

Saint Hedwig Saint Patrick

Sister parishes serving the East Bay Front of Erie

Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Henry A. Kriegel



DAILY MASS

Saint Patrick 8:00 AM

SATURDAY EVENING MASS

Saint Hedwig 4:30 PM

Saint Patrick 5:00 PM

SUNDAY MORNING MASS

Saint Hedwig 9:00 AM

Saint Patrick 8:00 & 10:30 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

Anticipation

Saint Hedwig 5:30 PM

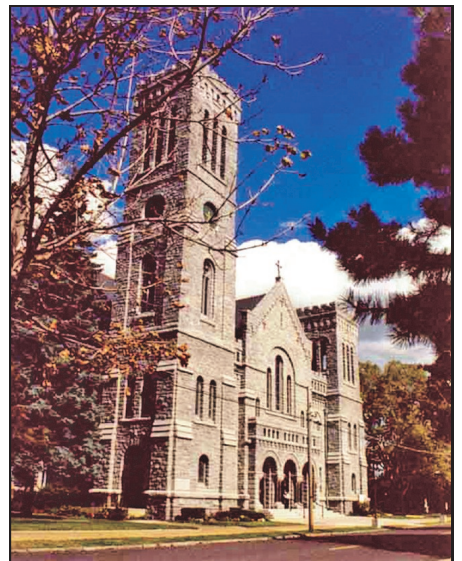
Holy Day

Saint Patrick 12:05 PM

CONFESSIONS

30 Minutes before each Saturday

Evening Mass or by appointment



Saint Hedwig Parish

Established 1910

521 E. 3rd Street

Erie, PA 16507

(814) 454-6232

www.sainthedwigparisherie.org

Saint Patrick Parish

Established 1837

130 East 4th Street

Erie, PA 16507

(814) 454-8085

www.saintpatrickparisherie.org



For information on Baptism, Religious Education, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation, Adult Initiation, Marriage, Prayer or Study Groups, please call either parish office.



Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Our gospel will narrate a story of sight rendered to a blind man; here we read that God does not see as we see. In both instances we encounter challenges about what we see when we look at things. When the Pharisees looked at the blind man, they saw a sinner. David's family saw only a young sheep herder where God saw a future king. The story of David is important because it clearly demonstrates the power of God to raise up and transform, to establish and tear down. The Spirit of God will transform this boy into Israel's greatest king. We're reminded that our expectations do not correspond with God's. David, the last of the brothers to be interviewed, embodies one of the features of God's kingdom: "the last shall be first."

Think of the effort needed to make progress in the areas which Paul addresses now in his Letter to the Ephesians: that we move from darkness to light. We're told that once we were a child and now we are adults; once we were ignorant, but now we know; once we were without Christ, now we have him. And Paul's tone seems to add, "So act like it! Be an adult, use your knowledge, live like a Christian." Paul reminds us to take no part in the shameful things done in secret but to live always in the light. The last three lines of the reading, "Awake, o sleeper..." is a rousing call to action of living in the light of Christ.

Again today we have a very long gospel from John. We begin with the question and assumption that presumed that some sin, either of the individual or his parents, was the root cause of his blindness. John uses this misunderstanding to set up one of his typical scenarios: sequences that reveal his insight that Jesus is the Light of the World. The challenge of Jesus to the blind man to wash is met with compliance; it may be a test of faith which the blind man passes. We hear the neighbors who are astounded and each becomes immediately an authority claiming to know the truth. While the blind man initially responds joyfully to the fact that he can see; he is really not yet seeing what is being unfolded before him. The Pharisees begin to make judgments and accusations and Jesus responds angrily and then he turns to the blind man and invites him to see what Jesus is really unfolding for him—that he may see the Messiah.

I hope you don't think I'm nagging, but just a reminder that the Catholic Services Appeal is underway in all parishes in the diocese. Monies raised in this appeal are used to fund the education of future priests, care for retired priests, grants to Catholic Charities, expenses for our Marriage Tribunal, etc. Each parish is assessed a set amount which must be paid and any monies raised over and above that remain in the parishes. This year we have to raise \$11,803 at St. Hedwig's and \$42,350 at St. Patrick's. If we can exceed our goal at St. Patrick's, I can put that extra money toward paying down the debt we have from the church restoration. To date we have pledges at St. Patrick's to meet our assessment and anything additional can go toward our debt from the restoration.

We have a program to bring a few meals to new parents after they bring a baby home and are in need of a few more volunteers. It would just involve preparing one meal. If interested, call the parish office.

We're fast approaching the mid-point of Lent and time to ask ourselves "is this season making any difference in my life? Am I focused more on the needs of others? Do I spend some time in a prayerful conversation with my God? What have I done to help the poor, the hungry, the homeless? What are my priorities in life?" Pope Francis keeps telling us that mercy, more than anything else, is what Jesus asks of us and what will wipe away every stain of our sin and failure.

