

Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13, 2015



Advent Wreath  
St. Patrick

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: Tuesday 8AM—3:30PM

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

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and our first reading from Zephaniah serves well Advent's dual themes of warning and consolation. We are consoled by the knowledge that God came among us in human flesh. We need prophetic warnings that the one who came as a helpless infant will return clothed in glory to judge the living and the dead. Zephaniah tells his people that Israel has experienced God's bitter yet cleansing judgment. Now that they have suffered, because of their own failings, the Lord is going to restore them. Today is also known as Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete Latin for rejoice.

Paul twice commands us to rejoice. Why? Because the Lord is near. Remember that Paul is in prison as he writes these words. He is living proof that one can indeed rejoice even under the direst circumstances. Recall that Paul and the early church believed that the second coming of Christ was immanent and they would face great confusion and disappointment as they slowly came to realize that this was not to be and that they have to ground themselves in faith.

Anticipating the Messiah, John the Baptist is already brimming with good news. That good news took the form of a baptism of repentance and exhortations about just living. More than anyone, John is aware of the incomplete nature of what he has to offer. The Good News of Christ won't be limited to advice about right living, for the one who will follow John will be mightier than John, and his baptism will be wholly transforming, the way fire changes dough into bread or purifies gold. The Messiah will separate wheat from chaff and leave nothing unchanged. Many of the people drawn to John believed him to be the Messiah, but John never had any such delusion about himself. John comes as the one who prepares the way of the Lord.

People are asking about the Christmas schedule. At St. Hedwig's there will be a Christmas Eve Mass at 4 PM. At St. Patrick's, there will be a Christmas Eve Mass at 5 PM, another one at 9 PM and on Christmas Day we will have Masses at 8 and 10:30 AM. In addition to the pipe organ, bagpipers, trumpets and kettle drums will provide music for the 5 PM Mass. Choir, kettle drums and trumpets will provide music for the 9 PM Mass.

During Lent this year, I will offer three Scripture classes. The three morning classes will address the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus noting the sharp differences in description of events among the four gospels. That class will be at 10 AM. I have had several people request an evening Scripture class and so I will also offer three evening classes. Those will be an introduction to the four gospels. I'm not sure what time we will schedule those. When people register for the class, they can indicate if they want the class at 5, 5:30, 6, 6:30 or 7 PM and we'll go with the majority choice. I have been very pleasantly surprised the past two years of Scripture classes with approximately 130 people attending.

We are now taking reservations for weddings in 2017. That seems a long way away, but trust me that over the Christmas holiday, we will get a large number of requests as engagements take place. We are almost completely full for 2016. I think there is one Saturday open in October and the month of December is open. We have some weddings in January and February, but the majority of them start immediately after Easter and continue almost until Thanksgiving.

I will invite all of the 2016 bridal couples in for an evening in the rectory. It's a purely social event to help them feel more welcome in the parish. We have drinks at 5:30 followed by a dinner at 6:30. The dinner is catered and a couple of women in the parish volunteer to serve and clear. They are

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

fun evenings, and it gives me an opportunity to know the couple better rather than standing before them on their wedding day as a complete stranger.

A new Marriage Rite for the English speaking Catholic Church will go into effect on Easter. I have not yet seen the new rite, and don't know if there are major changes or not.

I'm looking for someone who is coming to the Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass who would be able to take some pictures for us. We would like to do a bulletin insert after Christmas. Pictures would be of the crowd, individual pictures of some families, the bagpiper, etc. I'll reserve a section of a pew if anyone is interested so that you'll have a seat. That Mass gets an incredible crowd.

Christmas this year is a bit hectic as I will start Masses on Thursday evening, then Friday morning and right back at it Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Next year Christmas is on Sunday because of Leap Year, but in 2017 Christmas is on Monday which means we will start Masses on Saturday evening and not end until Monday noon! Help!!

The Young Adults Group will meet for a Happy Hour Sunday night, Dec. 13, at 7 PM at the Tap House. Any young adults in the parish are more than welcome to join them.

