

First Sunday of ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2014

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 Weds. 8AM—3:30PM

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Today is the first Sunday of Advent and we hear from Isaiah. This season focuses on two “comings” of Christ: his birth and his return in the Second Coming. Our first reading is a petition for the Lord to reveal his presence. Speaking near the end of the Babylonian Exile (587-538 BC) Isaiah prays that the Lord will reveal himself to the Israelites. In this prayer, he recalls how God made himself known in past mighty deeds and he hopes he will do so again.

Paul's letters always open with a greeting and a thanksgiving and today we hear that directed to the church in Corinth. Though this is titled First Corinthians, we know that it is not the first letter exchanged between him and the Corinthians. In chapter 5:9, he notes that he had written a previous letter to them and they had written to him. These letters, unfortunately, have been lost. Most scholars feel that some parts of that earlier letter of Paul's is found in Second Corinthians, but only particles of it.

Our gospels this year will be from Mark and today's is the ending of Jesus' eschatological (end of time) discourse. According to Mark, prior to his passion and death, Jesus spoke to Peter, Andrew, James and John about events associated with the end of time, including false messiahs, wars, earthquakes and famines, persecutions, tribulations and finally the return of the Son of Man to gather his elect and begin the new age. Today, Jesus warns the four apostles to “be watchful; be vigilant” since no one knows when the end of time will come. He offers the simple parable of the wise traveler who properly arranges for his house to be safely guarded while away. The servants and gatekeepers are trusted to watch over the house until the man's return, at which time they will receive their just reward provided they remained diligent. Jesus concludes the parable with the sobering words, “May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.”

During Advent we read the Old Testament to learn what it is that we are to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see; the deaf hear; the lame walk; that not only their own people but all the people of the earth would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly their hopes are no different than ours: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery. Though we hope as they did, we differ from them in two ways. First the coming of Jesus in history confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from them in that Jesus has revealed to us that God is not far off, but is already in our midst. Hence the importance in the Advent liturgy of John the Baptist and Mary because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world.

The church also asks that the use of the pipe organ, decorating the sanctuary with flowers, etc. be done in a moderate manner saving the full expression of those things for Christmas. It is more and more difficult for us to observe Advent as the anticipatory moment for Christmas with all of the hype, etc. going on in the world around us.

If you belong to a parish that does not have a school, and you want to enroll your child in a Catholic school, you can enroll them at any school in the city. Because your parish does not have a Catholic school, you only pay the regular parish rate. There is no inflated charge under these circumstances.

There are stars on a tree in St. Patrick's Parish from St. Martin's Center. Each star lists the age, sex and suggested gift for a child. If you want to sponsor one, please take a star, purchase what

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

figs you can then return the star and the gift to the rectory and we will see that they get to St. Martin's Center. Do not wrap; instead place in a gift bag. They are hoping to provide Christmas gifts for 1,300 children this year, an amazing goal.

St. Martin's Center is in need of volunteers to help with the organizing and distribution of the Christmas gifts this year. If you would like to give some time to help them, you can call Rita Zawacki at 452-6113, ext. 215. They need people Dec. 8-12 to pick up gifts from local groups; Dec. 12 & 13 to organize & the 16 & 17th to distribute them.

We have been discussing how to expand our social outreach and were going to start a variety of programs until we visited St. Martin's Center and discovered that anything we do would be a duplication of their work. I was absolutely amazed at all that they do at the Center (located at 17th & Parade in the former offices of Lyons Transportation). Rather than duplicating, we thought we would try to get St. Patrick parishioners to volunteer to help them. They have all of the resources; what they lack are volunteers. It would be an amazing way to share with the growing number of people in Erie living in poverty. I think you would be amazed at what they do. If you are interested, they need volunteers to help with their food pantry on Tuesdays from 9 AM—3 PM; they need volunteers to help keep the facility clean any day of the week from 9-3. They also have special events that require additional volunteers. Contact Rita Zawacki at 452-6113, ext. 215. Please consider giving some time to this.

