

Fourth Sunday of ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 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 fourth and final Sunday of Advent. One way of making sense of the Old Testament is to see it as a series of covenant promises that God makes, sometimes with an individual and other times with the entire people. Today, he makes a covenant with David and the people of Israel. The covenant originates with David's concern for a proper location for the ark of God. Dating back to the time of Moses in the desert, the ark was a chest thought to contain Aaron's rod and a jar of manna and the stone tablets on which the ten commandments were written. Most importantly, the ark of the covenant represented God's presence with the people of Israel. As David discerns, the prophet Nathan reveals a new covenant as God's promise to "fix a place," that is, give Israel land upon which to settle and call their own. In the covenant, God promises David that his house will endure forever and that God will raise up an heir which is ultimately fulfilled in the birth of Christ.

Today's second reading are the closing verses of Paul's letter to the Romans. It is called a doxology, a hymn of praise to God. The letter to the Romans is one of few Pauline letters to a community he did not establish. The community had been founded by other missionaries on a gospel different from Paul's. Paul is also seeking their support for him to do missionary work in the west—he had originally planned to go to Spain and preach.

Today's gospel, found only in Luke, is the story of the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel's visit and announcement to Mary that she would conceive and bear a son. Note the connection to the first reading where Luke tells us that Joseph is of the house and lineage of David. We also hear from Gabriel's words to Mary that through the birth of Jesus, God will fulfill his covenant promise made to David.

Christmas Masses are on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 4 PM at St. Hedwig's. At St. Patrick's, there will be a 5 PM Vigil Mass, a 9 PM Mass and Masses on Christmas day at 8 AM and 10:30 AM.

As you know, the Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass fills to the rafters. I would remind you that no one should come and try to save a pew for others who will be coming later. People can take seats as they come in.

I want to take this opportunity to wish each of you a blessed and holy Christmas. Hopefully you will be able to spend the holidays surrounded by families and loved ones. In particular let us remember with gratitude the men and women in our armed forces who will not be able to share the holidays with their families. I hope they know our gratitude for what they do.

Each year since I've been a pastor I always close the parish office between Christmas and New Years. There is very little activity and it gives the staff a chance to have a nice break. We will close the office on Dec. 24 at noon and not reopen until Monday, January 5. I will be here the entire time and if there is an emergency you can reach me at 454-4032.

Get well wishes to St. Patrick parish secretary Kay Cline who underwent a hip replacement earlier this month at the Cleveland Clinic. She is now back and undergoing therapy and hopes to be back in the office sometime early in 2015. And let me tell you: I'm counting the days. I'm lost without her! So pray for her recovery. If you want to send her a get well card, you can send it to 3102 Broadlawn Drive, Erie, PA 16506.

In addition to the bulletin today, there is a brochure listing all of the Christmas flower memorial donations which you have made at both St. Patrick's and St. Hedwig's churches. Please take

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

one home with you. When you come on Christmas and see the beautiful decorations at both churches you will be more than pleased with your memorials. I'm grateful to the group of people from both parishes who take the time to decorate the churches.

The Christmas Eve 5 PM Mass at St. Patrick's will include music with the pipe organ, trumpet, kettle drums and bagpipers. The bagpipers will perform some pieces before Mass and then will lead the recessional out at the end of Mass.

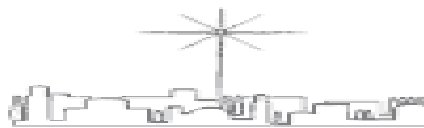
I'm happy to share news with you that some parishioners from both St. Peter's Cathedral and St. Jude the Apostle parishes have volunteered to help with our homeless shelter February 11—24. We've had an amazing response from St. Patrick parishioners and a similar response from the Knights and Ladies of St. Patrick. This is a huge undertaking, but we can do it. Pope Francis keeps asking us to care for those who cannot care for themselves and that is precisely what we are doing in this project. I'm hoping that we can make this an annual event.

You might be interested in this anecdotal information. Sister Marie recently asked me if I knew where Father Peter Cauley kept his pistol and I asked her what she was talking about. She then proceeded to take me the foot of the large staircase in the rectory and show me how there is a secret compartment in the banister that you twist and turn and it's just large enough to hide a pistol. That house is constantly full of surprises.