Bishop Persico has asked us to keep the success of the Pastoral Planning program in our prayers. All of this—the proposed changes in the Catholic schools as well as the pending change in parish structure—is going to be difficult for many people. Catholics love their parishes and the restructuring will be painful for many. But we have to remember that our faith is not in buildings and structures but in finding the best ways to discover and present God's word and presence.

A couple went on a safari deep in Africa. They were walking through the jungle when a lion jumped out in front of them and grabbed the wife in its jaws. "Shoot!" screamed the woman. "Shoot!" "I can't," her husband replied, "the battery in the camera is dead."

## Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burn this week in loving memory of **William Hayes** requested by Sr. Mary Anthonille.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Mary Zielinski**.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Miedy and Rose Plizga** requested by Peter & Judie Pentz.

Our offertory for last week was \$1,045.00. Campaign for Human Development \$110.00. Thank you and God bless.

### Rosary Society Christmas Party

A million thanks to all the wonderful people who attended our Christmas Party last Sunday. Special thanks to all who donated gifts and those who worked so hard to make it an enjoyable afternoon.

### Masses celebrated at Priest Retirement Home

Emily Malinowski (Georgina & Gil Manzi), Chet Loncki (Helen Dombrowski), Jeanette Borowy (St. Hedwig Rosary Society), Evelyn Belczyk (St. Hedwig Rosary Society), Mrs. Nellie Kozlowski (Dr. Joanne Finn), Frank Olszewski (Frank & Kathleen Olszewski), Deceased St. Hedwig Rosary Society Members (Rosary members).

Additional All Soul's Intention: In loving memory of my father, **Robbie Robison** from Russell Robison

### Christmas Schedule at St. Hedwig's

*Confessions (Sat. December 19) 3:00pm*

*Christmas Eve Mass 4:00pm*

*Fr. John will hear confessions on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 3pm.*

**Oplatki** (Christmas wafers) will be available before and after Mass during the month of December.

### St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule

#### December 19

Saturday

4:00 PM

Lector

Ron Helminski

Eucharist

Ron Helminski

Ushers

Ray Nowosielski

Tom Kurpiewski

Altar Servers

Portia & Yvonne Nowosielski



Pray the Rosary





# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 8,038.25
Online Giving	\$ 1,124.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 125.00
Total Income	\$ 9,287.25

## LITURGY INTENTIONS

### Dec. 12 Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM PATRICIA WERNICKI (FAMILY) - ST.H

5:00 PM MICHAEL CUMMINGS - ST.P  
(DAN & DEE RENICK)

### Dec. 13 Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM RUTH "DOLLY" HIGGINS - ST.P  
(KATHY & NIKKI HIGGINS, RENEE HOLLAND,  
LENA CONWAY)

10:30 AM JACQUELINE FONTECCHIO - ST.P  
(DARLENE & DAVE WILKINSON)

### Dec. 14 Monday, Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

### Dec. 15 Tuesday, Advent Weekday

8:00 AM GENEVIEVE (CONNIE) SULECKI  
(PETER & JUDY PENTZ)

### Dec. 16 Wednesday, Advent Weekday

8:00 AM TESSIE KOLODZIEJCZAK, ANNIV.  
(DAUGHTER, ANN)

### Dec. 17 Thursday, Late Advent Weekday

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

### Dec. 18 Friday, Late Advent Weekday

8:00 AM FOR THE PEALTHOF PETER PENTZ

### Dec. 19 Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

5:00 PM FRANK MARIELLA, ANNIV. (FAMILY) - ST.P

### Dec. 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM MILDRED KRAUCHEN, ANNIV. OF BIRTH  
(BILL & BARBARA KRAUCHEN THOMPSON)

10:30 AM BETTY SONNTAG, ANNIV. OF BIRTH - ST.P  
(DAVID & LISA DEMARCO)



Let Us **Welcome**  
*Gianna Taylor Grapes*  
daughter of  
Reid & Carla (Placidi) Grapes  
who will be baptized after the  
10:30 AM Liturgy

*The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory  
of Lou Carver  
from the Angelloti Family*



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 **Joe Kohler, Jo Johnson and Bud Johnson** from Gary & Becky Johnson

## Sr. Mary Pascal Food Pantry

Donations to the Food Pantry:

