

Welcome to our Parish

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church and
Saint Joseph/Bread of Life Community
St. Paul Church (mission)

January 12, 2025
The Baptism of the Lord



SACRED HEART OF JESUS

816 West 26th St, Erie, PA 16508

ST. JOSEPH BREAD OF LIFE

147 West 24th St, Erie, PA 16502

ST. PAUL CHURCH (Mission)

1617 Walnut St, Erie, PA 16502

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri, 8-4

at St. Joseph Bread of Life

Phone: 814-452-2982

SUNDAY HOURS:

9:45-11:00 am

at Sacred Heart

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4:00 pm @ St. Paul

Sunday 8:45 am @ Sacred Heart

10:45 am @ St. Joseph BOL

WEEKDAY MASSES:

at St. Joseph Bread of Life

Monday & Tuesday at 7:00 am

Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Thursday & Friday at 7:00 am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays

1 pm – 2:00 pm @ Sacred Heart

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm @ St. Paul and

Wednesdays, 4:45 – 5:45 pm @ St. Joseph

CONTACT US:

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Steve Schreiber, Pastor,
sschreiber@eriercd.org

Deacon Anthony Alleruzzo,
alleruzzo5712@gmail.com

Deacon Doug Konzel,
dnkonzel@eriercd.org

Jean Malthaner, Director of Ministries,
triparish.secretary816@gmail.com

Trish McDaid, Parish Secretary,
trishmcdaid@stjoesbol.org

Kim Cornell, Parish Finance
kcornell@stjoesbol.org



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January 12, 2025

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

To my Family of Sacred Heart (St. Paul) and St. Joseph/BOL Parishes,

THE GATES OF SALVATION: The Catechism of the Catholic Church offers us a profound understanding of the sacrament of Baptism: “*Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: ‘Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word’ (CCC 1213).*” Wow! Clearly, Baptism is much more than a cultural ritual or a simple bathing with water. Baptism unites us with Christ and throws open the gates of entrance to the Church. Baptism is a portal to salvation. Jesus, though free from sin and in no need of baptism, entered the waters to make them holy. He opened the way so that we could follow. Thank you, Jesus!

BOUNTIFUL BEAUTY: “Beauty will save the world,” wrote Fyodor Dostoyevsky. Indeed, beauty readily leads us to God. Are we attuned to beauty, though? In our rapid-paced and frenetic culture, we can easily miss the beauty that is all around us. On New Year’s Eve, as a good number of us, gathered in the Sacred Heart sanctuary, worshipped before our Lord in the monstrance, there was a palpable sense of beauty. The sanctuary was darkened and still, candles flickered their light into the darkness, and the beauty could be felt. On the feast of the Epiphany, with the fresh fallen snow gently resting on barren branches, there was beauty in the trees. In the smile of a friend there is beauty. In the melody of a familiar tune, there is beauty. Please, be attuned to beauty. God is with us.

A TIME OF JUBILEE: Years of jubilee are found in both the history of Israel and in the history of the Catholic Church. This year, the Year of Our Lord 2025, is again a time of jubilee. **Hope** is the theme of this year’s jubilee. Pope Francis has called us to “*fan the flame of hope that has been given us.*” Bishop Persico, aware of the challenges that pastoral planning and parish reconfigurations have presented (we certainly know this from our own experience), is asking us to unite in hope. The bishop wants us to renew our sense of mission. I embrace this call, too. Here in our parishes, we are blessed in so many ways. We have great reason for hope! Are we perfect? No. Are there aspects of parish life that can improve? Absolutely. But this side of Paradise, no parish will ever be perfect. Hope is a confidence that God keeps his promises. Please, embrace that hope in this jubilee year. As we move forward together, we can do so with excitement!

THE BLESSINGS OF RETREAT: Thank you for praying for me as I was on retreat this past week. Your prayers are powerful! Please know that you too were daily remembered in my prayers. God is good, and my time away, spent with Christ, has given me refreshed zeal. Blessings on you all as we end the Christmas season today, and move into ordinary time tomorrow. Jesus, we trust in you!

Sacred Heart of Jesus – Have mercy on us!

Mary, Mother of God – Pray for us!

Our Lady of Guadalupe – Pray for us!

St. Joseph – Pray for us!

St. Paul – Pray for us!

