

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2016



The Advent Wreath
St. Patrick Church

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 9 AM - 4PM;
Friday **OFFICE & CHURCH CLOSED**

Saint Hedwig Parish

521 East Third Street
Erie, PA 16507
454-8085 FAX 459-8685
sainthedwig@neo.rr.com
www.sainthedwigparisherie.org

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The earlier chapters of Isaiah reflect conditions during the eighth century BC. The prophet repeatedly confronted kings and people with lapses of faithfulness to their covenant with the Lord. Kings who were called to lead the people in fidelity to the Lord instead turned to foreign nations for protection from invasion. Isaiah's plea for true repentance went unheeded. Today's reading centers on a recent attack on Jerusalem in which Judah's king turned to a foreign nation for help rather than asking for a sign from God. God's reply in today's reading clearly recognizes the royal insincerity. Nevertheless, the Lord supplies a sign that David's line will continue. God's promise to David will be fulfilled by the future coming of a new, ideal king to be named Immanuel, "God is with us." We find this promise fulfilled in the coming of Christ.

As we near the birth of Jesus, the readings increasingly claim that this event fulfills Israel's Scriptures. This view flowed from the earliest Christians. What Paul is writing to the Romans today is that Christ fulfills the promises of the Scriptures. Jesus is revealed as the long-awaited "Son of David," the ideal ruler who inaugurates God's final reign over all things. In raising Jesus from the dead, God further reveals Jesus as the Son of God in a new sense. He is not only an earthly king adopted by God, but shares the fullness of the divine. Finally, Paul notes that Jesus also fills the hopes of Gentiles.

Our gospel continues to emphasize the Jewish view of fulfillment of God's word that has begun to open itself to the Gentiles. Matthew's infancy narrative begins a pattern we will see throughout his gospel: a particular event occurs so as to "fulfill" the Scriptures. Although our English translation today speaks of the "birth" of Christ,

Matthew uses the Greek word "genesis" or "origin." He is concerned less with historical details of Jesus' birth than he is with the origin of the Christ, for the Christ event has one and only one source: God. Hence Matthew states that Mary has conceived through the Holy Spirit. By using the word that opens the Greek Old Testament, Matthew suggests that with the birth of Jesus, God's act of new creation begins. He also notes that the righteous man chosen to parent Jesus is a descendant of King David, thus stating that Samuel's prophecy is fulfilled. The events fulfill Isaiah's words: in the child soon to be born, God is with us in an unimaginable way: in the person of a human infant.

The Christmas Eve Vigil Mass is at 5 PM. That is always the largest Mass of the year. Expect it to be crowded. In addition to the pipe organ and choir, we will have kettle drums and bagpipes at that Mass. There will be an additional Mass at 9 PM. On Christmas Day we will have an 8 and a 10:30 AM Mass. The 10:30 AM Mass will also have pipe organ, kettle drums and bagpipes.

I get a break this year because Christmas falls on a Sunday. Next year, however, I'll pay for my sins big time!! Christmas is Monday which means I will start celebrating Mass on Saturday evening, Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Monday morning!!!

The parish office is closed the week between Christmas and New Years and will reopen for business on Tuesday, January 3rd.

"Father Cauley's angels," as they are known, have all now been restored. You can see them in the sanctuary and feel free to walk up and look closely at them. When they were being restored, we discovered plaques which identify the donors. They had been painted over and we didn't know they were there. The two large angels on the

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

main altar were donated by (1) Anna Cayton and (2) Frederick & Ellen Murray. Two of the six smaller ones were donated by the Ave Marie Society and the remaining four were donated by Cassie Cauley. Cassie was a sister to the four Cauley brothers and was the long-time housekeeper at the rectory. When the Cauley parents were quite elderly, they moved from Sartwell to the rectory and Cassie cared for them until both of them died in the rectory. The restoration of the angels was paid for by Cauley descendants who live in the Seattle, WA area.

I hope you will consider a little extra donation in the Christmas collection. We tithe and give ten per cent of that collection to St. Martin's Center. I believe last year we sent them a check for \$2,000 thanks to your generosity to the parish.

Congratulations to St. Patrick parishioner Phil Kelly (who, along with his wife, Judy, are greeters for weekend Masses). Phil was the winter commencement speaker at Gannon University and was awarded a Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the ceremony December 11th. Phil began teaching at Gannon in 1968 and has held a number of positions including Dean of Humanities, interim provost and interim president. Judy holds a BA & MA degree from Gannon as do both of their children.

