

# Third Sunday of ADVENT

DECEMBER 14, 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: Wednesday 8AM—3:30PM

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

Today is the third Sunday of Advent and we hear Isaiah's words of comfort to the Israelites returning from the Babylonian exile in the last sixth century BC. Isaiah is presenting the scope of God's call for him, that he is to proclaim "a year of favor from the Lord." Using the analogy of plants in a garden, Isaiah foresaw a future in which Israel would witness how the Lord will "make justice and praise spring up before all the nations." The opening words of today's reading are the very words Jesus uses in Luke's gospel at the start of his public ministry.

Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians is regarded by scholars as the earliest written document of the New Testament, dating to the year 50. The letter responds to the main concern of the first generation of Christians: when would Christ return again? Paul gives them a series of eight directives (six positive and 2 negative). One of his negative directives is "Do not quench the Spirit." If the church ever needed that advice, it needs it today as the naysayers against Pope Francis continue to attack him and attempt to stop the Holy Spirit from opening the church to welcome all people. There was great anxiety among these early Christians that the return of Jesus was immanent. Many of them sold their homes, their farms, businesses and gave the money to the apostles and spent their time in prayer and speaking in tongues. As time moved on, they faced a major crisis because they felt Christ has abandoned them.

Each year the gospel readings for the second and third Sundays of Advent focus on John the Baptist. Within the four gospels there is a consistent portrait of John. But each of the gospel writers also brings a distinctive theological and historical perspective to the presentation of John. Today's reading from John's gospel illustrates this well. Only in John will we hear the metaphor

of Jesus as "the light." John sees him as the light of the world, the Good Shepherd, the Bread of Life. Others saw John as the Messiah, others as the prophet, similar to Elijah, or perhaps even the prophet that Moses prophesied about in the 40 years of wandering in the desert. But John made it clear he was none of these.

Is there someone who will be attending the Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass who would be willing to take some pictures so we can do an insert in the bulletin. I can explain exactly what we're looking for if someone is available.

A reminder about our upcoming Homeless Shelter February 11-24 at the Russian Church of the Nativity Social Center. We are still in need of a large number of volunteers, perhaps a group joining together to prepare a meal for 60 people or preparing a very light breakfast (ie., rolls, coffee). We also need people to take shifts to monitor the place during the night with shifts from 7 PM until 11 PM; 11 PM—3 AM and 3 AM until 7:30 AM. I am thrilled that some parishioners from both the cathedral and St. Jude's are going to join us in volunteering.

During the month of October, the Saint Patrick's Food Pantry distributed 22,781 pounds of food to 2,606 people. Cost to the parish was \$787.37. In November, each family who is served by the Food Pantry was given a turkey for Thanksgiving. It is your ongoing generous support that allows us to serve these people this way.

The Parish and Finance Council of St. Patrick's met recently to review a five year plan for the parish which has just been completed. It showed that in 2009 there were 207 active families in the parish; today there are 758. It showed that Offertory collections at that time were roughly \$1,500 per week and are now averaging \$7,000 per week. The five year plan included a capital campaign

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

and the restoration of the church in 2012. That goal of \$1 million was surpassed with pledges of \$1.13 million, but unexpected overruns in the restoration cost a total of \$1.4 million. That debt is being paid back to the diocese at the rate of \$20,000 + interest each month. Last year the plan focused on the rectory which has not been maintained as it should have been. The parish was loaned a high lift for the entire summer which enabled the maintenance staff to repair and paint all of the eaves of the house, repoint all of the mortar and in many places completely replace what had deteriorated. All 101 windows were re-caulked, an apartment was put in on the third floor for the pastor, central A/C was put in the first floor and replacement of sidewalks has begun. In the spring, new shrubbery will be planted around both the church and the rectory. The parking lot behind the rectory will also be resurfaced.

I must add that we were shocked at the amount of copper that is on the building, particularly up at the eaves. Every window in the building has copper lined recesses for the window to slide up and down and brass bands supporting the windows!

An elderly couple was celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. They had married as childhood sweethearts and moved back to their old neighborhood after they retired. Holding hands, they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered and found the old desk they had shared where Jerry had carved, "I love you, Sally." On their way home, a bag of money fell out of an armored car. Sally quickly picked it up and took it home where she counted our \$50,000. Jerry said, "We've got to give it back." Sally said, "Finders keepers" and put the money in the bag and hid it in the attic. The next day two police officers were canvassing the neighborhood looking for the money and knocked on their door. When asked if they had found it, Sally replied, "No." Jerry said, "She's lying. She hid it in the attic." "Sally said, "Don't believe him. He's getting senile." The agents turned to Jerry to question him. One said, "Tell us the story from the beginning." Jerry said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday.." The first officer turned to his partner and said, "We're out of here."

## Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of **Amanda Juchno** requested Pete & Judy Pentz.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Robert Niedzwiecki** requested by grandchildren.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Mary L. Zielinski** requested by Dolores and family.

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

Our offertory for last week was **\$1258.00**. Religious Retirement was **\$152.00** Thank you and God bless.

### Masses Celebrated at Priest Retirement Home

Chet Loncki (Mrs. Dorothy Glembocki), Sigmund Prochowski (Tom & Carol Kurpiewski), Helen Kurpiewski (Helen Dubowski), Edward Bukowski (Linda Zausen), Peter Zielinski (Mr. & Mrs. Ed Staszewski), Sigmund Gorski (Mrs. Irene Mielnik), Peter Joseph Dubowski (Mr. & Mrs. Robert Niedzwiecki).

### Rosary Society Christmas Party

Thank you to those who attended our Christmas Party last Sunday. Special thanks to all who donated gifts and worked so hard to make it an enjoyable afternoon.

#### *Christmas Schedule at St. Hedwig's*

Confessions (Saturday, Dec. 20) 3:00pm  
Christmas Eve Mass (Wednesday, Dec. 24) 4:00pm



Oplatki - Christmas wafers will be available before and after Mass today and next weekend.

PRAY THE ROSARY



Lectors  
Eucharist  
Ushers

Altar Server

#### St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule December 20 **Saturday**

4:00 PM  
Pete Pentz  
Pete Pentz  
Nancy Widomski  
Michelle Moskel  
Charlotte Mabie

#### December 24 Christmas Eve Wednesday 4:00PM

Ron Helminski  
Ron Helminski  
Art Blum  
Pete Pentz  
Nowosielski family





# Saint Patrick News



## Stewardship

Offertory Collection 12/7/14 \$8343.00  
Religious Retirement \$50.00

## Ministry Schedule

### Saturday, December 20, 2014 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Kathleen Haslett  
Eucharistic Ministers: Kay Mannino,  
Shirley Winschel, Yvonne Gersims  
Greeters: Jane Carney, Kathleen Horan  
Altar Servers: Ryan Jubulis, Ryan & Colin Hudson  
Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oliveri, Phil Rewers

### Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 10:30 am

Lector: Dario Cipriani  
Eucharistic Ministers: Tim Scully, Audrey Reigel,  
Ed Brown  
Greeters: Arlene Miller, Tim Donlin  
Altar Servers: Juliette Morales  
Ushers: David Taccone, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan,  
Paul Balczun  
Offertory Counters: Dario Cipriani, Donna Cipriani,  
Gail Smith

### Christmas Eve - Wednesday December 24, 2014 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Ed Smith  
Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Habas, Jay Habas,  
Tom Golab, Forrest Mischler, Patty Dailey,  
Shirley Winschel, **NEED 3**  
Greeters: Jeff & Mary Beth Pinto, **NEED 2**  
Altar Servers: Emilio & Gemma Filippi  
Ushers: Phil Rewers, Randy Pristello, Jim Wehan,  
Paul Balczun, **NEED 4**

### Christmas Eve - Wednesday December 24, 2014 at 9:00 pm

Lector: Mary Williams  
Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani,  
Michele Wheaton, **NEED 1**  
Greeters: **NEED 2**  
Altar Servers: **NEED 1**  
Ushers: John Purvis, Luke Purvis, **NEED 2**

### Christmas Day - Thursday December 25, 2014 at 10:30 am

Lector: Lynne Long  
Eucharistic Ministers: Charla Leemhuis,  
Yvonne Gersims, Ray Fiorelli  
Greeters: **NEED 2**  
Altar Servers: **NEED 1**  
Ushers: **NEED 4**

**If you can fill in for Christmas services, please  
contact the parish office at 454-8085. Thank You!**



Let us Welcome

**Everly Monroe Peterman**, son of  
Thomas & Jessica (Aversa) Peterman  
who will be baptized after 5 PM Liturgy on  
Saturday, December 13, 2014

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 **Robin  
Cherney** from Alice & Carl Carlotti

The **Restoration Fund** in memory of **Dwayne Tra-  
utman** from Georgianne Boerner  
The **Restoration Fund** in memory of **Evelyn Skov-  
ron** from Yolanda Suminski, Geri Cicchetti, Thomas  
Cicchetti, Tina & Michael Donikowski, Carol Cicero,  
and Julie Cicero & Family

The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week in  
memory of the **Winiarczyk & Nemergut Families**

Donations to the **Food Pantry**:  
In memory of **Sr. Marie Paul** from Mary Anne Ash-  
worth  
In memory of **Gretchen Marie Armour** from Barbara  
Gingenbach  
In memory of **Jim & Eleanor Boris, Fred & Carmilla  
Pristello** from Cynthia & Randy Pristello  
In memory of **Madeline Stephany** from Cheryl & Mi-  
chael Stephany

Also donations from:  
Mary Beth & Jeffery Pinto, Susan & Mark Sullivan, Dr.  
& Mrs. Forrest Mischler, Barbara & Mark Sargent,  
Mary Ellen Demyanovich, and  
Alice & Kenneth Daub

## A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28



Close to the completion of the Advent season, we  
yearn to celebrate the coming of the Son of God, Mary's  
child. This is a time of promise and fulfillment, of prepa-  
ration and waiting, of rejoicing. John understood his role,  
and who he was. He also knew who he wasn't. He was not  
the one God had promised, but he played an important  
role in God's plan. We are all part of God's plan; we all  
have a role to play. How are you playing out your role in  
God's plan?