- ♦ In memory of **Frank Filippi** from Louise Bertone, Mike & Lynn Nies, Law Offices of Gery Nietupski
- ♦ In memory of **Harold Gebhardt** from Frank & Carol Vona
- ♦ In memory of **Ray Blair** from Barbara Rothman
- ♦ In memory of **Nan Held** from Judy Emling
- ♦ In memory of **Carol & Debby Donnelly** from Patricia Donnelly

Also donations from:

Leonard Andrzejewski, Mary Ellen Demyanovich, Jill Blaga-Walz & Joel Walz, Kathy & James Sertz and Carolyn & Robert Schenker

A Special Thank You!!!  
to **PANERA BREAD** for their generous donations every week to the Food Pantry.

## 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

12/12	3:30 PM	Confessions - St.H
	4:30 PM	Confessions - St.P
12/13	9:00 AM	Rel. Ed Kdg. - Gr. 6 - Holy Rosary
12/15	11:00 AM	Food Pantry - PR
12/16	12:00 PM	A.A. - PR
12/19	3:30 PM	Confessions - St.H

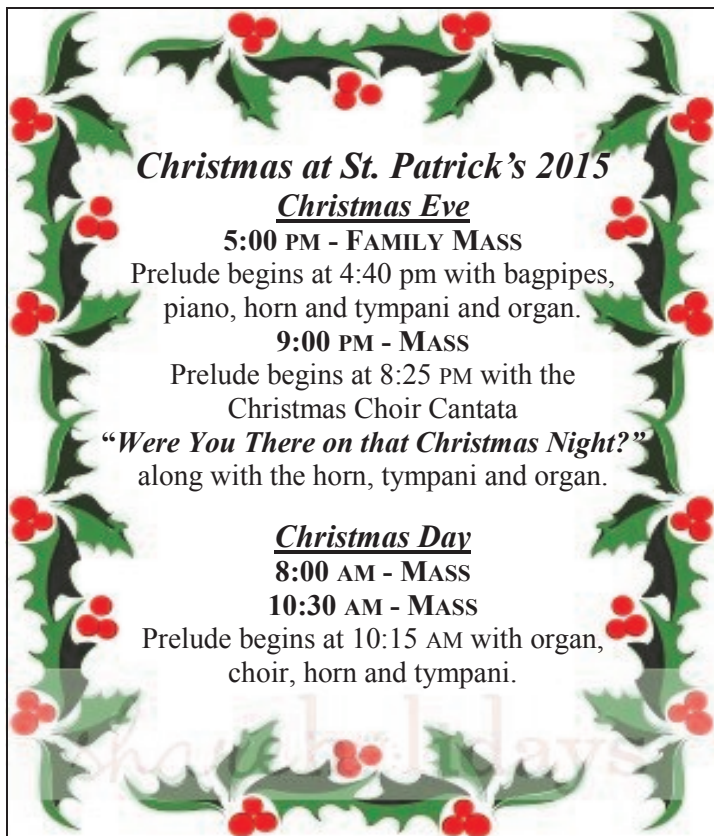
## HOMELESS SHELTER COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, December 15th at 12:15 pm in the community room

## 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.





***Christmas at St. Patrick's 2015***

**Christmas Eve**  
**5:00 PM - FAMILY MASS**  
 Prelude begins at 4:40 pm with bagpipes, piano, horn and tympani and organ.  
**9:00 PM - MASS**  
 Prelude begins at 8:25 PM with the Christmas Choir Cantata  
*"Were You There on that Christmas Night?"*  
 along with the horn, tympani and organ.

**Christmas Day**  
**8:00 AM - MASS**  
**10:30 AM - MASS**  
 Prelude begins at 10:15 AM with organ, choir, horn and tympani.