Fr. Steve

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 13 / 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Saint Hilary

+Oscar Nesterick

Tuesday, January 14/ 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Weekday

+Kim Glancy (Nancy Murray)

Wednesday, January 15 / 6:00 pm, St. Joseph
Weekday

+Tom Timon (Family & Friends)

Thursday, January 16 / 7:00 am, St Joseph
Weekday

+Ron Snippert (Tom & Sandy Shouse)
+Kim Glancy (Dan & Dawn Schaaf)

Friday, January 17 / 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Saint Anthony

+Theresa "Dolly" Berdis (Karen & Dave Nelson)

Saturday, January 18 / 4:00 pm at St. Paul
Weekday

+Lucille Vendetti (Michael Morrocco)

Sunday, January 19/ 8:45 am Sacred Heart
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

+Pam & Rick Stuczynski (Sharon & Keith Hardner and Evelyn & Gary Wesman)

Sunday, January 19 / 10:45 am St Joseph BOL
+ Ron Snippert (Belle Chylinski)



This week the Church Sanctuary Candle will burn in memory of:

(SH) Chuck Faytak from Dianne Faytak
(SP) Robert DeMarco from Stephan DiTullio
(SJ) Sandy Norfolk Silvaggi from family
Chapel: Ron Snippert from Cary & Georgia Chludzinsky

Please Pray For the Following:

Please keep the following requests in your conversations with God:

Healing—Beth, Wulan, Silvio, Darleen

New Job—Betsy

Protection—Miranda

Deceased Members of the Parishes



Perpetual Adoration

We are always in need of Committed Adorers in our Adoration Chapel at St Joseph BOL. Please sign up for an hour with Jesus! Call or text Geoff & Amber Dietz at 814-403-3921 to sign up .

The following 60 hours are in need of another committed adorers.

Sunday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 6 AM, 8 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 11 PM

Monday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 9 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 11 PM

Tuesday: 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 10 AM, 3 PM, 11 PM

Wednesday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 6 AM

Thursday: 1 AM, 2 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 11 PM

Friday: 2 AM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 7 PM, 11 PM

Saturday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM

Please commit to 1 hour for Jesus!

"An Hour with Jesus for Extraordinary Ministers"



January 18th

9:30 a.m. Coffee and pastries in Sacred Heart Auditorium.

10-11 a.m. Prayer and Meeting in Sacred Heart Church

Please RSVP to Jean.

If you have any questions, please call or email the church office.

814-452-2982 ext. 105 or

triparish.secretary816@gmail.com

JESUS LOVES YOU

Q - What's better than a Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast on February 2nd?
A - A FREE Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, February 2nd! 9-noon in the Auditorium
Sponsored by Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus



yum!

**ST. JOSEPH BREAD OF LIFE
OFFERINGS**

December 21, 2024

OFFERTORY— \$ 4,167.05
CSA— \$ 2,874.00

OFFERTORY ONLINE— \$ 1,355.00
CSA ONLINE— \$ 505.00

TOTAL— \$ 8,901.05

WEEKLY EXPENSES — \$ 9,197.00

Families— 364

YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE AT :
easytith.com



Sacred Heart / St. Paul Offerings

December 21, 2024

Offertory: \$ 7,091.00

Weekly Expenses \$ 7,498.00

**Please make your offertory and CSA checks
payable to Sacred Heart Church.**

Did you know???



Funeral Liturgy PRE-PLANNING will be offered to Sacred Heart and St. Joseph parishioners in the new year. Information will be available to help you select readings and hymns for YOUR own funeral. Please join us for an informational meeting for pre-planning after the 8:45 mass in the Sacred Heart Findlay Room.

No reservation needed

**Child Protection and
Creating Safe Environments –
3 Ways for Teens to Reboot**



Sending and receiving messages late at night can make it hard to fall asleep or interrupt sleep. Teens want to stay connected to friends, but the lack of sleep or interrupted sleep can affect everything from their mood to their sports performance. Here are 5 tips to follow at night that will help boost energy and focus in the morning. 1.) Log off your messaging apps, social media and email at bedtime. 2.) Turn off your phone when it's time for bed don't just set it to vibrate. 3.) Get in the habit of powering off your devices – especially if they are in your room. Turn off all electronics, like laptops, tablets, TVs, and video game consoles. Blinking lights and glowing screens can make it harder to fall and stay asleep. Sticking to a cut-off curfew each night for your devices will give your brain some much needed tech-free downtime. For additional resources visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/



Kinship Korner

**We need your donations!
Refugee Resettlement**

Due the upcoming change in administration, the US Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) is processing as many applications as possible. Kinship assisted Catholic Charities with 18 new families in December totaling 98 men, women, and children. 3 new families are already on the January arrival schedule. We have never dealt with this many arrivals in 1 month. We are asking you to help us address the following needs: **Feminine Pads, Hand Soap-both bars and small bottles, Brooms and Dust pans, Cookie Sheets, Graters, Cutting Boards, Hair Brushes, Bath Mats, Bathroom Rugs, Dish Rags, Mixing and Serving Bowls, Silverware Dividers, and especially Oven-Proof Bakeware.** A bin marked for Kinship is located under the Holy Family statue at SH, in the right-side entrance at SJ/BOL, and in the entrance at SP. Thank you.

