

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD  
JANUARY 4, 2015



Christmas at St. Hedwig's

**Saint Patrick Parish**

**Saint Hedwig Parish**

*Serving the East Bayfront of Erie since 1837*

Daily Mass 8 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass 5 PM

Sunday 8 AM & 10:30 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass 4 PM

## Monsignor Henry Kriegel, Pastor

### **Saint Patrick Parish**

130 East Fourth Street  
Erie, PA 16507  
454-8085 FAX 459-8685  
stpats@neo.rr.com  
www.saintpatrickparisherie.org  
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9AM-Noon,  
1 PM - 4PM; Friday 9AM - Noon

### **Saint Hedwig Parish**

521 East Third Street  
Erie, PA 16507  
454-6232 FAX 454-8096  
sainthedwig@neo.rr.com  
www.sainthedwigparisherie.org  
Office Hours: Wednesday 8AM—3:30PM

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

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. These same readings are used in every one of the 3 year cycle of our readings. Each of the readings speaks to the reality that God wills his Son to be made manifest to all the nations of the world. Our first reading from Second Isaiah written during the Babylonian Exile about 550 BC. He offers the captives a vision not only of better days to come, but also of a future of unimaginable joy. What he saw was a total disconnect from their experience of exile. The images he uses such as "the glory of the lord shines upon you" seem foreign to people after two generations in Babylon. He challenges them to believe that the God of Israel would once again restore them to glory as he had done with their ancestors.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians is called Deutero-Pauline because the author is unknown but wrote in Paul's name and drew upon his authority, applying his theology and ethics to a contemporary situation. The letter was written between 80 and 110 AD and Paul was martyred in the late 60s, but this adaptation helps us understand that Paul's theology was working its way into common belief. The language of Paul and the Pauline Christians describe Jews and Gentiles as "coheirs" and "copartners." All believers are members of the "same body." This is one of the main themes of Paul: God makes himself manifest to the nations through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

We hear today from Matthew because he is the only one of the four gospels to tell us of the Magi. There is a parallel to Luke's gospel where shepherds visit. For Luke, recall that the birth of Christ is God coming into the world to empower the weak and the marginalized. For Matthew, who writes to a Jewish audience, he is pointing out that it took Gentiles to recognize the birth of

Christ because the Jews missed it. This recurring theme of Matthew includes the Gentiles in the historic promised and covenants between God and Israel and even appear in the final words of the resurrected Jesus to his disciples: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Mt 28:19)

Plans are being finalized for our Homeless Shelter from February 11-24 at the Russian Church of the Nativity Social Center at Front and German Streets. I'm rather overwhelmed by your response to this project with volunteers to monitor the night as well as people preparing meals for 60 people and providing clothing, etc. We can still use additional volunteers. Sign up sheets are in the back of church near the bulletins.

The birth rate among women in the U. S. continues to fall, according to a new study. The fertility rate in the U. S. has dropped to an all-time low of 1.86, well below the replacement level of 2.1. *The Wall Street Journal*, in reporting the trend, notes that unless immigration makes up the difference, the American population will dip, with negative implications for the economy. This means fewer workers to propel the economy and a smaller tax base to finance benefits for the elderly. This same trend has been occurring in countries such as Italy, Greece, etc. and the results have devastated the economy.

The St. Patrick's Food Pantry distributed 14,600 pounds of food during November at a cost of \$676.04 to the parish. In addition, we had costs of \$400 for police patrol during the distribution of turkeys. Can you believe that? Some of the people get so out of hand that we have to have police here to give some of them a gift. It's a very small number but they disrupt the day for everyone. During November we served a total of 827 families. It is your ongoing generosity that supports

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

this worthwhile project.

The diocese recently shared information with the priests concerning the declining number of priests. That report shows that in the past ten years we have ordained 20 new priests. During that same period, however, 60 priests died and an additional 18 left the ministry. As a result, we had 78 less priests and only 20 new ones. The report also shows that Mass attendance in the West Erie Deanery has declined an average of 23% over the past ten years. One parish had a decline of 60%, another 45% and a third 40%. We have not yet received the data for the East Deanery of which we are a part. I can tell you, that Mass attendance at St. Patrick's during that period of time has increased rather dramatically.