**Ministry Schedule**  
**Saturday, December 19, 2015 at 5:00 pm**  
 Lector: Bill Power  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Bill Power, Carolyn Power, Lynne Long  
 Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan  
 Altar Servers: Gemma & Emilio Filippi  
 Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewer

**Sunday, December 20, 2015 at 10:30 am**  
 Lector: Ryan Palm  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Tim Scully, Michele Wheaton, Forrest Mischler  
 Greeters: Mary Alice Hartwell, **1 NEEDED**  
 Altar Servers: Ryan Jubulis  
 Ushers: Randy Pristello, Dave Wilcox, John Purvis, Luke Purvis  
 Offertory Counters: Michele Wheaton, Tim Torrey, Susan Merski, Mary Frick

### Marriage Moments



In the spirit of Advent waiting, practice waiting on your spouse today. While waiting for your spouse to arrive, calmly remember the good person you are awaiting (instead of stewing if he or she is late). Or "wait on" your spouse in the sense of doing a favor for him or her.

### Ministry Schedule

**Christmas Eve - Thursday**  
**December 24, 2015 at 5:00 PM**  
 Lector: Ed Smith  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Sertz, Cyndi Pristello, Shirley Winschel, Forrest Mischler, Kay Mannino + **2 NEEDED**  
 Greeters: **4 NEEDED**  
 Altar Servers: Gemma & Emilio Filippi  
 Ushers: Randy Pristello, Chris Lampe, **6 NEEDED**



**Christmas Eve - Thursday**  
**December 24, 2015 at 9:00 PM**  
 Lector: Ryan Palm  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Beth Pinto, Mary Williams, **1 NEEDED**  
 Greeters: **2 NEEDED**  
 Altar Servers: **2 NEEDED**  
 Ushers: John Purvis, Luke Purvis, **2 NEEDED**

**Christmas Day - Friday**  
**December 25, 2015 at 8 AM**  
 Lector: Angie Kontur  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Lynne Long  
 Greeters: Angie Kontur, **1 NEEDED**  
 Altar Servers: **1 NEEDED**  
 Ushers: **4 NEEDED**

**Christmas Day - Friday**  
**December 25, 2015 at 10:30 AM**  
 Lector: Dario Cipriani  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani, Ray Fiorelli, Charla Leehmuis  
 Greeters: Charla Leehmuis  
 Altar Servers: **2 NEEDED**  
 Ushers: **4 NEEDED**



**If you can fill in for the Christmas services, please contact the Parish office at 454-8085 or email the office at [stpats@neo.rr.com](mailto:stpats@neo.rr.com).  
 Thank You!**

### A Family Perspective

Third Sunday of Advent  
 Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NECESSITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.







# Have an Irish Christmas

& shop at Saint Patrick's Trinity Gift Shop!

## Spread a little Irish joy this holiday season!

Looking for a unique specialty gift item, we can help you find it! Our store has religious gifts of crucifixes, cards, candles, jewelry, cook books & more! Get a Saint Patrick tee shirt or sweatshirt for any gift!

***Happy Holidays***  
from your friends at  
Trinity Gift Shop!

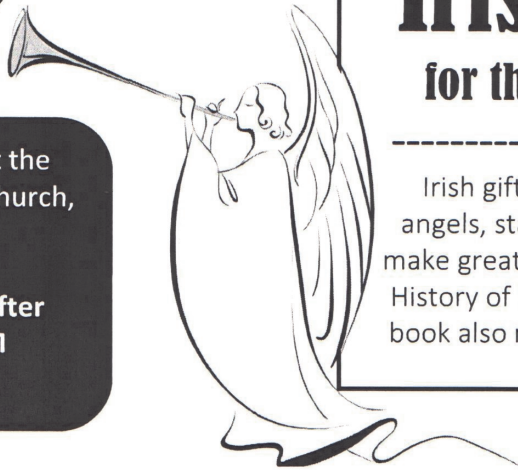
We are located inside at the south east corner of the church, stop by & see us!

We're open before & after  
5:00 PM & 10:30 AM  
weekend masses!



## Feel like spreading Irish luck for the New Year?

Irish gifts of trinity crosses, angels, statues & Irish plaques make great stocking stuffers. The History of Saint Patrick's Church book also makes for a great gift!



# NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

☐ Saint Hedwig

☐ Saint Patrick

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

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

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration

Change of Address

Moving

Want Envelopes

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

**Advertiser of the Week:**

We thank **KRAUS DEPARTMENT STORE**

810 Parade Street 814-453-4313

[www.krausdeptstore.com](http://www.krausdeptstore.com)

For advertising in our parish bulletin.