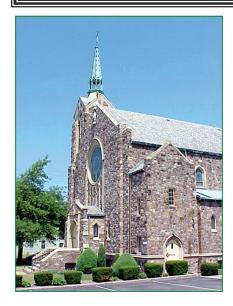
Saint Hedwig Saint Patrick

Sister parishes serving the East Bay Front of Erie

Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Henry A. Kriegel



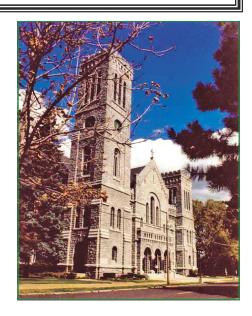
DAILY MASS Saint Patrick 8:00 AM

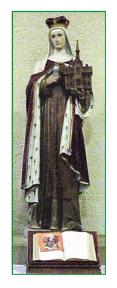
SATURDAY EVENING MASS Saint Hedwig 4:30 PM Saint Patrick 5:00 PM

SUNDAY MORNING MASS Saint Hedwig 9:00 AM Saint Patrick 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



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK-

Today is the 21st Sunday in ordinary time and we get a very clear example today of how our first reading and the gospel are always connected. In both, a great leader is confronting his followers with a momentous decision. Jesus will ask his disciples if they, too, will abandon him; and here, Joshua asks the Israelites to decide who will rule the nation and their hearts: the Lord or the false gods of their ancestors and neighbors. The response is that both acknowledge there is no other choice but to remain faithful to the one who first called them. Unlike their ancestors in the Exodus who quickly forgot all that God has done for them and abandoned him for false idols, today's followers recall the wondrous works of God

Our second reading continues from Paul's letter to the Ephesians. It is his great treatise on the church and it is typically Paul that, even in speaking about marital relationships, he draws the analogy of Christ's relationship with his bride, the church. He notes that no one in a marital relationship is greater than the other, for all are members of Christ's body, but Paul spends a great deal more time tutoring husbands who bear the great responsibility of loving their wives as Christ loved the church. He notes that a man's love for his wife must at least equal his love of himself.....

Our gospel continues again from the very difficult chapter 6 of John. Skepticism about Jesus' teaching has now reached the disciples. Prior to this it was the crowds, but now even his disciples are murmuring about Jesus' statement that we must eat his flesh and drink his blood. In response, Jesus warns them that there will be even greater challenges to their faith and that the only way Jesus can ascend to his father is through the cross and that will be a greater scandal than any of his teachings. If you listen carefully you will hear a note of sadness in Jesus' acknowledging that although he is the source of life, some among his close followers do not believe in him any longer. The text makes it clear that the break between Jesus and many of his disciples is final, for many return to their former lives. Jesus then turns to the twelve and asks the painful question of them. And it is Peter who takes the lead and answers.....

I'm happy to tell you that we are now at \$1,027,000 of our \$1 million goal for the restoration of the church. We are obviously going to have cost overruns (just the replacing of all of the electrical wiring in the attic will be very expensive) and if you have not yet made a pledge, would you consider doing so? We all want to feel part of this great moment in our history.....If you go to our webpage you can see some of what is happening in the church as well as some before and after pictures to show the contrast......

Don't forget to mark Sept. 14, 15 & 16 for our Erie Irish Festival and also to reserve Saturday, October 20th, for our 175th banquet at the Erie Convention Center. Invitations will go out to all parishioners next week. If you are not a parishioner and would like to receive an invitation, please contact the parish office......We have also invited priests and those Sisters of St. Joseph who have taught here or are natives of the parish to be our guest for the evening......

Both of our parishes this weekend welcome Joe Raguso of COAR Missions who is our missionary speaker this year. COAR is headquartered in Cleveland and maintains an orphanage in El Salvador. They do incredible work with the poorest of God's poor. I think you'll be touched by what Joe tells you. I also hope you will be generous to his appeal—it's a good cause......

Celebrant of the Saturday evening 5 PM Mass at Cauley Auditorium next Saturday will be Father Dennis Martin, chaplain at St. Vincent Health Center; Celebrant of the Sunday 9 AM at St. Hedwig's and the 10:30 AM at Cauley Auditorium next week will be Father Thomas Fialkowski, retired pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. I will be in Europe......

We had earlier decided to close the Irish Festival at 3 PM on Sunday rather than staying open until 6, but the committee feels strongly that we should stay open until 6 and so that is what we will do......

The WIN-Gallup International Foundation has just completed a rather extensive study on faith and atheism which reveals a number of rather startling facts starting with the Catholic church in Ireland. According to the results, Ireland has seen the most dramatic drop of religiosity in the world, followed by Vietnam. The poll, which involved interviews with over 50,000 people asked people if they consider themselves religious, not religious or atheist. In Ireland, only 47% of those polled consider themselves religious, a 22 point drop from the 69% recorded in a similar poll in 2005. In addition, 10% of Irish now consider themselves atheist. The data further shows that 59% of people worldwide now call themselves religious, which 13% identify as atheist. The number of people in the US who identify themselves as religious is now at 59% with 13% identifying as atheist. The alarming reality in these figures is that the number of Americans who identify as religious dropped 13 points since 2005. The poll shows the most religious area of the world to be Africa with Ghana at 96% religious, Nigeria at 93% and Macedonia at 90%......

