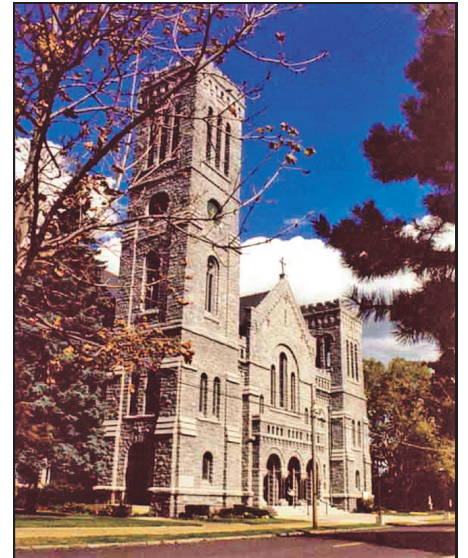
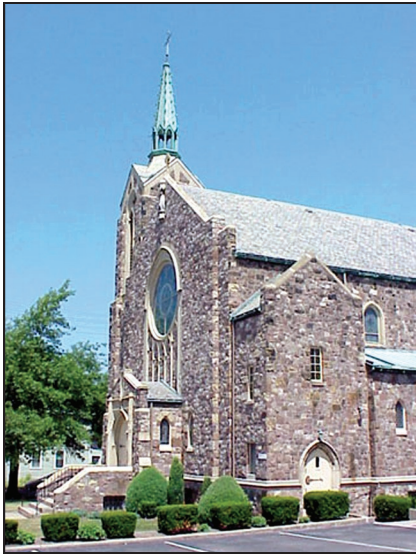


Saint Hedwig Saint Patrick

Sister parishes serving the East Bay Front of Erie

Pastor

Rev. Msgr. Henry A. Kriegel



DAILY MASS

Saint Patrick 8:00 AM

SATURDAY EVENING MASS

Saint Hedwig 4:30 PM

Saint Patrick 5:00 PM

SUNDAY MORNING MASS

Saint Hedwig 9:00 AM

Saint Patrick 10:30 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

Anticipation

Saint Hedwig 5:30 PM

Holy Day

Saint Patrick 12:05 PM

CONFESSIONS

**30 Minutes before each Saturday
Evening Mass or by appointment**



Saint Hedwig Parish

Established 1910

521 E. 3rd Street

Erie, PA 16507

(814) 454-6232

www.sainthedwigparisherie.org

Saint Patrick Parish

Established 1837

130 East 4th Street

Erie, PA 16507

(814) 454-8085

www.saintpatrickparisherie.org



***For information on Baptism, Religious Education, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation,
Adult Initiation, Marriage, Prayer or Study Groups, please call either parish office.***



Today is the Feast of the Holy Family and our first reading comes from the Old Testament Book of Sirach, a book written by Ben Sira, a scholar in the Jewish way of life. The book was written

in the late third and early second centuries BC. Just prior to today's reading, we would read how we are to be faithful to God and following this reading is a section on how to live a life of humility. The reading shows that the love of God and the love on one's parents cannot be separated. Fidelity to God involves children fulfilling their responsibilities to their parents. You will notice the patriarchal dimension of today's reading. Most of the reading is about honoring one's father, only once is there reference to one's mother. This was a total patriarchal society.

Our second reading from the First Letter of John is also proclaimed for us on two Sundays of the Easter season. The author differentiates between who we are now (God's children) and what we will be in the future (which we do not know). The author is writing in the very late first century when false ideas about Jesus were beginning to work their way into the community. Some said Jesus was not really human and others claimed he wasn't really the Christ. These incorrect ideas led people to disregard their own behavior and its implications for the community. The author cites the command that we are to believe in God's Son and to embody the love he has for us in our love for each other. If we do this, we will remain in God and God in us.