Kearney and his wife, a middle-aged couple, went for a stroll in Phoenix Park, Dublin, last week. They sat down on a bench to rest. It was then that they overheard voices coming from a secluded spot. Immediately, Mrs. Kearney realized that a young man was about to propose to his beloved. Not wishing to eavesdrop at such an intimate moment, she nudged her husband and whispered, "Whistle and let that young couple know that someone can hear them." Kearney replied, "Whistle? Why should I? Nobody whistled to warn me."

Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of **Richard Moskel** requested by wife & children.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Robert T. Niedzwiecki** requested by Mom and family.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **John Gorski** requested his family.

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

Because of an early deadline for the bulletin the weekly offertory will be published next week. Catholic Education \$202, Mission Sunday \$210. Thank you & God bless.

Masses Celebrated at Priest Retirement Home

Hedwig Lynch (St. Hedwig Rosary Society), Jennie Pazdziesz (Wanda & Joe Habas), Peter Joseph Dubowski (Mrs. Regie Loncki), Frances "Pat" Trojanowski (Irene Mielnik), Joseph Prochowski (Mrs. Helen Dubowski), Chet Loncki (Mrs. Anna Buszek, Chris & Pat), Raymond Borowy (Gary & Laura Borowy).

St. Hedwig Christmas Party

The Rosary Society Christmas Party will be held next Sunday, December 7th at the Falcons from 1 to 5pm. We will have a buffet dinner, Chinese Auction, Your Choice, Main Awards, Bakery boxes, 50-50, and 2 gift card raffles (\$100.00 each). Tickets must be purchased by November 30 and no tickets will be sold at the door. Admission \$7.00 per person. You do not need to be a member of the Rosary Society to attend. For tickets and reservations call Dolly Bargielski at 825-3856. Join us for a wonderful afternoon.

Christmas Flower Memorials

Please return your letter or Christmas Flower envelope by Monday, December 14. This is a wonderful way to remember your loved ones during this Holy Season. The list will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Ministry Schedule

December 6th

Saturday

4:00 PM

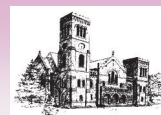
Lector	Patricia Mielnik
Eucharist	Patricia Mielnik
Ushers	Ron Helminski
	Richard Mielnik
Altar Servers	Portia & Yvonne
	Nowosielski



**PRAY THE
ROSARY**



Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Because of an early deadline for the bulletin, the offertory for the week of November 23rd will be published in next week's bulletin. As always, 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 **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week in memory of **Chuck & Justine Burger**

Donations to the Food Pantry:

In memory of **Ron Homicz** and **Bea Foley** from Joanne Homicz

In memory of **Kevin O'Hara** from Jeffrey O'Hara

In memory of **Barbara Korn** from Dave Korn

In memory of **Lois Dahlkemper** from Mary Ellen Dahlkemper

Also donations from:

Joel & Jill Blaga-Walz, Carla Orlando & Laith Wardi, Kathleen & Eugene Polaski, Ray & Patty Fiorelli, and JoElla & Lawrence Gorgacz

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 6, 2014 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Jay Habas

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Sertz, Kay Mannino, Ray Fiorelli

Greeters: Judy Kelly

Altar Servers: Gemma & Emilio Filippi

Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers

Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 10:30 am

Lector: Mary Williams

Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani, Mary Kearney

Greeters: Charla Leemhuis, Norann Brugger

Altar Servers: Logan Kearney

Ushers: Dave Taccone, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun

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

The ministers' schedule for December has been mailed and emailed. We still have openings in the schedule for Christmas that need to be filled!

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Evelyn Cicero Skovron** who passed away November 19th. Evelyn was 99 years old and a long time member of St. Patrick's. May her family take comfort in a long life well lived, and may Evelyn's soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.