**LITURGY INTENTIONS****Dec. 13 Saturday, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent**4:00 PM RICHARD MOSKEL, ANNIV - ST.H  
(WIFE, JANICE)5:00 PM TONY & IRENE IZBICKI (DAUGHTERS, MARSHA  
GENSHEIMER & PATTI GRAY) - ST.P**Dec. 14 Third Sunday of Advent**8:00 AM TESSIE KOLODZIEJCZAK, ANNIV. OF BIRTH  
(DAUGHTER, ANN)

10:30 AM LIL MARINCE (FAMILY) - ST.P

**Dec. 15 Monday, Advent Weekday**

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

**Dec. 16 Tuesday, Advent Weekday**

8:00 AM ST. HEDWIG ROSARY SOCIETY

**Dec. 17 Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 AM ROBERT NIEDZWIECKI (WIFE &amp; CHILDREN)

**Dec. 18 Thursday, Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 AM FRANK MARIELLA, ANNIV. (FAMILY)

**Dec. 19 Friday, Late Advent Weekday**8:00 AM MILDREN KRAUCHEN, ANNIV. OF BIRTH (12-21)  
(BILL & BARBARA KRAUCHEN THOMPSON)**Dec. 20 Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent**

4:00 PM JEANETTE BOROWY (GLORIA SULLIVAN) - ST.H

5:00 PM JOSEPH, ROSE, LEN, & JO ALECCI - ST.P  
(FAMILY)**Dec. 21 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM JEFFERY D. ROUCH (NICKI DEMARTE) - ST.P

10:30 AM LIL MARINCE (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

**12/13** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

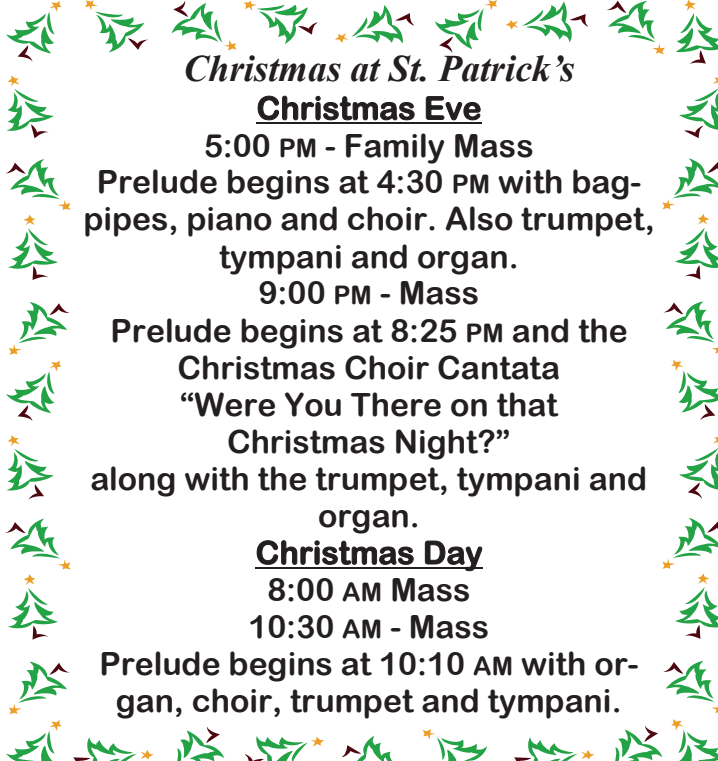
**12/14** 9:00 AM Rel. Ed Kdg. - Gr 6 - Holy Rosary

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

**12/16** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**12/17** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR**12/20** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

**12/21** NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES


**Christmas at St. Patrick's**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**5:00 PM - Family Mass**  
 Prelude begins at 4:30 PM with bagpipes, piano and choir. Also trumpet, tympani and organ.  
**9:00 PM - Mass**  
 Prelude begins at 8:25 PM and the Christmas Choir Cantata "Were You There on that Christmas Night?" along with the trumpet, tympani and organ.  
**Christmas Day**  
**8:00 AM Mass**  
**10:30 AM - Mass**  
 Prelude begins at 10:10 AM with organ, choir, trumpet and tympani.

**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 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 Rector**