Feeding the Hungry

Our wonderful Sacred Heart chef and her helpers prepared not 1 but 2 Monday SSJ meals at St. Paul Center in the month of December. 1 meal was our regular 2nd Monday of the month meal and the other was to stand in for chef Ron DiVecchio of St. Paul who recently passed away. Approximately 100 men, women, and children are served at each meal.

Bags of Hope

This month, Sharon Bond delivered a significant number of men's and women's winter indoor and outdoor clothing including coats, fleece wear, boots, hats, mittens, and socks to our Kinship partner, Community of Caring, (C of C) which is a 2 house residential program on Erie's east side for men and women trying to better their lives. Tote bags sewn by the Sew What Sewing Group were also filled with personal care items as blessing bags and distributed at the C of C and additionally to St. Patrick's Haven.

Thank you to everyone for your efforts to feed the hungry, cloth the naked and welcome the stranger in our community.

Debbi Tarasovitch 814-746-1496 Tom Hudson 814-864-1615
Kinship Ministry Co-Coordinator
Bags of Hope Coordinator Sharon Bond 814-450-7748

THE CATHOLIC CARTOON by *Jessica Masterson*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to take a moment to express how deeply inspired I am by your faith and generosity. As we celebrate this Holy Year, your support allows us to share the Good News of Christ in every corner of our diocese, which is why I ask you to consider making a gift to the Help Spread the Faith Communications Collection, held the weekend of January 25-26, 2025. The 2025 Jubilee invites us to be pilgrims of hope, and this month celebrates the Jubilee of the World of Communications. Mark 16:15 states: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." Our diocesan Office of Communications is central to this calling. It supports me in uniting and evangelizing our Catholic family across all 13 counties of the Diocese of Erie. Through Faith Magazine, Diocese of Erie-News, and social media, we proclaim the Gospel, connect our community and inspire discipleship. This year, I ask you:

- Were you inspired by an article shared in Faith Magazine?
- Have you learned about an historic event in our Catholic Church by reading Diocese of Erie-News or through our social media channels?
- Did your family find a new way to connect by reading the new Jubilee Journey: Pilgrims of Hope newsletter?

These vital communication tools are made possible through your contributions to this special collection. Faith Magazine reaches over 34,000 households and organizations – at no cost – sharing uplifting stories and reflections to deepen connections with Christ. On social media, we extend Christ's love beyond diocesan borders, inviting others to encounter him in new ways. Your gift enables us to collaborate with parishes, schools and ministries, sharing their stories and providing resources to enrich their missions.

Thank you for making this vital work possible.
Sincerely yours in Christ, +Lawrence T. Persico The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL Bishop of Erie



Readings for the week of January 12, 2025

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30
(1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11



**SAVE THE DATE:
Sacred Heart
Spaghetti Dinner**

March 9, 2025

*50/50 tickets and more information
coming in the mail!*

Family Perspective



In today's gospel Jesus was publicly **AFFIRMED** by his Father: "You are my beloved son, with you I am very pleased." As parents we can become so focused on misbehaviors we overlook the good behaviors. Jesus needed **AFFIRMATION** and so do our children.

Average Weekend Mass Attendance Based on October Count

No. of Masses	Church ID	Parish or Mission Name	Capacity	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 24 vs 23	21 vs 19
Erie East Deanery													
1	10201	Holy Rosary-Erie	438	287	264	230	207	136	142	143	78	-45.5%	-34.3%
2	10202	Holy Trinity-Erie	400	115	128	121	127	92	99	101	141	39.6%	-27.6%
0	10203	Mount Calvary-Erie	250	267	75	65	62	67	73	56			8.1%
2	10204	O.L. of Mercy-Harborcreek	550	372	426	373	376	253	281	305	320	4.9%	-32.7%
3	10205	O.L. of Mt. Carmel-Erie	600	498	446	411	425	262	290	284	279	-1.8%	-38.4%
3	10206	St. Boniface-Erie	300	459	452	423	439	252	316	350	362	3.4%	-42.6%
4	10208	St. Gregory-North East	272	503	526	494	504	302	387	407	408	0.2%	-40.1%
5	10209	St. James-Erie	502	1,431	1,404	1,350	1,259	954	937	994	865	-13.0%	-24.2%
1	10210	St. John-Erie	321	70	71	69	72	51	53	59	60	1.7%	-29.2%
4	10211	St. Luke-Erie	725	896	762	717	646	470	454	492	417	-15.2%	-27.2%
1	10212	St. Mark-Lawrence Park	272	257	201	202	197	186	141	144	207	43.8%	-5.6%
1	10217	St. Hedwig-Erie		46						120	127	5.8%	
3	10219	St. Patrick-Erie	450	953	939	999	918	652	661	702	750	6.8%	-29.0%
2	10220	St. Stanislaus-Erie	350	172	179	186	176	109	122	126	156	23.8%	-38.1%
1	10221	Our Mother of Sorrows	300	340	253	243	238	158	48	56	44	-21.4%	-33.6%
0	10403	St. Elizabeth-Corry	250	80									
2	10407	St. Teresa-Union City	225	262	304	251	205	138	185	190	178	-6.3%	-32.7%
1	10408	St. Thomas-Corry	350	229	326	268	219	174	122	115	121	5.2%	-20.5%
36				7,237	6,756	6,402	6,070	4,256	4,311	4,644	4,513	-2.8%	0.0%

