

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
FEBRUARY 15, 2015



St. Patrick's Church

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 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time and we hear first from the Book of Leviticus, which stands at the center of the five books of the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Leviticus teaches the Israelites how to be clean and pure in God's presence. Much of the material in the book deals with legal matters around purity. Today's reading is taken from a section that addresses topics that range from food to personal hygiene. The issue of leprosy received extensive treatment. These purity laws kept unclean Jews, such as lepers, separated from clean Jews. While it may seem cruel by modern standards, there did exist the very real possibility of the spread of the disease. People suffering from leprosy were alienated from the community, which was particularly painful because the Israelites had a strong sense of collective identity.

Our brief second reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians is a succinct summary of Paul's response to them. Prior to this, the letter spends four full chapters expanding upon these issues. Today he says simply, "do everything for the glory of God," "avoid giving offense," "be imitators of me as I am of Christ."

Mark's story of the cleansing of the leper is set in the context of our first reading, ie., they were considered impure, being punished by God and were separated from the healthy. Note that Jesus sends the man to the priest because only the priest can determine if the man can return to the community. When he tells the man to offer what Moses prescribed, he is referring to Lev. 14: 1-9 which prescribes an offering and several bathing rituals. Jesus always worked within the context of Jewish purity laws. This account concludes with two remarkable comments by Mark. First, Jesus tells the man to tell no one but the man instead

goes and tells everyone. Secrecy about Jesus is very prominent in the first eight chapters of Mark. The second comment by Mark is that Jesus' fame has spread so fast that he can no longer enter a town openly.

Wednesday of this week is Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence for Catholics. All between the ages of 7 and 60 should eat only one full meal and abstain from eating any meat. We will have two Masses at St. Patrick's: 8 AM and 12:05 PM. Both will be in the main church. I will distribute ashes at the following times: before and after the 8 AM Mass; 11:40 AM—12 Noon and immediately following the 12:05 Mass. I will then again distribute ashes at 4 PM until all are finished.

During Lent I am going to again offer some Scripture classes which will be held on Thursday mornings from 10 -- 11 AM in the church. The first class on February 26 will be "Mary of Scripture"; the second on March 5 will be "Who are the Apostles?"; the third on March 12 will be "Who Wrote the Gospels?" and finally on March 19 I will do a class that will sort of be a show and tell! I want to show you how people lived in Jesus' time, who his friends and enemies were, what was daily life like, where were his appearances after the resurrection, who were the first Christians, who was Paul. There is no charge for the classes and you do not need to bring your bible. All we ask is that you call the parish office (454-8085) so we know how many copies to make. After each class I will distribute a hand-out which will be a complete synopsis of the class. The classes will also be online and if are watching it that way, you can e-mail us and we will send you a copy of the handout.

Perhaps taking these classes could be your Lenten action, perhaps more productive than trying to go without something.

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

The diocese hosted a study week for Clergy and Religious recently which was intended to address the upcoming changes that will be happening. We had an excellent presenter from Green Bay who covered subjects like the grieving that people will experience as their parishes close or merge, how we have to be patient and help people walk through the process, etc. The last day was a compilation of statistics from Neil Meitler who is heading the gathering of information that will be shared with people beginning in June. The data is absolutely frightening and let me share some of it. Catholic households registered in a parish are down 15% over the last ten years; Baptisms are down 43%; Mass attendance is down 26%; students in Religious Ed is down 36%. The most frightening statistic of all was when he told us that in the Diocese of Erie between the baptism of an infant and when that child reaches the age of 18, we have already lost 30% of them. Those are sobering statistics which should help us understand what is coming.

I will also have data on Mass attendance in our Erie parishes, particularly on the East Side. I shared with you recently some of the data from the west side parishes which show a dramatic drop in Mass attendance over the past ten years. The average drop on the west side was 26%, but one parish has seen a decline in Mass attendance of over 45%, another 40%. Those figures are very sobering. St. Patrick's is perhaps the only parish where Mass attendance has gone up.

One afternoon, a woman was hanging laundry in her back yard when an old, tired-looking dog wandered into her yard. She could tell from his collar that we had an owner, but when she walked into the house, he followed her, sauntered down the hall and fell asleep in the corner. Almost an hour later, he went to the door and she let him out. The next day he was back. He resumed his position in the hallway and slept for an hour. This continued for a couple of weeks. Curious, the woman pinned a note to his collar: "Every afternoon your dog has been coming to my house and taking a nap." The next day, he returned with a note pinned to his collar: "Duke lives in a home with six small children. He's trying to catch up on his sleep."

## Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of **William Hayes** requested by Dick & Nancy Feeney.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns for a **Special Intention**.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Raymond Kantorowski** requested by Michele Owens.

Please remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing care, the military and the home bound.

Our offertory for last week was \$665.00. Thank you and God bless.