A fourth grade student was asked to write a book report on the entire bible. Here is what he wrote. "In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says 'The Lord thy God is one,' but I think he must be a lot older than that. Anyway, God said 'Give me a light' and someone did. Then God made the world. He split Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though because they didn't have cars. Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel. Pretty soon all of the early people died off except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something." *To be continued.*

Saint Hedwig News



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of **Albert "Mickie" Mabie** from Jim & Reggie O'Brien.

Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Hattie Gleba** from Helen & Dale Forbes.

St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Peter Joseph Dubowski** from Bill Donahue.

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

The weekly offertory for Saturday, December 10 was \$489.00. Religious Retirement Fund was \$171.00.



Advent resources available online—

The Office of Parish Social Ministry and Respect Life is offering resources for individuals and families for the Advent season.

These resources include weekly Scripture for reflection, service suggestions and additional resources for assisting families in preparing for Christmas. Access these resources at <http://www.ErieRCD.org/justice.htm>. For additional information or questions, please contact Erin Landini-Grogan at (814) 824-1254 or respectlife@eriercd.org.

Parishes of Holy Rosary and St. John to host Epiphany concert—

Epiphany concert scheduled for January 5 at 7 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church.

There will be a prayer service with sacred music that includes St. Stephen's Choir and Daniel and Emily Cabanillas.



A Family Perspective—

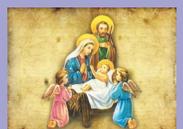
The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child reminds us by their innocence that "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.

St. Hedwig Ministry Schedule

December 24, 2016 at 4:00 PM

Saturday

Lector	Patricia Mielnik
Eucharist	Patricia Mielnik
Ushers	Ray Nowosielski Tom Kurpiewski
Altar Servers	Charlotte Mabie





Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection	\$ 7,199.55
Online Giving	\$ <u>1,110.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 8,309.55
Religious Retirement	\$ 1,686.00

Thank you for your generosity!



*The Sanctuary Lamp
burns in loving memory of
Elizabeth Sonntag &
Grandson, Phil Sonntag
from the Masek Family*

We continue to thank those who make special donations to our parish and we pray for those people in whose memory and honor the donations were made:

Sr. Mary Pascal Food Pantry

The **Food Pantry Truck** is sponsored this week in memory of **Joe Kohler, Jo Johnson, and Bud Johnson** from Gary & Becky Johnson.

Donations made in memory of:

- ♦ **Michael Schloss** from James & Joyce Roehm, Cindy & Bill Welsh, Angie Kontur, Gretchen Gallo, Joseph Caccavo, Nancy & Ken Anderson, and Delores Mangoni
- ♦ **Lynne Long** from Michael & Patty Dailey
- ♦ **JoAnne Barber McCormick** from Ryan Carey & Maureen Barber-Carey
- ♦ **Edward Taft** from Timothy & Mary Margaret Mackey
- ♦ **All our friends & relatives** from Karl & Virginia Kelm
- ♦ **Joseph D'Andrea, Stan Gorgacz, Madeline Gorgacz** from Lawrence & JoElla Gorgacz

Also donations from:

Mark & Candy Bukowski, Ken & Alice Daub, Deborah Musolff, and Patricia Schmidt

Special Thank You!!!
to **PANERA BREAD &
HABORCREEK EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS**

Christmas at St. Patrick's 2016

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM - Family Mass

Prelude begins at 4:40 pm with bagpipes, piano, tympani & organ

9:00 PM - Mass

Prelude begins at 8:25 PM with the Christmas Choir Cantata

"Let the whole world sing"

Along with the piano, tympani & organ

Christmas Day

8:00 AM - Mass

10:30 AM - Mass

Prelude begins at 10:15 AM with choir, organ & tympani

Christmas Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 24, 2016 at 5:00 pm

Lector: **Rick Filippi**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Jay Habas, Carol Habas, Kay Mannino, Kathy Sertz, Joseph Schneider, Ann Scutella, Steve Scutella**

Greeters: **Kathy & Jim Sertz, Mary Anne Ashworth, 1 NEEDED**

Altar Servers: **Emilio & Gemma Filippi**

Ushers: **Chris Lampe, Phil Rewers, Rob Oligeri, Jim Sertz, Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun, Randy Pristello, Dave Taccone**

Saturday, December 24, 2016 at 9:00 pm

Lector: **Mary Beth Pinto**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Mary Beth Pinto, Ryan Palm, Mary Willilams**

Greeters: **2 NEEDED**

Altar Servers: **1 OR 2 NEEDED**

Ushers: **4 NEEDED**

Sunday, December 25, 2016 at 8:00 am

Lector: **Mary Ellen Dahlkemper**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Tom Golab, Kathryn Olds, Lisa Straub**

Greeters: **Lisa & Chuck Straub**

Ushers: **John Maloney, Dave Korn, Chuck Straub**

Sunday, December 25, 2016 at 10:30 am

Lector: **Dario Cipriani**

Eucharistic Ministers: **Dario Cipriani, Ray Fiorelli, Charla Leehmuis**

Greeters: **Mary Anne Ashworth, Charla Leehmuis**

Altar Servers: **1 OR 2 NEEDED**

Ushers: **John Purvis, 3 NEEDED**



A very special **thank you** to Iroquois High students who participated in a food drive and donated over 700 food items to the St. Patrick Food Pantry!

