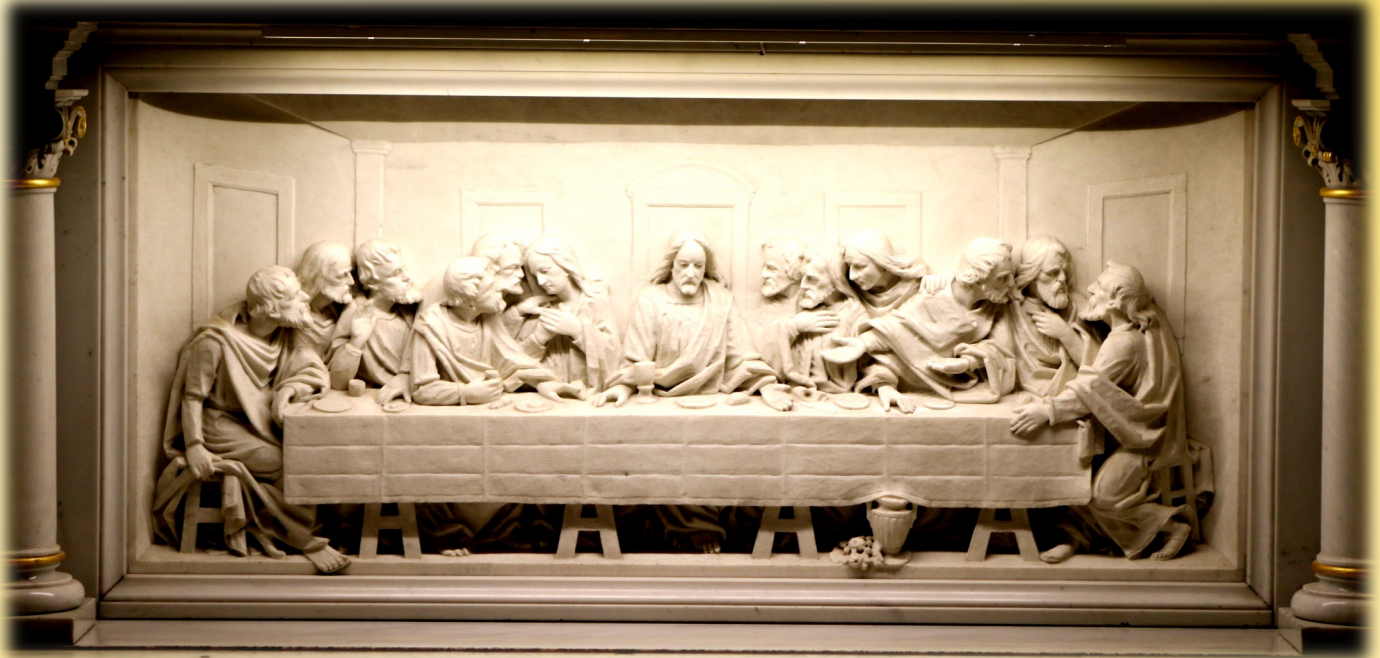


Palm Sunday
April 5, 2020



The Last Supper
St. Patrick Church

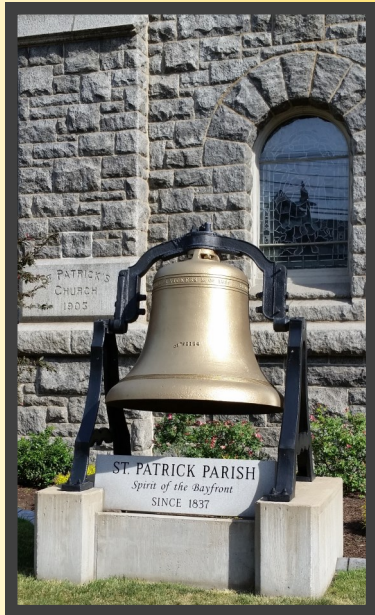
Saint Patrick Parish

Serving the East Bayfront of Erie since 1837

Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday 8 AM

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 PM

Sunday: 8 AM & 10:30 AM



Saint Patrick Parish

130 East 4th Street
Erie, PA 16507

Monsignor Henry A. Kriegel—Pastor

Janine Carch Sliker—Office Manager

Ann Halupczynski—Director of Finances

Tom Golab—Sacristan

Mark Alloway—Organist, Music Director

Jan Gervasi—Wedding Coordinator

Anne Causgrove—Baptismal Preparation

*Mary Pat Schlaudecker—Archivist,
Genealogy research*

Phone: 814-454-8085

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Website: www.saintpatrickparisherie.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

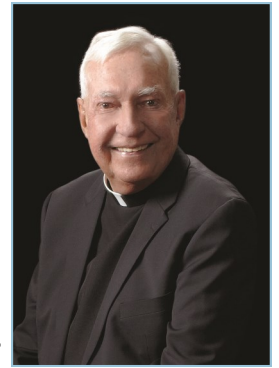
Daily Mass: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM (CHAPEL)

Saturday Mass: 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Holy Day Mass: 12:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk...



Today is Palm Sunday, the beginning of the most somber and holy week of the church year. We begin with a Processional Gospel read today from Matthew. In the Synoptic Gospels (Mt., Mk., Lk.) this is Jesus' first visit to Jerusalem and he came for the Passover. Jesus is cheered and adored as he enters the city, an attitude that will change dramatically in the coming days.

In our first reading, Isaiah speaks as the one to whom God has given a tongue to speak and ears to hear. Scholars are divided as to whether he is speaking solely of himself or as the ideal servant of God or speaking for the whole of Israel. We hear God's prophets and servants, often rejected and mistreated by their own people, portrayed as the hardest of rocks and metals. They remain resolute in speaking the word that God has given them, for the Lord is always their help, their shield and their vindication.