Have you ever considered remembering your parish as you do your estate planning? Both of our parishes have large old buildings that are constantly in need of maintenance. We have established the St. Patrick's Foundation which exists solely for the maintenance of the church.

Earl and Bubba are quietly sitting in a boat fishing, chewing tobacco and drinking beer when suddenly Bubba says, "Think I'm going to divorce my wife. She ain't spoke to me in over two months." Earl spits overboard, takes a long, slow sip of beer and says, "Better think it over. Women like that are hard to find."

Saint Hedwig News



Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia! Merry Christmas!

With the whole Church and the whole world we look to Bethlehem for comfort, peace, joy and hope. For in this small town, in the quiet of the night, a light begins to shine and its radiance will light the world.

Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in loving memory of **John Gorski** requested by his family. Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Ted Mielnik** requested by Irene and family. St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Amanda Juchno** requested by Charlotte Mabie. Please remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing care, the military and the homebound.

Our offertory for last week was \$1090.00. Thank you and God bless.

Masses Celebrated at Priest Retirement Home

Peter Zielinski (Mr. & Mrs. Gary Loncki), Hedwig Lynch (Gary & Laura Borowy), Stefania Tyczkowski (Family), Chet Loncki (Mrs. Anna Buszek, Chris & Pat), Sigmund Prochowski (John & Cynthia Weber), Mary Elizabeth Fuller (Nick & Joan Konzel), Frances (Pat) Trojanowski (St. Hedwig Rosary Society).

Thank You!

As a result of our Christmas Party, We were able to gift the Parish \$3500.00 We Thank the St. Hedwig Rosary Society and friends of St. Hedwig for their generosity.

PRAY THE ROSARY
DAILY



Saint Hedwig Ministry Schedule

December 27

Saturday
4:00 PM

Lector	Jim Gorski
Eucharist	Jim Gorski
Ushers	Nancy Widomski
	Michelle Moskel
Altar Server	Charlotte Mabie





Saint Patrick News



Stewardship

Offertory Collection 12/14/14	\$ 8666.00
Religious Retirement	\$ 1336.00
Online Giving - will be reported in the 01/11/15 bulletin	

Ministry Schedule

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, Kathy Sertz, Carolyn Power, Bill Power

Greeters: Jeff & Mary Beth Pinto, Jim & Kathy Sertz

Altar Servers: Emilio & Gemma Filippi

Ushers: Phil Rewers, Randy Pristello, Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun, Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri,

NEED 2

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: Addie & Owen Babinsack

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**

Saturday, December 27, 2014 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Mary Pat Schlaudecker

Eucharistic Ministers: Lynne Long, Ray Fiorelli, **NEED 1**

Greeters: Angie Kontur

Altar Servers: Addie & Owen Babinsack

Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri, Phil Rewers

Sunday, December 28, 2014 at 10:30 am

Lector: Mary Duncan

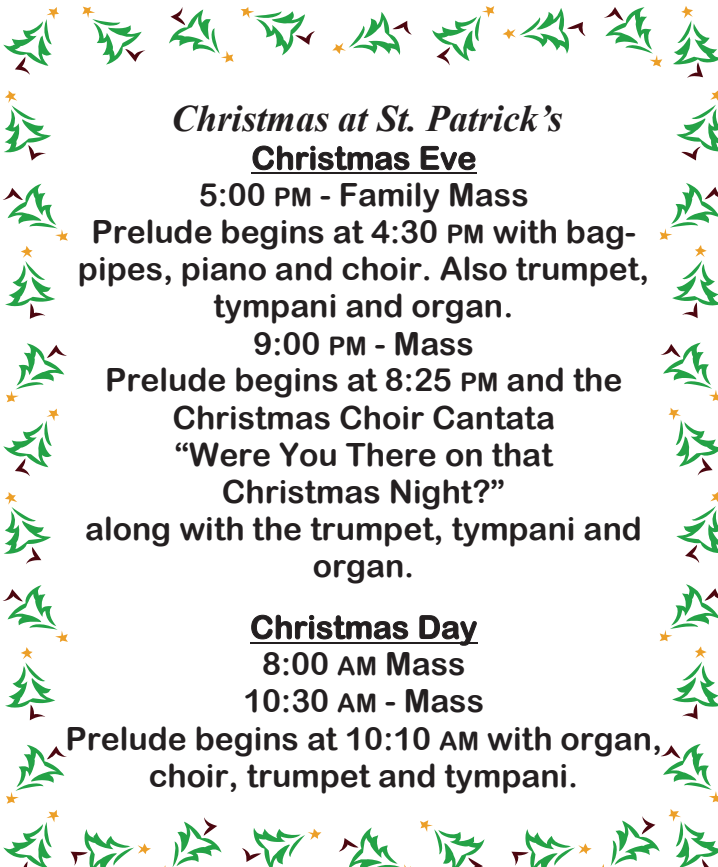
Eucharistic Ministers: Colleen Welch, Mary Williams, Michelle Tortorelli