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

There are two trips coming up that you might be interested in. May 14-22, 2012 is land and air to Ireland for 7 nites @ \$2,542 per person. Also in May 2014 we do a Viking river cruise from Amsterdam to Basil, Switzerland. This trip will include some of the most beautiful scenery in Europe and will take the traveler from the flat low lands of northern Europe into the very heart of the Swiss Alps. Call the rectory office for additional information. We do not yet have a final price on this trip because we're waiting to get a group airfare rate......

Remember that the Grand Prize at our Irish Festival is a one week trip to Ireland for two. The trip includes air fare, a car and 7 nights in hotels. This type of trip allows the individuals to set their own agenda and travel at their own pace. We're very fortunate that this year's trip is being donated to the parish by CIE Tours which is a great savings to the parish and will definitely help the bottom line of the festival profits....

A newly ordained priest was to hold a graveside burial service for an indigent man with no family or friends. Not knowing where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns and got lost. When he finally arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight, the backhoe was next to an open hole and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch. The young priest went to the open grave and found the vault already in place. Feeling guilty, he performed the ritual, sprinkled the grave with holy water and ceremoniously sent the man to eternity. As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workmen say to another, "I've been putting in septic tanks for 20 years and I ain't never seen anything like that!"......

Letters from children to God included the following: "Dear God, I bet it is hard for you to love all of everybody in the whole world. There are only 4 people in my family and I can never do it. Nan."

Sign on the Stonebridge Church of God: Honk if you love Jesus. Text to meet him."

A Family Perspective:

Even though many found the teachings of Jesus "difficult", He did not back down. In our families it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding.

Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary lamp burns this week in loving memory of *Richard Moskel* requested by his wife Janice, Our Lady's Shrine lamp burns in loving memory of *Robert Dombrowski* requested by Helen Dombrowski, and St. Joseph Shrine lamp burns in loving memory of *Ted Mielnik* requested by Irene and family. Remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing homes and the homebound.

Our offertory for the week of August 18/19 was **\$1,115.00**, Summer Festival update **\$830.00**. Thank you and God Bless.

Welcome!

We warmly welcome Marian Glaz to our parish family.

Mark Your Calendars

St. Hedwig Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, September 30th following the 9am Mass at the 3rd Street Polish Falcons.

Camp Notre Dame

Will be offering its popular Father/Son and Mother/ Daughter weekend again this fall and winter. Programs run from Friday evening to Sunday morning for parents and their children ages 6-14. Visit www.CampNotreDame.com for a full schedule of activities and registration information.

Ushers for September

Saturday - 4:30pm Nancy Widomski

Michelle Moskel

Sunday - 9:00am Tom Zielinski

Sharon Zielinski

Ministry Schedule

September 1
4:30pm
9:00am
Eucharist Dave Widomski Judy Pentz
Reader Dave Widomski Frederic Olds
Altar Servers Charlotte Mabie Nicholas Hayes

Is it necessary for us to practice Religion?
It is by religion that we fulfill the purpose for which we were created. By believing what God has revealed, we **know** God. By knowing God, we cannot help but **love** Him. By practicing what we learn and obeying God's commands, we **serve** Him. "He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me." (John 14:21)

Pray the Rosary



Saint Patrick News



Parish Stewardship: Our offertory for last weekend was **\$4,699.50**. 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 homebound.

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 **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week in memory of **Justine Burger** from Chuck Burger; The **Food Pantry** in memory of **Shirley Marinelli Bennetti** from Frank and Carol Vona.

Ministry Schedule Saturday, September 1, 2012 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Ministers: Kay Mannino, Lynne Long,

Carol Habas

Greeters: Stella Abbato, Patty Abbato Altar Servers: Brendan Humphrey Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri

Sunday, September 2, 2012 at 10:30 am

Lector: Gail Smith

Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani, Tim Scully,

Mike Vehec

Greeters: Mary Alice Hartwell, Marlene Golab

Altar Servers: Juliette Morales Ushers: Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun,

John Purvis, Luke Purvis

Offertory Counters: Dario Cipriani, Donna Cipriani,

Gail Smith

A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Reading II: Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel: John 6:60-69



First, it was "the Jews" who murmured about eating his flesh and drinking his blood. Now, we hear about disciples murmuring about the same thing. Many murmur; many leave. With the Apostles, we hear Jesus say to us, "Do you also want to leave?" The many today who find this Gospel difficult probably do not focus much on this teaching about the bread of life. Too often, those who fall away today just stop coming. Jesus' teaching about dying to self, forgiveness and concern for the poor stand in sharp contrast to what many think of as the good life. But what Jesus preaches, is eternal life. What is the most difficult part of Christ's message in your life? How do you deal with that? What do you think that your faith life needs at the moment to make it stronger?