LITURGY INTENTIONS

- Dec. 17** *Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent*
 4:00 PM HELEN KURPIEWSKI (MARY KOHLER) - ST.H
 5:00 PM FRANK MARIELLA (FAMILY) - ST.P
- Dec. 18** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
 8:00 AM FRANCES MAGOC, ANNIV. OF BIRTH - ST.P
 (MICHELE WHEATON)
 10:30 AM GERRIE CIACCHINI - ST.P
 (Q. GREGORY ORLANDO & FAMILY)
- Dec. 19** *Monday, Late Advent Weekday*
 8:00 AM FRANK FABIN
 (SISTERS, ANGIE, MARION, IRENE)
- Dec. 20** *Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday*
 8:00 AM REV. ROBERT J. LEVIS
 (PAUL & EILEEN BALCZUN)
- Dec. 21** *Wednesday, Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church*
 8:00 AM MILDRED KRAUCHEN, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
 (BILL & BARBARA KRAUCHEN THOMPSON)
- Dec. 22** *Thursday, Late Advent Weekday*
 8:00 AM HELEN LAROCCA, ANNIV. OF BIRTH
 (ANGIE KONTUR)
- Dec. 23** *Friday, Saint John of Kanty, Priest*
 8:00 AM NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE
- Dec. 24** *Saturday, Vigil: The Nativity of the Lord*
 4:00 PM ALBERT "MICKY" MABIE - ST.H
 (JUDY & PETER PENTZ)
 5:00 PM ELIZABETH SONNTAG &
 GRANDSON, PHIL SONNTAG - ST.P
 (KATHY & BILL MASEK)
 9:00 PM WILLIAM M. FLANAGAN - ST.P
 (WILLIAM & MARY FLANAGAN)
- Dec. 25** *The Nativity of the Lord*
 8:00 AM MARGARET & BILL SCULLY & NEILTORRANCE
 (JEANNE TORRANCE) - ST.P
 10:30 AM MILDRED DEDIONISIO (BILL YEZZI) - ST.P

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.

**Transitions Support Group—**

Transitions, a monthly support group for Separated, Divorced and Widowed persons will meet on Sunday, December 18, 2016 from 2-4 pm at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. RSVP's not necessary. Visit our website at www.eriecd.org/transitions.htm. Come as you are; you are always welcome. This month's topic is: "Change: Looking Toward the Future."

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
- 12/17** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H
 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P
- 12/18** 9:30 AM Rel. Ed Kdg.- Gr. 6 - Holy Rosary
 1:00 PM Rel. Ed 7 - 10 Holy Rosary
- 12/20** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR
- 12/21** 12:00 PM A.A. - PR
- 12/24** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H
 4:30 PM Confessions - St.P
- 12/23-01/02** OFFICE CLOSED
- 12/25** NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES



Trinity Gift Shop will be closed on Saturday & Sunday, December 24th & 25th and Saturday & Sunday, December 31st & January 1st

**HOMELESS OVERFLOW SHELTER—**

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners we have meals and volunteers covered for the overflow homeless shelter we will be hosting February 1-8. However, we are in need of monetary donations for the many expenses we incur including dumpster, daily cleaning service, supplies and a donation to Church of the Nativity to cover utilities and miscellaneous items. Contributions can be dropped in the collection basket or sent to the rectory. Envelopes are available next to the bulletins in the back of the church. Thank you for your support of our community members who are in need. If you have any questions about this project contact Angie Kontur at 434-9653 or angiekontur@gmail.com.

Advent concert scheduled at St. Peter Cathedral—

The McDowell High School Chorus under the direction Leslie Weber, will perform a concert marking the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, at St. Peter Cathedral, W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie. The concert begins at 4 p.m. and is free and open to the public. For more information, call 814-453-6677

ST. MARTIN'S CENTER SHINING STARS GIFT TREE 2016



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 St., Erie, PA
814-453-4314 www.krausdeptstore.com
for advertising in our parish bulletin.