THERE WILL BE AN OPEN HOUSE

of the Sister Pascal Food Pantry of Saturday, December 6, 2014 following the 5:00 PM Mass at St. Patrick's. Volunteers will be on hand to show the operation that serves the needs of many Families in Erie's East Bayfront. The Food Pantry is located in the Northeast Corner of St Pats Church. Please pass the word as **ALL** are welcome to visit.

The Ave Maria Care and Concern will have their Christmas luncheon on December 7th at the Oakwood Café. There will be a short meeting followed by a luncheon. If you would like to attend or are considering joining, please call Mary Pat Ringhand at 871-2926.



The new **LECTOR BOOKS** are available in the Trinity Gift Shop.

A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: Isaiah 63: 16-17, 19b, 64: 2-7

Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37



And so we begin: both the start of our new liturgical year as well as the season of Advent. During this time we are called to wait - like the Hebrew people waited for so many years for the Savior. Our contemporary experience of waiting often seems so difficult. We live in a world of microwave dinners, smart phones, and remote control. The pace of our lives is much faster than in the past. So in our culture of instant, it is in this season of Advent that we are also asked to be watchful and alert while we wait. How patient and reflective are we? How mindful are we of what God seeks from us in our everyday lives?

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**Nov. 29** *Saturday, Vigil: First Sunday of Advent*4:00 PM FRANK CHESNY, ANNIV - ST.H
(THE TORBIC FAMILY)5:00 PM WILLIAM J. & JANE WARD CARNEY - ST.P
(FAMILY)**Nov. 30** *First Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM HAROLD WAYLAND (NANCY GREEN) - ST.P

10:30 AM JANET BINDSEIL & DOLORES BINDSEIL - ST.P
(TREVA & JOHN LASKOWSKI)**Dec. 01** *Monday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 02 *Tuesday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM ROCCO & PHILOMENA FIGLIUZZI (FAMILY)

Dec. 03 *Wednesday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM MIEDY & ROSE PLIZGA (JUDY & PETER PENCE)

Dec. 04 *Thursday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM KATHY'S FATHER (BILL & BETTY FILIPKOWSKI)

Dec. 05 *Friday, Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM ST. HEDWIG ROSARY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Dec. 06 *Saturday, Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent*4:00 PM ROBERT T. NIEDZWIECKI, ANNIV. - ST.H
(MOM & FAMILY)5:00 PM VINCENT (JIMMY) AND DELPHINE ARDUINI,
DEBRA (SZYMANOWSKI) MCINTOSH, EDWARD
SZYMANOWSKI, NOREEN MILLER - ST.P
(GLORIA SZYMANOWSKI)**Dec. 07** *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 AM SEAMUS KEARNS (MASI FAMILY) - ST.P

10:30 AM JAMES & MARY ANN MAHONEY - 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

11/29 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

11/30 NO RELIGIOUS ED SESSIONS**12/02** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**12/03** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**12/06** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

12/07 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg.- Gr 6 - Holy Rosary

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

Confirmation candidates will focus on ministry with your sponsor during the month of December.

MANY HANDS LIGHTEN AND BRIGHTEN – Thank you Anna Marie Elliott, Debbie Emch, Elly Vahey and Amber Wildfire, along with our catechists, for your generosity of time and talent in helping our young people in the Sunday morning Faith Formation session prepare for the *wonder-full* season of Advent!

YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS – The young people (Jr and Sr high) of our East side Catholic parishes are invited

Dec 2 – Youth Group Gathering (topics: *Our Lady of Guadalupe* and the *Rosary*) at St. Stephen Church/6-7 pm;

Dec 9 – Youth Group – *Play and Pray* at St. Stephen Church/6-7pm;

Dec 16 – *Basketball Night* at St. John the Baptist School Gym/6-7pm;

Dec 23 – Youth Group with *Las Posadas* and gift exchange at St. Stephen Church/6-7pm. For more info, contact: **Katie Chandley** 460-2930 lightlaluz@gmail.com, or find us on Facebook.

**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