Speaking of Pope Francis, he recently held a meeting in Rome of the treasurers of all of the major religious orders in the world and he asked them to set priorities with what they do with their assets and investments. He said that we primarily have to ask "Are we serving the needs of humanity?" He is asking all of these religious orders, many of whom have huge investments, large tracts of valuable land, etc. to re-evaluate what they have, what they are doing with it and how it will serve humanity. He continues to call us to be, not a church of power as we have been so long, but a church of the poor, a church in service to the needs of others; not a church dictating political viewpoints, moral commands and control of other people's lives. He is asking us to be more and more each day, the Church that Jesus

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

asks us to be; not one of power & wealth.

Finance Council reviewed and approved the replacement of several sections of sidewalk in front of St. Patrick's Church. Some were damaged by the equipment used to point and work on the exterior of the building and others have just deteriorated. We are also putting central A/C on the ground floor of the rectory. We've had window units which are very expensive to run, very noisy and, most of all, are a real security threat because someone can push them in and enter the building. We hope to have the A/C in place by the time warm weather arrives.

I mentioned the leaking roof at the Food Pantry. The last of the bids arrived this past week, and I continue to get a bit overwhelmed by the ongoing costs of maintaining these old buildings. The low bid for the work on the roof is over \$25,000. The reason the bid is so high is because the area has been so long neglected, water has seeped beneath the roof and much of the framing and structure are rotted and have to be replaced. I'm not sure how we'll pay for it; but we will. This is another case that screams aloud that we cannot let these old buildings go; it's constant maintenance

With the large number of people attending Mass at St. Patrick's on Ash Wednesday and asking for a later Mass, I am going to hold all of the Ash Wednesday Masses next year at St. Patrick's because that is where the crowds of people are.

An old nun lived next door to a construction site and noticed the coarse language of the workers and decided to spend some time with them to correct their ways. She decided she would take her lunch and sit with the workers. She put her sandwich in a brown bag and walked over to the spot where the men were eating. Sporting a big smile, she walked up to the group and asked, "Do you men know Jesus Christ?" They shook their heads and looked at each other, very confused. One of the workers looked up into the steelworks and yelled out, "Anybody up there know Jesus Christ?" One of the workers yelled down, "Why?" The worker yelled back, "Because his mom's here with his lunch."



Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of **Ted Mielnik** requested by Irene & family, Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Genevieve Gorski** requested by Jim & Sharon Mielnik and St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Robbie Robison** requested by Russell Robison Jr. Please remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing care, the military and the homebound.

Our offertory for last week was **\$1,145.00**, Priestly Care & Education **\$138.00** and Heat & Fuel update **\$764.00**. Thank you and God bless.

Catholic Services Appeal

So far, we have received **\$4,325.00** in pledges from 17 households. Our assessment goal amount is **\$11,083.00**. We want to thank all those who have pledged thus far. As you know, our over goal amount comes to the parish for our use here and is crucial for our financial vitality. Please consider a pledge, no matter the amount. The parish depends on your generosity.

St. Hedwig Family Communion Breakfast

Will be held Sunday, April 6 following the 9am Mass at the Third Street Polish Falcons. Tickets available before & after Mass this weekend. Adults \$8.00, children (5-10) are \$4.00. No charge for children under 5. Any questions, call Tom Kurpiewski at 455.3467. We will also be selling chances on several Theme Baskets to be raffled at the breakfast.

Please Join Us

Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent here at St. Hedwig's at 5:30pm.

REMEMBER TO DROP YOUR EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPE IN THE COLLECTION BASKET. LOVED ONES TO BE REMEMBERED IN OUR EASTER BULLETIN.

Lenten Dinners at the 3rd St. Polish Falcons every Friday from 4 until 7pm.

St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule

	<u>April 5</u> Saturday 4:30 PM	<u>April 6</u> Sunday 9:00 AM
Lectors	Dolly Bargielski	Art Blum
Eucharist	Dolly Bargielski	Judy Pentz
Ushers	Roland Henderson Ray Nowosielski	Art Blum Pete Pentz
Altar Servers	Nowosielski Family	Charlotte Mabie



Saint Patrick News



Parish Stewardship: Our offertory for last weekend was **\$7,166.26** and **\$700.00** from online giving for a **total of \$7,866.26**. 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 in whose honor the donations were made: The **Sanctuary Lamp** burns in memory of **Reiki Norris** from Brian & Annie Candela; The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week in memory of **Deceased Family Members** from Kathy Alessi; The **Food Pantry is sponsored** in memory of **Kathryn Miller** from Yvonne Gersims, in memory of **Msgr. Homer DeWalt** from Mildred & Robert Biebel, in memory of the **Wegner Family** from Lynne Long, in memory of **Greg Bossart** from Sue Ellen & Luigi Pasquale, in memory of **Parents, Harry & Rita Caldwell** from Renee Calabrese, in memory of **Carmine & Maria Pastore** and **Donald C. Pastore** from Janice & Donald Pastore, also donations from Kathleen Horan, Charla Leemhuis, JoElla & Lawrence Gorgacz, the Irish Cultural Society & the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 435.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 5:00 pm