We're finally able to give you a bottom line on the Irish Festival. Our one-time up front expenses totaled \$18,000. \$14,000 of that was for electrical work alone. We also had to build a stage and do several other things. As a result, our profit was about \$30,000. If we didn't have those one time expenses, the profit would be closer to \$50,000. Next year we want to start buying one piece of kitchen equipment each year so we don't have to rent them.

Senior Computer skills:

Customer: I can't get on the Internet.

Tech Support: Are you sure you used the right password?

Customer: Yes, I'm sure. I saw a friend do it.

Tech support: Can you tell me what the password was?

Customer: Five dots.

Tech Support: How may I help you?

Customer: I'm writing my first e-mail.

Tech Support: OK and what is the problem?

Customer: Well, I have the letter 'a' in the address, but how do I get the little circle around it? A woman called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer.

Support: "Are you running it under windows?"

Customer: "No, my desk is next to the door, but that's a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his printer is working fine."

## *Saint Hedwig News*



### *The Epiphany of the Lord*

*The Gospel of Matthew tells us that the Wisemen worshipped Jesus and adored Him. This act of worship shows that Christ extended the gift of salvation and eternal life to even those beyond the borders of Israel. All nations and races may now take their place in the eternal Kingdom of God.*

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for a **Special Intention**.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Raymond Kantorowski** requested by the Juchno family.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Robbie Robison** request by Russell Robison Jr.

Because of early deadlines for the bulletin, our offertory for the weekends of December 20/21, 27/28 and January 3/4 will be listed in the bulletin of January 10/11.

Thank you and God bless.

### **Fuel & Heat**

To help defray heating costs, the envelopes are in the packets you receive. Your generosity is appreciated.

### **Masses Celebrated at Priest Retirement Home**

Hattie Gleba (Ken & Karen Wargo), Peter Zielinski (Wanda Bocianowski), Sigmund Gorski (Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mielnik), Robert T. Niedzwiecki (Tom & Sharon Zielinski), Martin Mikeska (Diane & Dan Jarzomski), Mary Ciecierski (St. Hedwig Rosary Rosary Society), Frank Olszewski (Ray & Edna Pashke.)



### **St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule**

January 10

Saturday

4:00 PM

Lector

Dave Widomski

Eucharist

Dave Widomski

Ushers

Tom Zielinski

Ray Nowosielski

Servers

Portia & Yvonne

Nowosielski



**PRAY THE ROSARY**





# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Because of early publishing deadlines our offering for the weekends of December 20/21, December 27/28, and January 3/4 will be listed in the bulletin of January 10/11. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Please make a special effort to remember in your daily prayers the members of our parish who are hospitalized, in Long Term Nursing Care, or home-bound.

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

The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of **Evelyn Skovron** from Alice & Carl Carlotti

The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week by **Erie Restoration, Inc.**

### Donations to the Food Panty:

In memory of **Sr. Mary Pascal** from Paula & Thomas Calabrese

In memory **Emory W. Lang, James & Mary Ann Mahoney, Paul & Norma Causgrove** from Anne & Paul Causgrove

In memory of **Robert Adamczyk** from Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon

In memory of **Gretchen Marie Armour, Susan Gerard** from Barbara Gingenbach

In memory of **Joe McClellan** from Marilyn McClellan

Also donations from:

Mary Anne Ashworth, Mary Ellen Demyanovich, Karen Euliano, Thomas Fontecchio, and Kathleen Horan

## A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



What can we learn from the Gospel narrative of foreign men who were open to a universe they could not master, to a star they could not deny, and to institutions that they knew without doubt to follow? We know that they were observant, trained to seek clues, adapt their plans to new information, and full of trust in their instincts. How well do we recognize the epiphanies, manifestations of God's presence and action, within our own lives? How open are we to following new paths revealed by God in all things in our own situation?