Our gospel comes again from Luke and this account of the holy family's journey is found only in Luke. Their journey is a pilgrimage that faithful Jewish families took to Jerusalem for the Passover. It parallels Hannah's journey in the first reading. Luke tells us that when Jesus was lost it took them three days to find him, a time period which anticipates the time between his death and resurrection. Jesus answers Mary's question by stating clearly that he is the Son of his Divine Father. Remember that Luke either knew Mary personally or knew someone who knew her because there is more about Mary in Luke's gospel than in the other three gospels combined. Only Luke tells us about the Annunciation, Mary's visit to Elizabeth, the beautiful prayer "The Magnificat," the birth of Christ in a stable, etc.

A reminder that the parish office is closed this week between Christmas and New Years. The office will reopen on Wednesday, January 2nd. If an emergency, call me at 454-4032.

The gasps, the oohs and aahs and the overall thrill of everyone as they saw the church for the first time made my heart skip a beat. Everyone seems pleased with the results, and you have now restored this magnificent building and again made it one of the architectural landmarks of the city as well as a house of prayer where we can come in silence, amid all of this grandeur, and be with our God.

Tuesday, January 1, is a holyday of obligation and Masses will be celebrated at St. Hedwig's on New Year's Eve at 5:30 and on New Year's Day at St. Patrick's at 9 AM. There will not be a Mass at 12:05 PM on New Year's.

2013 will find us having a very early Lent with it beginning on February 13th which also gives us a very early Easter, March 31st.

We have a large number of tour buses visit St. Patrick's Church on a regular basis. People come from Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, other parts of Ohio and as far away as Philadelphia. We had suspended all of the tours while the restoration was underway but now we will begin them again. Sister Marie gives a history of the church for the visitors and Mark Alloway offers a demonstration of the pipe organ. Alice Daub gives her time to open the Gift Shop while we have visitors. In addition to these visitors, Michael DeSanctis of Gannon University brings his students for a tour of the church and a number of area schools bring their students for a tour. I suspect we'll see even more tours now that the building has been restored.

Have you ever considered remembering you parish in your will? You can leave a bequest for a particular purpose (we have established the St. Patrick's Foundation which is solely for the maintenance and upkeep of the church) or you can make a bequest to the parish in general. You can also name the parish as beneficiary in a life insurance policy. Both St. Patrick's and St. Hedwig's are old buildings constantly in need of repair at great expense. A gift from your estate could make a major difference.

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

The Winter issue of Millcreek Community magazine has a nice two page spread on our 2012 Irish Festival. The article includes lots of photographs of the event.

Speaking of the Irish Festival, plans are already underway for our 2013 festival. Some of those plans call for a new and rather formal opening ceremony with a group of bagpipers processing into Rainbow Garden and then performing at various times throughout the evening. I think I mentioned that we are seriously thinking about doing away with the festival on Sunday and instead serving a large Irish breakfast Sunday morning. Further plans for Sunday call for someone to be there shearing sheep and someone else there with a spinning wheel to show how they take the wool and make it into thread.

The Pew Research Center reported last week that U. S. birthrates hit the lowest level ever recorded in 2011 with just 63 births per thousand women of childbearing age. The rate was 71 per 1,000 in 1990. For the first time ever, Americans are having fewer babies than the British or the French. The plunge might be temporary because of the recession (the Great Depression also saw a plunge in the birthrate). Today's babies are tomorrow's taxpayers and workers. Thanks to our recent birth rates we have more workers per retiree than countries like Germany and Japan and also more than emerging countries like China and Brazil. The question is—is that about to change or is this a temporary economic result?

A teacher was testing the children to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven. She asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the poor, would that get me into heaven?" "No," the children shouted. "If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the lawn and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into heaven?" Again, the answer was a resounding "No." She was thrilled, thinking that they are getting it. "Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, would that get me into heaven?" Again, they all answered "No." She was thrilled that they understood and finally asked them, "Well, then how can I get into heaven?" A five year old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead."