Our second reading is a poetic text cited in Philipians which was most likely composed very early for liturgical celebrations. The hymn speaks first of Jesus' divinity, something he did not cling to but would empty himself of to save us. The hymn is often called the Kenosis Hymn from the Greek word that means "emptying." The word evokes an image of a vessel being poured out completely, drained of whatever filled it. While mysteriously always retaining his divinity, in emptying himself Christ came in human likeness, sharing fully in the human condition. He will empty himself even further on the cross. "Because of this" begins the second part of the hymn where God reverses Christ's lowering of himself by greatly exalting him above all others.

Our Passion this year is from Matthew who weaves citations and allusions from the Hebrew scripture (remember he is writing to a Jewish audience who believe Jesus is the Messiah). Jesus goes to the temple area where he is furious about buying and selling and then immediately cures the blind and the lame which elicits children crying out, "Hosanna to the Son of David." This seals his fate with Jewish leadership. It is

From the Pastor's Desk continued...

important to note in Matthew that it is Judas, not the chief priests, who takes the initiative to put the plot into action. Note at the Last Supper when all of the apostles ask if the betrayer is them, it is only Judas who calls Jesus "Rabbi," as do others in the gospel who have no faith. It is only in Mt's gospel that Jesus says that the shedding of his blood will be for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus, in Mt., becomes the suffering servant of Isaiah from our first reading. Enroute to the Mt. of Olives, Jesus quotes a prophecy from Zechariah as he explains everything about himself. When Judas and the others approach Jesus, Judas again calls him rabbi. Throughout the crucifixion, Mt will cite Old Testament prophecies, particularly Psalm 22. Matthew is the only one to speak of an earthquake at Jesus' death (as he will in other instances, at the stilling of the storm and at the resurrection. He echoes Hebrew prophets who used cosmic events to reveal divine control. Mt will be the only gospel to have guards at the tomb.