### Catholic Services Appeal

Today is Commitment Sunday for the 2015 Catholic Services Appeal. Our assigned goal is \$11,804. Please be generous in determining your pledge bearing in mind that this is a very important collection for our parish because we get to keep for the parish what we bring in over our goal. Warmest thanks for your support.

### Lent Begins....

Ash Wednesday is February 18.

Ashes will be distributed at Saint Patrick's. See bulletin for schedule.



### Stations of the Cross

We will have Stations of the Cross at St. Hedwig's on Fridays during Lent at 5:30pm. Let us all try to draw closer to Our Lord this Holy Season.

### Lenten Dinners

Enjoy delicious dinners....Fish, Pierogi and more.... every Friday from 4 until 7pm at the 3rd Street Polish Falcons.

### Spaghetti Dinner

Mount Carmel Spaghetti Dinner February 22 from 11:30 to 5pm, 1553 E. Grandview Blvd. Adults \$8, Seniors 60+ \$6.50. For tickets or more info 825-6706.

### St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule

February 21

Saturday 4:00 PM

Lector

Peter Pentz

Eucharist

Peter Pentz

Ushers

Tom Kurpiewski

Art Blum

Altar Server

Portia & Yvonne Nowosielski



*Pray the Rosary*





# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 5,595.79
Online Giving	<u>814.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 6,409.79

*Thank you for your 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.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of **Debra Donnelly** from Karen Euliano

The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week by **Kathy Alessi**

Donations to the Food Pantry:

In memory of **Ronald Angelotti** from Deborah & Eric Enzbrenner

In memory of **Justine Purvis** from Cynthia & John D. Purvis

In memory of **Geraldine Ciacchini and Dr. Quentin Orlando** from Nancy & Q Gregory Orlando

In memory of **William J. & Jane M. Ward Carney** from William J. Carney

Also donations from:

JoElla & Lawrence Gorgacz, Judy & Phillip Kelly, Ed & Genny Chizewick and Charla Lehmuis



## EASTER EGG COLORING KITS:

The Sr. Mary Pascal Food Pantry is requesting donations for Easter egg coloring kits as the response from last year's plea was overwhelming. We are hoping for a repeat performance. The

kits are inexpensive and available at most dollar stores. They are a huge hit with the clients of the food pantry. There is a box in the vestibule of the church for your do-

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FEBRUARY 28TH

The Irish Culture Society will once again be hosting "The Hooley" at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church Auditorium at 1531 East Grandview. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Tipperary West, 32nd & Cherry Mon. thru Sat. from noon to 5 PM. Tickets include beer, set-ups and entertainment by the Rince Na Tiarna dancers, Blarney Rubble and headliner **Seamus Kennedy!** The fun starts at 7:00. Don't miss it!



Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday

## The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015.

The following are regulations for all Catholics in the Diocese of Erie for Lent:

- Traditional Lenten Practices of PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING and other forms of self denial are recommended most warmly by the Church. Daily Mass is particularly encouraged.
- ASH WEDNESDAY, ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT and GOOD FRIDAY are days of abstinence from meat for those 7 years and older.
- ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY are also days of fasting for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. (On these days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal. Two smaller meals sufficient to maintain strength according to one's needs, are all permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.)

## *Ministry Schedule*

### **Saturday, February 21, 2015 at 5:00 pm**

Lector: Lynne Long

Eucharistic Ministers: Carolyn Power, Bill Power, Shirley Winschel

Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan

Altar Servers: Ryan Jubulis, Ryan & Colin Hudson

Ushers: Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers, **1 NEEDED**

### **Sunday, February 22, 2015 at 10:30 am**

Lector: Dario Cipriani

Eucharistic Ministers: Michele Wheaton, Patty Jackson, Forrest Mischler

Greeters: Norann Brugger, **1 NEEDED**

Altar Servers: Juliette Morales

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

Offertory Counters: Michele Wheaton, Tim Torrey Susan Merski, Mary Frick

**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.



**OFFERTORY:** Just a reminder that there is no longer a fuel envelope in the envelope packets. Donations to our fuel and utility expenses may be included in the weekly offertory. Thank you!

## Average weekend Mass attendance at Erie Catholic churches

Parish	2005 Attendance	2013 Attending	Percentage change
Holy Rosary	441	235	-46.7%
Holy Trinity	246	174	-29.3%
Mount Calvary	260	150	-42%
O.L. Mercy	695	417	-40%
O.L. Mt. Carmel	1,066	640	-40%
St. Boniface	652	584	-10%
St. Gregory	606	538	-11.2%
St. James	1,942	1,638	-15.7%
St. John	282	217	-23%
St. Luke	1,220	1,151	-5.7%
St. Mark	474	283	-40%
Holy Family	282	N/A	
St. Ann	197	N/A	
St. Hedwig	140	76	-45.7%
St. Mary	114	N/A	
St. Patrick	213	924	+265%
St. Stanislaus	388	182	-53%
Blessed Sacrament	1,547	1,202	-22%
Holy Cross	568	522	-8%
O. L. Peace	2,981	2,019	-32%
O. L. Lake	490	472	-3%
Sacred Heart	723	548	-24%
St. Francis	478	412	-15%
St. George	1,915	1,352	-29%
St. John Girard	548	386	-29%
St. Joseph	822	654	--20%
St. Jude	2,220	1,658	-25%
St. Julia	833	331	-61%
St. Lawrence	371	204	-45%
St. Stephen	218	223	+2%
St. Andrew	464	302	-34%
St. Paul	311	193	-37%
St. Peter	897	552	-38%
All Saints	511	303	-40%