Lector: *Rick Filippi*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Kathy Sertz, Kay Mannino, Shirley Winschel*

Greeters: *Tom & Linda Brunner*

Altar Servers: *Emilio Filippi*

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

Sunday, April 6, 2014 at 10:30 am

Lector: *Gail Smith*

Eucharistic Ministers: *Michele Wheaton, Audrey Reigel, Kathleen Pae*

Greeters: *Arlene Miller & Tim Donlin*

Altar Servers: *Alex Wheaton*

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

Offertory Counters: *Bill Welsh, Cindy Welsh, Tim Donlin*

We are working on the **Easter** ministers' schedule. We need to know availability for April and especially Palm Sunday through Easter weekend. **Please contact us as soon as possible.** Call 454-8085 or email the office with your availability.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: As of this past Monday, we have pledges of **\$42,600.00** from **92** families at St. Patrick's toward our goal of \$80,000. With over 600 families still remaining to pledge, I am optimistic that we will make our goal, be able to pay the Diocese the \$42,350 we are assessed and use any extra money to pay down the debt on the restoration of the church. I'm grateful to all who have pledged and am hoping that more of you will do the same. I do not yet have the figures for this week from St. Hedwig's.

FESTIVAL MEETING after the 10:30 Mass on April 6th in the Pascal Room. We need all committee chairmen to attend. There is a lot to talk about with the move to downtown!



EASTER EGG COLORING KITS: Last year the Sr. Mary Pascal Gray Food Pantry requested donations of Easter egg coloring kits and the response was overwhelming. We are hoping for a repeat performance of that act of charity. The kits are inexpensive and are 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 donations. Your generosity is much appreciated.

FRUIT FOR THE PANTRY: We also have a need for canned fruit for our clients. Fruit has not been on the list from Second Harvest for a while and our surplus has run out. Canned fruit of any kind would be appreciated. Again, a box or basket will be available in the vestibule for your donations. Thank you!



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS—

Because of an early deadline for the Easter bulletin, the flower memorials need to be received in the office by April 6th.

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**March 29** *Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent*4:30 PM ELIZABETH (BETTY) JARZOMSKI - ST.H
MRS. HELEN DUBOWSKI5:00 PM EDWARD SZYMANOWSKI, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
(WIFE, GLORIA) -ST.P**March 30** *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

8:00 AM JOSEPH J. HIGGINS (PETE & JUDY PENTZ) - ST.P

9:00 AM STELLA KANTOROWSKI - ST.H
(JUCHNO FAMILY)10:30 AM PATRICIA TRAPP, ANNIV. OF BIRTH - ST.P
(FAMILY)**March 31** *Monday, Lenten Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

April 1 *Tuesday, Lenten Weekday*

8:00 AM HEDWIG LYNCH (GLORIA & TOM SULLIVAN)

April 2 *Wednesday, Lenten Weekday*8:00 AM VIRGINIA FINOCHETTI
(JIM & KATHLEEN WEHAN)**April 3** *Thursday, Lenten Weekday*8:00 AM ANNA SCHWARTZ
(ST. HEDWIG ROSARY SOCIETY)**April 4** *Friday, Lenten Weekday*8:00 AM EMILY MALINOWSKI, 4TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY
(DAUGHTER, PAULINE OSMER)**April 5** *Saturday, Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent*4:30 PM MARTIN MIKESKA - ST.H
(DIANE & DAN JARZOMSKI)

5:00 PM FORREST & GERTRUDE SHORTS (FAMILY) - ST.P

April 6 *Fifth Sunday of Lent*8:00 AM MARCELLA MAJCZYK, ANNIV. 3/26 - ST.P
(GRANDDAUGHTER, ANN)9:00 AM HELEN KURPIEWSKI - ST.H
(MARY MOROZOWSKI)10:30 AM PAUL & NORMA CAUSGROVE - ST.P
(PAUL & ANNE CAUSGROVE)**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

03/29 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

03/30 9:00 AM Rel. Ed K-Grade 6 - Holy Rosary
NO Religious Education Classes Grade 7-10**04/01** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**04/02** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**04/03** 10:00 AM Scripture Study - St.P**04/05** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

04/06 9:00 AM Rel. Ed K-Grade 6 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Rel. Ed Grades 7-10 - Holy Rosary

11:30 AM Ave Maria Care & Concern Mtg. - CP

11:30 AM Festival Mtg. - PR

A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Reading II: Ephesians 5: 8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41



The story of the man born blind is about deep healing. First Jesus heals the perceptions—the man's parents were not to blame for his blindness. Next, he physically heals the blind man, giving him the gift of sight. Then he heals him spiritually, with the gift of sight. Then he heals him spiritually, with the gift of faith. When have you experienced the gift of healing? What does God want you to see differently these Lenten days?

**We thank Kraus Department Store
for advertising in our parish bulletin.
See their ad on the back of the bulletin.**

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM☐ Saint Hedwig☐ Saint Patrick

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration

Change of Address

Moving

Want Envelopes

PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rector