While the Catholic Church teaches that an abortion is always immoral, a majority of U. S. Catholics do not agree with the church. A majority—51% - say that abortion should be legal in all or most cases, with 31% saying it should be legal except for late-term and 20% saying it should always be legal. The poll of 1,512 Catholic registered voters was conducted in February and polled Catholics on issues including political affiliation, religious practices, etc. U.S. Catholics were slightly less likely to support legal abortion than Americans overall. According to 2019 Gallup polling, 25% of Americans think abortion should be "legal under any circumstances," while 20% of Catholics take that position. Among Catholics attending Mass at least weekly, the majority, 55% answered that abortion should be illegal in all or most cases. More than one-third of weekly Mass-goers, 35%, said abortion should be illegal except in cases of rape, incest or "to save the life of the mother.

Hispanic Catholics offered perspectives on abortion similar to Catholics overall; 21% said abortion should be legal except in late-term cases. Only 48% said abortion is intrinsically evil. Beliefs about abortion vary significantly among political party affiliations. Catholics identifying as Republican were more likely to say abortion is intrinsically evil, with 63% agreeing. Two thirds of Catholics identifying as Democrats said abortion should be

legal in all or most cases, compared to just 37% of Republicans.

We have been putting insulation in the attic of the rectory (it's only taken 104 years to get this done!!). I was in my study in my third floor apartment doing something on the computer when I heard a horrific crash and came out in the hall to see the leg of a man hanging through the ceiling and plaster, insulation, etc. all over the floor. I remember the day several years ago we were all in our offices working and it was heavenly quiet and there was a horrific crash. It was then we discovered that the kitchen ceiling came down!!! One other Sunday morning I came down to go over to church for the 8 AM Mass to discover that the living room ceiling had come down and water was dripping. It is never dull living in this rectory!!!

During the month of February, our Food Pantry served 474 families. We distributed 5,924 pounds of food at a cost of \$472.26. Once again, your generous support of the Food Pantry covers these costs. We are now going to have to start purchasing eggs to distribute on our own as they will no longer be provided by the government. This will mean an added cost each month, but one that I feel we can continue to absorb because of your generosity.

We're having very serious mold issues again in the Food Pantry. We discovered that some of the inside walls are completely black with mold. We have had this problem for about five years, ever since a company did the work on the chimney. We have had another company doing the work since then and they have finally been able to seal the chimney (again!) and remove all of the mold. The area is now safe again for people to use it.

I hope you will take advantage of the Holy Week services. On Holy Thursday, we have a simple Mass with no music at 5:30. That Mass only draws a very small crowd. On Good Friday we have Stations at noon and the service at 2 PM. The Easter Vigil is Saturday at 8:30 and regular Masses on Sunday.

(ALL SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY CANCELLED)

Pastors share some of the best excuses they've received as to why people skip coming to church on Sunday. "Both of my girlfriends attend church there." "The pastor is too handsome. When I see him preaching, I have impure thoughts and am distracted." "I always get hemorrhoids on Sundays." "My wife cooked bacon for breakfast, and our entire family smelled like bacon."



Saint Patrick News



EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th

all Masses and Church activities were cancelled until further notice. If you have any questions or concerns the office will remain open with limited hours and the Rectory is **CLOSED** to the public. All current and scheduled Mass intentions will be rescheduled. The Food Pantry will remain open with new procedures to follow. Thank you!

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 by Kathy Alessi.

Donations made to the Food Pantry were made in memory of:

- ◆ **Warren Grucza** from Doug & Kathy Anderson
- ◆ **Thomas "Red" Miller** from Mary Ellen Demyanovich
- ◆ **James, Carol & Debra Donnelly** from Patricia Donnelly
- ◆ **Janet Dawson & Kyle Lachica** from David Duska & Anastasia Lachica
- ◆ **James Fitzgibbon** from Leo & Jane Fitzgibbon
- ◆ **Marcy Fabin** from Betty Gama
- ◆ **Sr. Domenica DeLeo, RSM** from Marcia Gensheimer
- ◆ **James Aquino** from Marci Honard
- ◆ **Barbara Korn** from David Korn
- ◆ **Helen Kormosh, Joseph R. Kormosh** from Joe Kormosh
- ◆ **Richard S. Miller** from Lynne Miller
- ◆ **Mary Nason** from Deborah Musolff
- ◆ **Dave Sanders** from Rob & Patti Oligeri
- ◆ **Valery Szumigala** from Mark & Annette Rennie
- ◆ **Alfred Sokolowski** from Frances Sokolowski
- ◆ **My father, Joseph P. Koken** from Susan Koken Williams
- ◆ **Lu Yochim** from Nancy Yochim