## Priests and Parish Life in the Diocese of Erie

68 parishes have 1 pastor  
 30 parishes have 1 pastor serving 1 or more missions  
 32 parishes have 1 pastor serving 2 parishes  
 3 parishes have 1 pastor serving 3 parishes

## Data on Priests in the Diocese of Erie

### Number of priests by age

Over 80	22
70-79	38
60-69	44
50-59	32
40-49	11
Under 40	15

### Number of priests by years of ordination

0-10 years	18
11-20 years	13
21-31 years	25
31+ years	64

### Number of ordinations 2004-2014

### Number of priests deaths

2004	0	6
2005	2	7
2006	3	6
2007	2	7
2008	2	6
2009	2	3
2010	5	5
2011	1	6
2012	1	3
2013	1	8
2014	0	3
TOTAL	20	60

In addition, 19 priests have left the ministry during this time period.

During the last 10 years there are 16% fewer registered households belonging to parishes.

During the last 10 years Mass attendance has declined 26%.

During the last 10 years Baptisms dropped from 1,800 to 1,003, a drop of 43%

During the last 10 years, enrollment in Catholic schools has declined from 9,000 to 7,800.

Even a casual reading of this data should give everyone a clearer understanding of why change has to take place.

The East Erie Deanery will have a listening session on April 9 at which time selected members of each parish will have an opportunity to express their thoughts about upcoming changes.

**LITURGY INTENTIONS****Feb. 14** *Saturday, Vigil: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

4:00 PM WALTER SCHWARTZ (THERESA WALKER) - ST.H

5:00 PM MARILYN WEYLAND, ANNIV. - ST.P  
(DAVE & JOAN HEUBEL)**Feb. 15** *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:00 AM JASON SNYDER (FAMILY) - ST.P

10:30 AM WILLIAM J. & JANE WARD CARNEY - ST.P  
(FAMILY)**Feb. 16** *Monday, Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

**Feb. 17** *Tuesday, The Seven Holy Founders of the  
Service Order*

8:00 AM DANA ZIEGLER (D. DOMBKOWSKI)

**Feb. 18** *Ash Wednesday*8:00 AM JOHN KRAUCHEN, SR., ANNIV OF BIRTH  
(BILL & BARBARA KRAUCHEN THOMPSON)

12:05 PM VIOLET WALDRON (BILL &amp; MARY FLANAGAN)

4:00 PM ASHES (NO MASS)

**Feb. 19** *Thursday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

**Feb. 20** *Friday after Ash Wednesday*

8:00 AM DEBRA ANN DONNELLY (KAREN EULIANO)

**Feb. 21** *Saturday, Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent*

4:00 PM TED MIELNIK (IRENE &amp; FAMILY) - ST.H

5:00 PM DR. ANGELINE FABRIZIO, ANNIV. OF BIRTH  
(SISTER, MARY MCCARTHY) - ST.P**Feb. 22** *First Sunday of Lent*8:00 AM DEBBI DONNELLY, ANNIV. (2/21) - ST.P  
(GREG & BARB FISCHER)

10:30 AM THOMAS WALKER, ANNIV. (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

**02/14** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

**02/15** 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg. - Gr 6 - Holy Rosary**02/17** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**02/18** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**02/21** 10:00 AM *FIRST EUCHARIST SESSION*

3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

**02/22** 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg. - Gr 6 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Rel. Ed Gr 7,8,9, - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Confirmation Session - Holy Rosary

***FIRST EUCHARIST SESSION*** – A reminder that the *First Eucharist* session for **parents and child** is **Saturday, February 21st at 10 am** in Hasting Hall on the Holy Rosary campus.***A Moment of Reflection***

Reading I: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:31, 11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45



Too often we try to pretend that our sins don't exist; we try to hide them from others, from God, from ourselves—but that makes no sense. The good news is simply this: God wants to heal us. Though we're flawed and broken, God is ready to reach out and embrace us. All we have to do is let God do that for us. Where in your life has God healed the brokenness in you? When or how can you be more accepting of others?

We thank **RICHARD E. FILIPPI, Attorney at Law**504 State Street - Erie 874-0558  
for advertising in our parish bulletin.  
See his ad on the back of the bulletin.**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**