Faith Formation

Clint Badowski

faithformation@stjoesbol.org



Saint Joseph's Nativity

Sacred Heart's Nativity



Saint Paul's Nativity

Deacon Dabblings

A TALE OF TWO FUNERALS

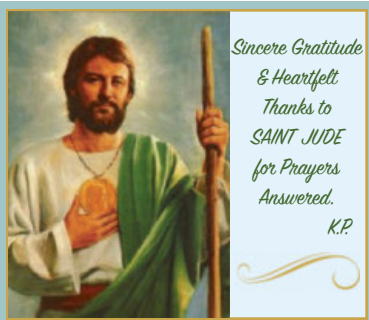
It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. This was the opening sentence to one of the most well-known novels in the genre of historical fiction, written by English author, Charles Dickens and published in 1859. "A Tale of Two Cities" is a story that offers the reader several important lessons. Among those lessons was one that brought out the complexity of human nature. The contradiction in the title introduces us to this complexity as the story emphasizes the simultaneous reality of lives lived with few or no obstacles compared to those lives that face obstacles throughout. However, this article is not about Charles Dickens or his historic novel, but rather about the complexity of human nature that was evidenced in two recent funerals. They were both parlor services (Funeral prayers and committal done at the funeral home instead of a church). One funeral was for a 96-year-old gentleman and the other was for a 17-year-old child.

I got to know "Uncle" Frank (not really my uncle) many years ago when I was asked by his nephew if I would be willing to bring him Eucharist on weekends and of course, I was happy to do it. "Uncle" was very spiritual and would always ask me to bring Holy Water for him to use. He must have been bathing in it because over the years, I must have brought a reservoir full of water to him. He was in pretty good health for a 96-year-old, but his eyesight was poor, and he was not able to get out without someone taking him. He lived alone but was well taken care of by his family. He was "Old World" spiritual and what I mean by that is he had more statues and candles in his house than we have at St. Paul. "Uncle" died rather unexpectedly because of a fall, but the family and I are convinced that he was ready, and that God welcomed him with open arms. Although there was some sadness at the service, it was indeed a celebration of a long full life.

During "Uncle's" funeral, another parlor service was taking place on the other side of town. It was for a 17-year-old boy who had no health issues yet was deprived of living a long full life because of a rampant plague of teenage violence that has infiltrated society, further emphasizing the complexity of human nature where obstacles play a big part in a person's fate. The gathering at the young man's funeral was as you would expect, very sad. Many people that attended were close to the age of the deceased and their reactions reflected the fact that for most of them, this was the first time that they had ever been in a funeral parlor let alone that they were there for one of their friends. Young people should be gathering at someone's house or at a playground or gym, not at a funeral home saying goodbye to one of their friends. You must wonder what is going through their minds. Do they understand the finality of the situation? Will this make a difference in how they live their lives, in the kind of choices that they make in the future? I don't have an answer for that, but statistics tell us that nothing much will change.

So, as we ponder these two scenarios, pray to God in thanksgiving for "Uncle" Frank's life and pray for all involved in this tragic event, the victim, the perpetrators, and the families of these boys. Also pray to the Holy Family to strengthen family values that will keep families together so that children will have a stable blueprint to follow as they grow through these most difficult years in their life.

Peace of Christ,
Deacon Tony



Sincere Gratitude
& Heartfelt
Thanks to
SAINT JUDE
for Prayers
Answered.
K.P.

LARRY'S CENTRAL MARKET

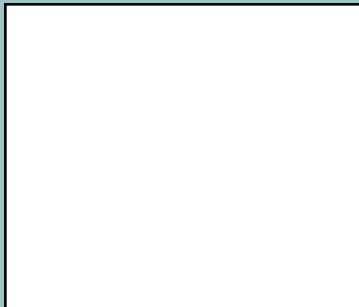
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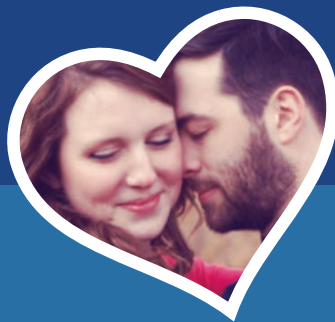


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