Also donations from:

Tom & Linda Anderson, Richard Adams, Ken & Alice Daub, Nick & Terre DeSantis, Paul & Nancy Ditmore, Ann Downing, Ken & Jan Gervasi, John Godish, Dennis & Marie Gritzer, Jay & Carol Habas, Steven & Kelly Karns, Phil & Judy Kelly, Joe & Judy Pitetti, John & Cynthia Purvis and Dave & Julie Sanner

**Special Thank You!!!
to PANERA BREAD &
EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT'S HABORCREEK**

OFFERTORY GIVING AT ST. PATRICK PARISH

We know these are difficult times for everyone, including you and your family. **St. Patrick Parish** remains committed to the spiritual care of our parishioners and the faithful in our communities. Although how we do that is changing temporarily, our purpose remains the same. Please be assured of our prayers for you and your families, particularly in the daily private prayers Father Kriegel is offering for your intention.

Please be aware that like any family, our parish has ongoing operating costs. We are entirely dependent upon you to meet those financial obligations. Please continue to make your weekly offertory gifts through drop off, mail or Online Giving

If you have any questions, contact the **Parish office at 454-8085.**

COVID-19 emergency relief effort launched

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Diocese of Erie is collaborating with the Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, Inc., to broadly offer and promote Catholic giving for immediate needs. The intent is to encourage local Catholic giving with the ease of three online platforms:

- A **Community Relief Fund** has been established through Catholic Charities, Inc., to support specific emergency outreach efforts through agencies, diocesan ministries and parishes.
- A **Parish Offertory Support** effort is being made with the assistance of the Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania. This will give parishioners an opportunity to make their offertory donations online if they are not already set up to do so.
- The **#iGiveCatholic** program in which our diocese participated last fall has been activated to facilitate online emergency fundraising. Many Catholic schools, parishes and ministries throughout the Diocese of Erie used this as a successful platform for a one-day online fundraising effort on Giving Tuesday 2019.

All three platforms can be accessed easily through the banner on the diocesan homepage, www.ErieRCD.org.

THE TENTH STATION

Jesus is stripped.

Lord Jesus, as if torture and death are not enough, the soldiers feel they must humiliate you. They do this because they are afraid. They don't want you to be a martyr. They think that by taking away your dignity they will take away your worth. Little do they know. They can strip you of your clothes, but they can never strip you of who you are. You are the son of God. They can do what they will, but they can never do what they will, but your death will be our salvation.

Lord, often I have failed to give people the dignity they deserve. I look at what they are wearing, where they live or how much they make. I think they are too old, or too young, too rich, or too poor. I fail to see that they are daughters and sons of God. And Lord, sometimes I fail to see my own dignity. I am so centered on my faults and failures that I fail to see the good that you have accomplished through me. Help me to recognize that I too am a child of God and that no one, not even myself can strip that dignity from me. Help me, Lord to see my dignity and theirs. Amen



THE ELEVENTH STATION

Jesus is nailed to the cross.

Lord Jesus, the time has finally arrived. Your long journey from Pilate's Court to Calvary is over. But your suffering has just begun. What were the soldiers thinking as they drove the nails through your flesh? Were they sorry for the agony they were causing you or had they stopped seeing those they executed as human beings? I can't imagine that you were able to think at all in the midst of such pain. Lord was it worth it? Am I worth it?

Lord, you have said yes; you have said that I am worth suffering and dying for and I thank you for loving me so. Help me to see that you are worth suffering for. You are worth dying for. I know that I will probably never be asked to give my life for you, but give me the courage and the strength to be willing to give up some of my pride, my comfort to die to myself so that you can live through me. Amen



THE TWELFTH STATION

Jesus dies on the cross.

