December 18

4:30 PM Mass (SM) Lector: Peter Hohman

Sunday, December 19 4th Sunday of ADVENT

Emmaus Cookie Sunday
8:45 AM Mass (MC) Lector: John Warus
9:00 AM Religious Education
10:30 AM Mass (SM) Lector: Shelly Sheridan

The More You Know...
Theological Musings



- with *Maripat Grant* -

Already, and not yet...

This phrase represents a theological concept about the Kingdom of God.

The word "Already" refers to the Kingdom of God being in the here and now. We are living in it.

"Not yet" reminds us that we are awaiting the next age (of the Kingdom of God) which is still to come.

Through Jesus' birth, God the Son came to us. As us. He didn't have to become incarnate or be crucified to save us. Yet He did. He knew that doing this was the best way to save us from ourselves. And because of this great gift to humanity, we celebrate His 'birth' day.

If this blessed event hadn't happened in a human way at the time it did, we likely would not truly understand our own Salvation History.

That is why God sent us His Son. To save us. He taught us that although we sin, we can be forgiven and be in communion with God.

We are 'already' in the middle of our salvation process. However, during Advent, we hear in the Gospels and Fr. Tom's homilies that the Son of Man will return in the last days. We also hear that message at every mass all year long when the presider says "We wait in joyful hope of the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ" during the Lord's Prayer. Are you ready? I know I'm not, but I hope to be. "Not Yet." But it IS coming.

Lent and Advent have much in common. (Besides the color purple.) They are both penitential seasons in our liturgical calendar. We need to look at our own lives and strive to be better. That's hard to do sometimes.

When I felt the 'struggles' of difficult things in my life, my grandmother would always say to me, "offer it up." She meant 'for the souls in purgatory,' but why not do this for those that are hurting and need help in the here and now?

So because of this, when I am feeling down about something, I 'offer it up.' I 'give it to God,' and in exchange, try to make someone smile by my words or actions.

As Grama would also say, "someone always has it worse."

I try to do a little more of this practice during these seasons. Not just because my grandmother said to, but because God sent us His Son to show us how truly important that is.

As a Music Director, hymns are always on my mind. I'll close with important words from Hark, the Herald Angels Sing that I think touches on this concept of redemption and addresses both the "already" and the "not yet."

Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King"
 Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13TH TO DECEMBER 19, 2021**Mon. December 13:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27**Tues. December 14:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32**Wed. December 15:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23**Thurs. December 16:** Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30**Fri. December 17:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17**Sat. December 18:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25**Sun. December 19:** Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45**Wed. December 15:**8:00 (SM) Michael & Veronica Kuzilla & Sons
(*Mary, Agnes & Veronica*)12:10 (MC) Bridget Zebrowski (*Family*)**Thurs. December 16:**8:00 (SM) John Bell (*Kathy & Chuck Lewis*)12:10 (MC) Intentions of Jim Wierbinski
(*Parish Family*)**Fri. December 17:**8:00 (SM) For the deceased members of
St. Mark & Mt. Calvary parishes12:10 (MC) Henry & Dorothy Bujalski (*Boris Family*)**Sat. December 18:**4:30 (SM) Intentions of Joe & Mary Garolfalo
(*Marycatherine Major*)**Sun. December 19:**8:45 (MC) Henry and Dorothy Bujalski (*Boris Family*)10:30 (SM) John Nadzam
(*Clarence & Mary Beveridge*)**SANCTUARY CANDLES BURNING
WEEK OF DECEMBER 12, 2021****At St. Mark Church:**In loving memory of John Bell
(*Kathy & Chuck Lewis*)**At Mt. Calvary Church:**In loving memory of Henry D. Bujalski
(*Amy Extein*)**Secret Prayer Pals Reminder**

Just a reminder to keep those positive thoughts and prayers going for your Secret Prayer Pal. Even though the prayers are silent, they still have a great impact on the individual you are praying for. Even if they do not know who you are, they will know you are there thinking of them.

We will have a Prayer Pal reveal to gather together in prayer and to join prayer pals together around early-mid January. More details to come..

The reveal gathering is not mandatory Please do not let this keep you from joining this faith formation prayerful activity.

A Family Perspective

Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give **NESSITITIES** to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

Marriage Moment

In Catholic tradition, December 12 is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – a feast of miracles when Mary appeared in the skin color and clothing of the indigenous Mexican people. Have there been any miracles in your marriage? (recovery from an illness, revitalization of your love, remembering to check the car's oil?) Do you ever get under each other's skin? Is it a miracle you're still together?

Engaged couples: Plan ahead for a happy, healthy marriage:

The Marriage and Family Life Office is hosting an Engagement Encounter weekend 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!