A Moment of Reflection

Reading I: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Reading II: Psalm 84:2-10

1 John 3:102, 21-24



Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Today's Gospel narrative invites us into the paralyzing panic that overtakes any parent who has lost sight of a child for even a minute, much less the three days that Jesus' parents endured. This family was like any other family—preparing meals, packing for a trip, preparing for great feasts, and having all the anxious parenting that is involved. How has this Christmas week been for you and those close to you? What has your experience of family taught you about the presence of God in your own life....in the life of your family?

PRO-LIFE EVENTS

Erie March for Life—People for Life invites you to participate in the Erie March for Life on Saturday, January 12th. Gather at the Perry Square Gazebo by 10:45 am. The March will begin at 11:00 am and conclude with a brief Memorial Service at the Gazebo.

Pro-Life Breakfast—People for Life's annual Pro-Life Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 7th at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center. The main speaker will be Goerge Weigel, a celebrated author and leading expert on ethical issues and public policy. For more information call 814-882-1333 or go on-line to www.peopleforlife.org

Notre Dame Liturgical Choir to perform at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie

The Notre Dame Liturgical Choir will present a concert of sacred music on Sunday, Jan. 6 at 8 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie. The liturgical choir, directed by Dr. Andrew McShane and Mary Catherine Levri, is the primary choir for the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame, and is visiting as part of its annual tour. In addition to singing every Sunday for Mass at the basilica, which is broadcast live nationally on CatholicTV, the choir has traveled and performed across the United States and Europe, most recently spending a week in Rome and has released several recordings on the Pro Organo label. They are being hosted by the Notre Dame Club of Erie. St. Peter Cathedral School graduate and Cathedral Preparatory School graduate Brennan Kruszewski is a member of the choir for his third year and will be performing in the concert with his fellow choir members.

The concert is free and open to the public.



Saint Hedwig News

Zyczymi Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!
Happy New Year!

*The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph*



Our Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for **Parishioners and their intentions**, Our Lady's Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Miedy & Rose Plizga** requested by Judy & Peter Pentz and St. Joseph Shrine Lamp burns in loving memory of **Carol Kurpiewski** requested by Tom and family. Please remember in your prayers those in the hospital, nursing care and the homebound.

The offertory for the weekend of 12/22 & 12/23 will be reported next week. Religious Retirement Collection \$234.00. Thank you and God bless.

A Special Thank You!

To Barbara Juchno and her committee for decorating the church so beautifully for our Christmas joy.

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God is celebrated on January 1st. It is the last day of the Octave of Christmas. This Feast is close to being almost 2,000 years old and commemorates the divinely revealed Truth that the Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of Jesus Christ (Luke 2:7), Who is truly God (John 1:1; 20:28). If Jesus is truly God, and Mary gave birth to Him, then Mary is truly the "Mother of God"; or as the Eastern Churches call her, the "**Theotokos**" (pronounced): "Thay-yo-toe-kos", or "God-bearer."

Saint Hedwig Ministry Schedule

December 31

Monday (5:30pm)
Lector Patricia Mielnik
Eucharist Patricia Mielnik
Altar Server Charlotte Mabie

January 5

4:30 PM
Lector Ron Rossi
Eucharist Charlotte Mabie
Ushers Roland Henderson
Ray Nowosielski
Altar Servers Portia & Yvonne Nowosielski

January 6

9:00 AM
Tom Kurpiewski
Judy Pentz
Tom Zielinski
Sharon Zielinski
Charlotte Mabie
Amanda Juchno

Saint Patrick News



Parish Stewardship

Due to an early deadline for the bulletin this week there is no report of our Christmas offertory. The **Christmas Flower donations were \$2,418.00**. 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 homebound.

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 the **Nemergut & Winiarczyk Families** by John and Irene Nemergut; The **Food Pantry** in memory of **AIfred Sokolowski** by Mrs. Frances Sokolowski, in memory of **Rita and Harry Caldwell** from Renee Calabrese; in memory of **Ameilia and Daniel Presogna** by Mr. Laith Wardi and Dr. Carla Orlando.