## Ministry Schedule

**Saturday, January 10, 2015 at 5:00 pm**

**Lector:** Angie Kontur

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Patty Dailey, Yvonne Gersims, Shirley Winschel

**Greeters:** Angie Kontur

**Altar Servers:** Addie & Owen Babinsack

**Ushers:** Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers

**Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 10:30 am**

**Lector:** Mary Kearney

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Tim Scully, Audrey Reigel, Katie Froehlich

**Greeters:** Marlene Golab, Mary Alice Hartwell

**Altar Servers:** Logan Kearney

**Ushers:** Randy Pristello, Dave Wilcox, John Purvis, Luke Purvis

**Offertory Counters:** Mary Kearney, Mary McCarthy, Mary Pat Schlaudecker



## ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS:

**From:** Betty Gama

**In Memory of:** Parents, Marie & Walter Sr. Weber, Sisters, Audrey, Shirley, Virginia Weber, brothers, Robert & Walter Jr. Weber and daughter, Marcene Fabin

**From:** David Korn

**In Memory of:** Barbara Korn

**From:** Barb & BJ Lechner

**In Memory of:** Deceased Members of the Rodeno & Lechner Families

**From:** Jim & Kathleen Wehan

**In Memory of:** Richard & Anna Collins, Edward & Doris Wehan

## NEED PRAYERS?

Please call **Mary Alice Hartwell** at **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. 3** *Saturday, Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord*

4:00 PM MARY ALICE MADONIA (JUCHNO FAMILY)-ST.H

5:00 PM PAUL &amp; PAT RYAN (MARY &amp; ROY MARSH)-ST.P

**Jan. 4** *The Epiphany of the Lord*

8:00 AM MARY JEAN CIOCCIO - ST.P

(TOM &amp; SHEILA HIGGINS)

10:30 AM JAMES MCCARTHY, ANNIV. (WIFE, MARY)-ST.P

**Jan. 5** *Monday, Saint John Neumann, Bishop*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

**Jan. 6** *Tuesday, Saint Andre Bessette, Religious*

8:00 AM MRS. BETTY FLANAGAN

(BILL &amp; MARY FLANAGAN)

**Jan. 7** *Wednesday, Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest*

8:00 AM MARY LOU FORAM (FAMILY)

**Jan. 8** *Thursday, Christmas Weekday*

8:00 AM MATTHEW PURZYCKI (HARRIET PURZYCKI)

**Jan. 9** *Friday, Christmas Weekday*

8:00 AM STAWNIAK FAMILY

(DAUGHTER, ROSE NIEDZWIECKI)

**Jan. 10** *Saturday, Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord*

4:00 PM DOLLY BURDIS, ANNIV. - ST.H

(BROTHERS &amp; SISTERS)

5:00 PM JOSEPHINE ALECCI (JUDY PONTERIO) - ST.P

**Jan. 11** *The Baptism of the Lord*

8:00 AM MARY JEAN CIOCCIO - ST.P

(TOM &amp; SHEILA HIGGINS)

10:30 AM RON ANGELOTTI, ANNIV. 1-06 (FAMILY) - ST.P

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

St.H=St. Hedwig, St.P=St. Patrick, HR=Holy Rosary

CP=Chapel, PF=Polish Falcons

PR=Pascal Room, R=Rector, CV=Convent

**01/03** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

**01/04** 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg. - Grade 6 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Rel. Ed Jr./Sr. High - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Confirmation Session - Holy Rosary

**01/06** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**01/07** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**01/10** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

**01/11** 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg. - Grade 6 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Rel. Ed Jr./Sr. High - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Confirmation Session - Holy Rosary

**Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments**

**Be Vigilant:** It is vitally important that we are vigilant—that we always observe the behaviors of those who interact with children. We must always communicate our concerns to the appropriate parties. Sometimes this means communicating our safety concerns to our children. And sometimes this means communicating our concerns about seemingly inappropriate behavior to those who are in a position to intervene. Parents must also listen carefully to their children and observe both their children's activities and the behavior of older children and adults who interact with them. When children exhibit dramatic behavioral changes, adults must find out what caused the changes. Being aware of what's happening with our children means talking to, listening to, and observing them—at every opportunity. (Source: [www.virtusonline.org/virtus](http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus)) To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/>

**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**☐ Saint Hedwig☐ Saint Patrick

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration

Change of Address

Moving

Want Envelopes

**PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rectory**