Greeters: Tom & Linda Brunner

Altar Servers: Ryan Jubulis

Ushers: Randy Pristello, Tom Welch, Jim Wehan, Paul Balczun

Offertory Counters: Tom Brunner, Linda Brunner, Mary Duncan



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.

A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b012, 14a, 16

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38



We are known for our Marian devotions, but we do not fully comprehend the difficulties that Mary would have encountered as an unmarried teenager who lived in poverty during her entire pregnancy. When she was hardly more than a child herself, she accepted God's plan for her life, and became a model woman of faith. She is a witness for us that - "all things are possible with God." When has your own vulnerability led you to a deeper trust in God?

Let us Welcome: **Madigan Mae Laver**, daughter of Samuel & Ashley (Madigan) Laver and



Liam Philip Then, son of Patrick Then & Meghan Godish will be baptized after the 10:30 am Liturgy
Everly Monroe Peterman, daughter of Thomas & Jessica Peterman was baptized on Saturday 12/13/14

LITURGY INTENTIONS**Dec. 20** *Saturday, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Advent*

4:00 PM EVELYN BELCZYK (FAMILY) - 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 JIM & IRENE WILKINSON FAMILIES - ST.P
(DAVID & DARLEEN WILKINSON)**Dec. 22** *Monday, Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 23 *Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 AM BEV HARTIGAN, ANNINV. (JOHN & CHILDREN)

Dec. 24 *Wednesday, Christmas Eve*

4:00 PM JOHN & GENEVIEVE GORSKI (FAMILY) - ST. H

5:00 PM RONALD ANGELOTTI (ELLEN VAHEY)

9:00 PM ANTHONY & RITA SCULLY POL (ASHLEY POL)

Dec. 25 *Thursday, The Nativity of the Lord -Christmas*

8:00 AM

10:30 AM AURELIA "IRISH" ARDERY (ARDERY FAMILY)

Dec. 26 *Friday, Saint Stephen, The First Martyr*

8:00 AM NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE

Dec. 27 *Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph*

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

5:00 PM HELEN LARocca, ANNIV. OF BIRTH - ST.P
((DAUGHTER, ANGIE)**Dec. 28** *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

8:00 AM MARION BORKOWSKI - ST.P

(DAUGHTER, PAT ANTONOPLOS)

10:30 AM BETTY SONTAG (DAVID & LISA DEMARCO)-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

12/20 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

12/21 NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**12/23** 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**12/26 - 01/4** OFFICE CLOSED**12/27** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

12/28 NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

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 **Phil Sonntag** from Alexandra & Jacqueline Masek.

The **Restoration Fund**:

In memory of **Robert Herzog and Chuck Bauder** from Judy Emling

In memory of **William Brereton** from Marilyn McClellan

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

Donations to the **Food Pantry**:

In memory of **MK Wright, L. Yochim** from Nancy Yochim

In memory of **Sam Logan** from Marsha McQuillan

In memory of **John Theiss, Marianne Lyons** from Mary & Thomas Lyons

In memory of **Dick & Margaret Brairton** from Barbara Brairton

Also donations from:

Judy & Phillip Kelly and Jeanne & Wellie Yaple

Nollaig Shona Dhuit!

Celtic - Happy Christmas

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