Fr. Tom will lead us through The Advent of the Messiah Bible Study so we might more deeply appreciate

the gift God gave to us all. This Advent Bible Study will take place on **Thursdays** during Advent and the Christmas Season at **1pm in Rms 1 & 2 of the Ward Center!**

Materials will be available in the Parish Office to read and reflect upon before our next class on Thursday, December 16nd, 2021 at 1pm in Rms 1 & 2. Contact Fr. Tom or Stacey to receive your materials for this Bible Study!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- December 13:** Diana Zajavac
- December 14:** Courtney Abramczyk, Beverly Kimet, Cindy Miller, Joseph Wenzel, James Zboyovski
- December 15:** Wendy Fabin
- December 16:** Peggy Abbate, Raymond Kertulis
- December 17:** Mindy Beatty, Brad Graham, Patricia Ann Kertulis, Shirley May
- December 18:** Deborah Wilson



December 14: June & Mark Detar

DON'T FORGET!!!!
St. Mark Social Hall
COOKIES TODAY AT 11:30 am



As a reminder, today is the collection day for our Retired Religious persons, please give generously.

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others — educating the young, comforting the sick and ministering to the less fortunate. Today, many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to today's second collection.

We can't thank you enough for your generosity!

We are grateful for the generosity shown to our Parishes during #iGiveCatholic! On November 30th, our organization joined with thousands of other Catholic organizations in this Day of Giving to unite the faithful across the country.

Because of donors like you, we were able to raise funds to further our mission of upgrading the St. Mark sound system and continuing Mt. Calvary's Catholic School Scholarships. Each gift made today will play a critical role in allowing us to serve the faithful in our community and build the body of Christ.

Sincerely,
 Fr. Tom Trocchio



Would you like to make a Christmas Flower Donation but do not receive envelopes currently? Please, take an Christmas Flower envelope from the front of the Parishes for your donation.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

December 24th:

4:30pm SM

7:00pm MC

Midnight SM

December 25th:

10:00am MC

*No 4:30 Mass on

December 25th*

December 26th:

8:45am MC

10:30am SM

PARISH STAFF**Pastor**

Rev. Thomas Trocchio, ext. 11
ttrocchio@smmc.church

Deacon Assistant

Deacon Dave Jacquel, ext. 13
djacquel@smmc.church

Director of Operations and Finance

Pat Marshall, ext. 12
pmarshall@smmc.church

PARISH OFFICE STAFF**Receptionist/Secretary**

Carmel Campanelli, ext. 10
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Nathan Jackson
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Director of Lifelong Faith Formation

Stacey Badowski, ext. 14
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Director of Liturgical Music Coordinator of Liturgy

Maripat C. Grant
mgrant@smmc.church

Junior and Senior High Youth Minister

Katie Leuschen ext. 17
kleuschen@smmc.church

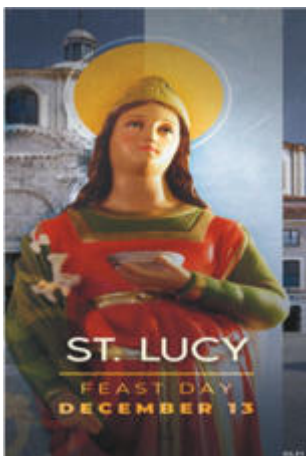
Elementary Level Youth Minister

Katie Schwenk ext. 17
kschwenk@smmc.church

PRAYER LINE

CAROL (899-6207)
JPERROTTO@ROADRUNNER.COM

St. Lucy Feast Day: December 13th
Born: 283 Died as a Virgin Martyr 304



As is common with older Saints and Martyrs of the Church, not much is known and often what is known is based on rumors. However, there always appears to be a bit of truth in between the stories.

St. Lucy was born to a noble Greek family and was raised as a Christian by her mother in Syracuse, Sicily. One story that has been pretty consistent, is that of St. Lucy remaining a virgin and dedicating her life to helping those less fortunate. As the story develops, a suitor that had been selected by her mother became very insulted that she did not return his affections and was spending her dowry to help the poor.

The suitor reported Lucy as a Christian which was a crime against the city at that time. It has been suggested the Holy Spirit entered Lucy and helped her to stand against all tortures being done to her. Supposedly, heated pitch and resin was poured on her, wood stacked in bundles to burn her and the guards ordered to gouge out her eyes. Another version was her placed with the prostitutes of the day so she would become like them. The fire, pitch and resin and humiliations did not harm her. However, she could not see, hence, the reason for being the Patron Saint of the blind and eye troubles and ailments. At the end of it all, she was stabbed with a dagger through the throat which did succeed in killing her. When she was prepared for burial, it was noted that her eyes had been miraculously restored.

Often during the Middle Ages she was prayed to and her name invoked to intercede and help people who were having eye troubles. Lucy in Italian means light and her reference to eye sight and being able to see, is her legacy to everyone. Below are links for further reading.

Saint Lucy's Prayer:

Saint Lucy, you did not hide your light under a basket, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation -- every corner of our day. Amen

<https://simplycatholic.com/the-holiness-of-the-virgin-martyr-st-lucy/>
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/st-lucy-83>

Please return your gifts for this year Advent Giving Trees! Gifts must be returned by December 12th following the 10:30am Mass.