Lord Jesus, what can I possibly say?



THE THIRTEENTH STATION

Jesus is taken down from the cross.

Lord Jesus, it is finally over. The victory is yours. Those who sought your death think they have won, that your death was their doing. They are wrong. Your death was your choice, not theirs. You did not want to die, but you chose to die for me and for all of my brothers and sisters. Those who condemned you think that with your death, what you started will all go away. But you have won. You have won salvation for us and even for those who opposed you. Your love is greater than their hate.

Lord, how can I thank you for all you have done for me, all you have given to me? There is no greater love, than to give your life for another; and you gave your life for me. What you started so long ago lives on in your church and in me. Be my strength when I am weak, my courage when I am afraid, and my hope when I am discouraged. Though you have been taken down from your cross, give me faith to accept my own cross, to show and to share my faith with others. In you, Lord Jesus, I too will find victory. Amen



THE FOURTEENTH STATION

Jesus is laid in the tomb.

Lord Jesus, what sorrow your mother and followers have felt as they buried you in that tomb. Though they had listened to you as you spoke of being raised, they didn't fully understand. How could they? Your death was real, your pain was real, and your sacrifice was real. Your resurrection was still but a hope and a dream.

Lord, I have had to bury people that I loved. The sorrow and pain seemed almost more than I could bear. I know that you have promised us eternal life. I believe that my family and friends who have died now live with you. But their death was real and my pain is real. Lord in the midst of my sorrow; help me to see beyond the tomb, beyond the pain and sorrow, beyond death itself. Give me eyes of faith to see the life that you live right now, the life that you promised to all of us, the life that my beloved dead enjoy. As I finish walking these stations with you, Lord, walk with me my entire life. Be my life, both now and forever. Amen



CONCLUSION

Lord Jesus, what love and passion you showed for me and for all of us in accepting death, so that we might live. Your life, your death and your resurrection gives meaning and hope to the whole world. Thank you for the gift of life and salvation you offer to each of us.

Lord, give to me the grace to accept the gift that you offer. Fill my life with your passion and your love. Grant me the strength to boldly carry my faith to the world.



**Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments
Child Abuse Prevention Month—Reporting Suspected Child Abuse is Everyone's Responsibility:**

It is every adult's moral responsibility to report suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minor's is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the 2019 state report there were 5,102 substantiated reports of child abuse in Pennsylvania in 2018. 47.4% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse. To report suspected abuse of a minor, call Childline at 1-800-932-0323 (anytime 24/7).

Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to learn how mandated reporters in the Erie diocese are required to report suspected child abuse.

A Family Perspective—

The cruel death of Jesus tells us bad things can and do happen to very good people. It also tells us God is present during the suffering. Bad things happen but God does not abandon us.



Marriage Moments—



As we start Holy Week, we will fast, remember a sacred communal meal, suffering, death, and resurrection. Recall a time in your marriage when you went without, ate with joy, had physical or emotional pain, or experienced the death of a loved one. And still you are together. Ahhhh!

Advertiser of the Week:

We Welcome and Thank
MOLLY BRANNIGAN'S
A MODERN IRISH PUB
Family Friendly
Daily Specials!
814-453-7800

www.mollybrannigans.com
For advertising in our Parish bulletin

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.



MSGR. KRIEGL'S HOMILIES ARE ON-LINE IN AUDIO AND VIDEO FORMAT.

Be sure to check out St. Patrick's web-page to listen to Msgr. Kriegel's homilies. Go to saintpatrickparisherie.org Click on "homilies" on the bar to the right, For the audio version just click on the date of the homily you want to hear. The video homilies are available on "You Tube" and can be watched by clicking on the bar that says "You Tube" on that page.



NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM
Saint Patrick Parish

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL: _____

HEAD _____	BIRTHDATE: _____
SPOUSE _____	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