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, January 5, 2013, 2012 at 5:00 pm

Lector: Mary McCarthy

Eucharistic Ministers: Kay Mannino, Ray Fiorelli,
Shirley Winschel

Greeters: Stella Abbato, Patty Abbato

Altar Servers: Brenden Humphrey

Ushers: Chris Lampe, Rob Oligeri

Sunday, January 6, 2013, 2012 at 10:30 am

Lector: Rick Filippi

Eucharistic Ministers: Dario Cipriani,
Charla Leemhuis, Forrest Mischler

Greeters: Gail Arneman, Mary Alice Hartwell

Altar Servers: Emilio Filippi

Ushers: John Purvis, Luke Purvis, Jim Wehan,
Paul Balczun

Offertory Counters: Bill Welsh, Cindy Welsh,
Tim Donlin



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**Dec. 29** *Vigil: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*4:30 PM WANDA DONIKOWSKI - ST.H
(ST. HEDWIG ROSARY SOCIETY)5:00 PM ROSE, JOSEPH & LEONARD ALECCI - ST.P
(FAMILY)**Dec. 30** *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*9:00 AM ISABELLE DOMBROWSKI - ST.H
(ISABEL GRAZIANO)

10:30 AM JOSEPH MESSINA, ANNIV. (FAMILY) - ST.P

Dec. 31 *Monday. Vigil: Solemnity of Mary,**The Holy Mother of God*

5:30 PM CHET LONCKI (MRS. JENNIE PAZDZIESZ) -ST.H

Jan. 01 *Tuesday, Solemnity of Mary,**The Holy Mother of God*

9:00 AM RITA CALDWELL (FRANKIE MARIELLA) - ST.P

Jan. 02 *Wednesday, Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory**Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church*

8:00 AM CHET LONCKI (MRS. JENNIE PAZDZIESZ)

Jan. 03 *Thursday, The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

8:00 AM ST HEDWIG ROSARY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Jan. 04 *Friday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

8:00 AM JOSEPH KOHLER (MARY PAT SCHLAUDECKER)

Jan. 05 *Saturday, Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord*

4:30 PM PETER ZIELINSKI (ANN KRUSZEWICZ) - ST.H

5:00 PM JAMES MCCARTHY (WIFE, MARY) - ST.P

Jan. 06 *The Epiphany of the Lord*9:00 AM MARY ALICE MADONIA - ST.H
(JUCHNO FAMILY)

10:30 AM DON BUSECK (WIFE, FRAN) - 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

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

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

01/03 11:00 AM Food Pantry - PR**01/05** 3:30 PM Confessions - St.H

4:30 PM Confessions - St.P

01/06 9:00 AM Rel. Ed. K thru 6 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7, 8, 9, 10 - Holy Rosary

1:00 PM Confirmation Session—Holy Rosary

FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS WILL RESUME

Sunday, January 6, 2013 for ALL groups: Kdg – 6; Jr & Sr High School; Confirmation Candidates at their regularly scheduled time. Please refer to the session calendars on the website!

PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GR. 2 who are preparing for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** – A reminder that Parent and child interviews are **Saturday, January 19th beginning at 10:00 am.** A schedule will be sent to you by January 10th.

FIFTH ANNUAL SUPERBOWL PANCAKE BREAK-FAST will take place ***Superbowl Sunday, February 3rd from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm*** in Hastings Hall on the Holy Rosary campus. The Knights of Columbus host this breakfast on behalf of the Eastside Catholic Faith Formation Ministry. The proceeds are used to purchase ***Catholic Youth Bibles*** for the children and youth of our Eastside parishes. Mark your calendars now and support our Knights who support us in our ministry to the children, youth and their families.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM
☐

Saint Hedwig

☐

Saint Patrick

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

New Registration

Change of Address

Moving

Want Envelopes

PLEASE DROP THIS INFORMATION INTO Offertory Basket or mail to Rectory