In lieu of shopping for a gift, monetary donations will also be accepted. Please make the check out to St. Mark Parish or Mt. Calvary Parish and write "Advent Giving Tree" on the memo line.

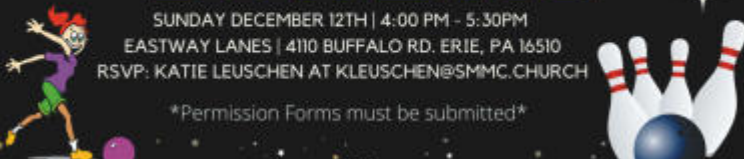
Thank you for your continued support of our communities!

St. Mark/Mt Calvary
6th-12th Grade
Youth Group

BOWLING

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12TH | 4:00 PM - 5:30PM
EASTWAY LANES | 4110 BUFFALO RD. ERIE, PA 16510
RSVP: KATIE LEUSCHEN AT KLEUSCHEN@SMMC.CHURCH

Permission Forms must be submitted



Questions contact Katie Schwenk @
kschwenk@smmc.church

Christmas Cookie Bake Off



Families, come and join Katie S. to
bake Christmas cookies for the
Emmaus Soup Kitchen!

Elementary Youth Group
December 16 @ 6pm, Ward Center
Kitchen.

St. Mark / Mount Calvary
Hats for the Homeless

Winter will be here before you know it and once again there will be a need for winter gear.
You can help!

Knit or Crochet hats or scarves
Donate new or gently used hats, gloves and scarves
Make a monetary donation to be used toward the purchase of gloves
Boxes for donations located at the doors of the Church

Questions call Geri Smith @ 882-5284 or Pat Marshall @ 899-3000

All donations will be distributed through EMMAUS Ministries.



REMINDER COLLECTIONS FOR

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15TH
Emmaus Ground Beef Day

SUNDAY DECEMBER 19TH
Emmaus Cookie Day

We've received a many of the East Erie Deanery Surveys but we still need more!
Drop yours in the collection basket or fill it out online as soon as possible.
We appreciate your help in filling out this survey!

<https://form.jotform.com/212985812553058>



Here is a quick Religious Education Spotlight: Our religious education middle school class used their December 5th class to make Christmas Wreaths for some of the local retired priests and sisters within our area!
Thank you to Katie Leuschen and our Middle School Class!

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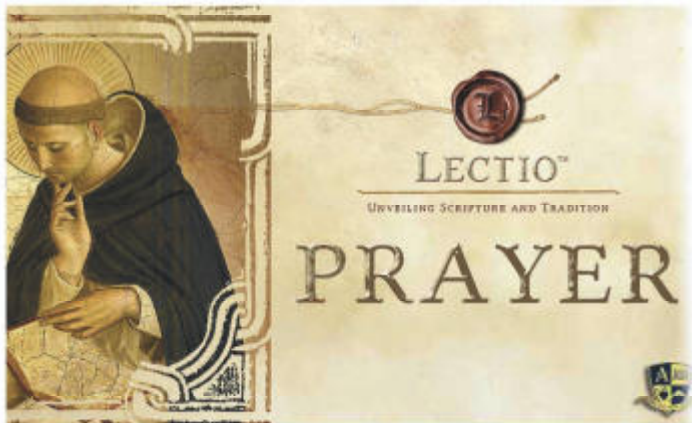
PICK OF THE WEEK

December 12, 2021

WATCH

SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA: A STUDY IN PERSEVERANCE

Both St. John of the Cross and his dear friend St. Teresa of Ávila lived heroic lives of prayer. In honor of these spiritual masters, enjoy this film depicting the Carmelite way of life and the virtue of perseverance.



LECTIO: PRAYER—AN INTIMATE DIALOGUE

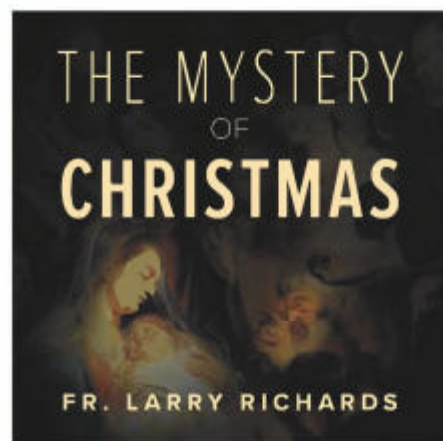
St. John of the Cross, Doctor of the Church, had a deep desire to help others grow in prayer. In honor of this mystical saint, join Dr. Gray as he dives into the simplicity and mystery of prayer.

LEARN

LISTEN

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS BY FR. LARRY RICHARDS

In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards reminds us that in the mystery of Christmas, God gives humanity his greatest gift—the gift of his Son to the world.



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(please circle which parish)

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Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

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 Change of E-mail Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

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