The Ave Maria Care and Concern are asking for your help for their—"Irish Auction!" Feel creative? Get together and make up a Theme Basket or donate unused items and/or gift certificates and the Ave Maria Society ladies will make up the baskets. Another option - donate money and items will be purchased for the bas-

kets. The Irish Auction has always been a popular booth at the festival with its display of attractive Theme Baskets. Donations will be accepted at the Rectory during 9—3 Monday thru Thursday. Monetary donations may be put in the collection marked "AVE – Irish Auction". All donations must be in by August 31st. All proceeds go to the parish! As always, we are grateful for your support! Last year's booth was outstanding! Everyone is excited for this year! Questions? Call Renee Calabrese 459-6004.



The Jewelry Booth, chaired by Gail Smith, is accepting jewelry to be sold at the Festival. This booth is one of the most popular. So now is a great time to clean out your jewelry drawers or boxes and donate your old jewelry to the Festival. You may drop it off at the rectory office. Also needed are small gift bags for the jewelry.

Volunteers: We need YOU to make this festival a success. There are many areas that need your help. Think about where you would like to volunteer. There are volunteer forms in the back of the Cauley. Peruse the form and choose the areas that interest you the most. You may drop the form in the offertory basket or at the rectory.

The Bake Sale Booth is always a popular spot! If you would like to donate to this area, we would love to have your items. All items do not need to be brought to the Festival on the first day. It would help to have some items arrive on Saturday. Let us know when you will be bringing your item, so we can plan accordingly. Thanks!





RAFFLE TICKETS: Don't miss your chance to win a trip to Ireland for two. If you haven't purchased the raffle tickets that were sent to you in the mail, don't delay any longer! You may return them via the offertory basket, mail or drop them off at the rectory. The office has more if you need them. Let's make this year's sales the best ever!

<u>ATTENTION!!</u> THE CHILDREN'S AREA NEEDS A CHAIRPERSON!!

If you would like to chair this booth please call the office. This is a fun experience to work/play with the children. We are collecting toys to be used as prizes for this area. Toys may be dropped off at the rectory between 9 and 3, or bring them to the festival!

LITURGY INTENTIONS

Aug. 25 Saturday, Vigil: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 PM CASIMIR & HELEN BARGIELSKI, ANNIV - ST.H
(LARRY & DOLLY BARGIELSKI)

5:00 PM MAE CONLEY (BETH & JIM RESPECKI) - ST.P

Aug. 26 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM NORBERTO JAGOREN - ST.H (GEMMA NOWOSIELSKI)

10:30 AM FLORENCE LAPLACA - ST.P (MR. & MRS. TONY VIGANO)

Aug. 27 Monday, Saint Monica

8:00 am Parishioners & Benefactors

Aug. 28 *Tuesday, St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor* 8:00 Am STANLEY KURPIEWSKI (A FRIEND)

Aug. 29 *Wednesday, The Passion of St. John the Baptist* 8:00 AM WALTER SCHWARTZ (D. DOMBKOWSKI)

Aug. 30 Thursday, Weekday

8:00 AM EDITH CICHETTI (CARL & ALICE CARLOTTI)

Aug. 31 Friday, Weekday

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Sept. 1 Saturday, Vigil: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 PM TED MIELNIK, ANNIV - ST.H

(IRENE & FAMILY)

5:00 PM EMILIO & ANGELINE ABBATO & FAMILY (THE FAMILY) - ST.P

Sept. 2 Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM ANNA SCHWARTZ (ROSARY SOCIETY) - ST.H

10:30 AM EDITH CICHETTI - ST.P

(CARL & ALICE CARLOTTI)

DATES TO REMEMBER

St.H=St. Hedwig, St.P=St. Patrick, HR=Holy Rosary CP=Chapel,, PF=Polish Falcons PR=Pascal Room, R=Rectory, CV=Convent 08/25 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P 08/26 11:30 AM Festival Mtg.—PR 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR 08/28 12:00 PM A.A. - PR 08/29 09/01 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P **09/02** 11:30 AM Festival Mtg.—PR

2012-2013 FAITH FORMATION YEAR will begin for all grade levels (Kdg-Gr 11 *Confirmation*) **Sunday, September 9th** as follows: Kdg-Gr 6 @ 9:00 am; Jr High, Sr High and Confirmation @ 1:00 pm. All sessions are held on the Holy Rosary Campus.

CATECHISTS ARE NEEDED – Please consider volunteering! Your Gifts are needed to nurture community and give witness to the peace and forgiveness of the Risen Christ through the catechetical ministry of the Church. The children and youth of the Eastside Catholic Faith Formation Ministry need YOU to share your faith with them as you and they continue to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ. Will you serve as a catechist for the year 2012-2013? Contact Kathleen Kutz, DRE: 454-6322 or S. Marie Kebort, SSJ, DRE: 454-8085 to volunteer as a catechist.



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.

NEW PARISHIC Saint Hedv		TRATIO Saint Pa		
NAME:			PHONE:	
STREET:		CITY:	ZIP:	
E-MAIL:				
PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BE	LOW:			
New Registration	Change of Address	Moving	Want Envelopes	