

# *Welcome to our Parish*

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



**December 1, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

# *Hope*

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13*

## **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**,  
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**Jean Malthaner**, Director of Ministries,  
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December 1, 2024  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

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

**SEEKING SILENCE:** A blessed Advent to one and all! The monastic tradition teaches that the love of silence soon becomes the silence of love. In other words, by entering deeply into solitude and stillness, we open our hearts to the voice of God, and we more readily experience his unseen presence. In silence, we come to know the God who is love. Our culture does not easily allow for silence. We must seek it out. We must be committed to its practice. Advent is a privileged time. For those of us in Erie, the darkness of the season helps us to slow down and to be still. I encourage you: sit quietly with our Lord. Our Lord's invitation is clear: "Be still and know that I am God (Ps 46:10)." It's okay to be in your favorite chair, wrapped in a warm blanket, with a bible close at hand. If we can spend our prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, all the better. The Adoration Chapel is a place of silence and beauty. Consider going there. You are always in my prayers, but during this Advent, I will pray in a particular way that you find silence and stillness and serenity. We await the Prince of Peace. In the silence, we will know his love.

**LET IT BE DONE UNTO ME:** Throughout the days of Advent, the Church's liturgy and the Church's prayer draws us into the world of Mary and Joseph. We read the prophecies that announced the birth of the Savior. We hear of the archangel Gabriel's visit to Our Lady. We travel with Mary as she visits Elizabeth. Two major Marian feast days fall within the Advent season: the Solemnity of Mary's Immaculate Conception and the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe. During recent Advents, I have fostered the practice of praying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary daily. I want the Blessed Virgin's humility and her obedience to echo in my heart. I warmly invite you to be with us for Mass on December 9 for the Immaculate Conception (yes, normally this celebration falls on December 8, but because the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent takes precedence, it is moved forward a day this year) and on December 12 for Our Lady of Guadalupe. Remember as well that we have an hour of praise and adoration the night of December 12. Our Lady loves us so much! Mary gives us Jesus! May we honor her this Advent!

**OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION:** I'm going to give you the bad news first. With just me to offer Mass for our three churches, your traditional place and time for Christmas Mass may not be available this year. The reality is that you and your family may have to make some adjustments. I understand that when traditions are involved, adjusting can be difficult. I really hope, though, that you will choose to be with our parish family for one of the three Christmas Masses offered. Thank you for your willingness to be flexible! The good news is that we (parish staff, deacons, ministers, musicians) are going to give you our all to make our celebrations of the Savior's Nativity beautiful and exceedingly joyful! Here is the schedule: (1) Christmas Vigil Mass @ 5:00 pm, Sacred Heart; (2) Midnight Mass @ midnight, St. Joseph Bread of Life Community; (3) Christmas Day Mass @ 10:30 am, St. Paul. Please plan now to be with us. Bring your smile and your carol-singing voice and your joyful heart to church. The baby Jesus invites you! He will come to save us from our sins! Rejoice!

*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, December 2 /7:00 am, St. Joseph**  
*Advent Weekday*

+Carmella Kesicki (Therese & Mike Brown)

**Tuesday, December 3 /7:00 am, St. Joseph**  
*Saint Francis Xavier*

+Cassandra Austin (The McGovern Family)

**Wednesday, December 4 /6:00 pm, St. Joseph**  
*Saint John Damascene*

+Maureen Arnold (Jerry Arnold)  
+Nancy Comi Bell (Family)

**Thursday, December 5 /9:00 am, Sacred Heart**  
*Advent Weekday*

+James Schaaf (Dan & Dawn Schaaf)  
+Catherine & Carmen Pirrello (Family)

**Friday, December 6 / 7:00 am, St. Joseph**  
*Weekday*

+Ron Snippert (Robin Snyder & Pam Dinger)

**Saturday, December 7 / 4:00 pm at St. Paul**  
*Saint Ambrose*

+Matson, Elliot, & Scherrer Families ( Don & Barb Matson)  
+James Morrocco (Michael Morrocco)

**Sunday, December 8 / 8:45 am Sacred Heart**  
+Emidio Melaragno (Maria Melaragno & Family)  
**Sunday, December 8 / 10:45 am St Joseph BOL**  
+Living & Deceased Members of the Parishes



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

(SH) Mary Ann & James Nelson from Karen & Dave Nelson  
(SP) Tony "Mousie" D'Aurora from wife Christine, Chuck & Hanna  
(SJ) Nicholas & Joan Konzal from Michael Tarasovitch

Please Pray For the Following:

Please keep the following requests in your conversations with God:

Good test results—Cindy  
Peace—Shelby, Jenine  
Reunite with baby—Kayla  
Healing—David, Rob, Rich, Margaret, Suzy, Luke, Melanie, Dorothy  
Eternal Rest—Carol Ann, Audrey, Alexandra, Dan, Kathy, Joe, Jim  
Healthy Pregnancy—Julianna  
Safe Travels—Dorothy, Rick  
Healing/Peace—Steve  
Living and Deceased Parishioners



## 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 59 hours are in need of another committed adorers.

**Sunday:** 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 6 AM, 8 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM

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

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

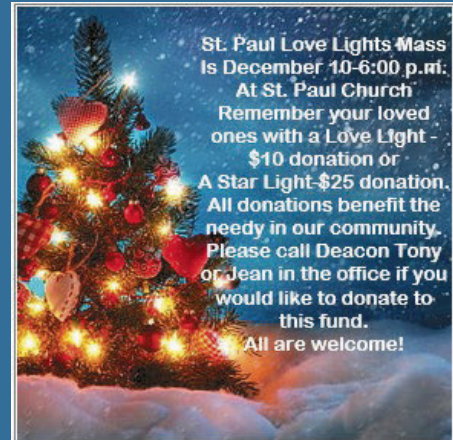
**Wednesday:** 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM

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

**Friday:** 1 AM, 2 AM, 5 AM, 1 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!**



St. Paul Love Lights Mass  
Is December 10-6:00 p.m.  
At St. Paul Church  
Remember your loved ones with a Love Light - \$10 donation or A Star Light-\$25 donation. All donations benefit the needy in our community. Please call Deacon Tony or Jean in the office if you would like to donate to this fund. All are welcome!

## Like to cook? We need your help!

We are looking for a few good men and women to cook up some home cooked meals for our priests, Fr. Steve and Fr. Simmons who live at Sacred Heart Rectory, 816 West 26<sup>th</sup> Street. If you want to join this meal train, you could choose how often you want to provide a meal, 1 time a month, or more often. Ideally, I would like to secure 8 cooks per month to provide 1 meal each. This would give our priests 2 meals per week.

To volunteer, please call Jean at the office (814-452-2982 ext. 105 or email at [triparish.secretary816@gmail.com](mailto:triparish.secretary816@gmail.com))

Thank you for your help.





**ST. JOSEPH BREAD OF LIFE  
OFFERINGS**



November 10, 2024

OFFERTORY— \$ 3,209.00  
CSA— \$ 1,614.00

OFFERTORY ONLINE— \$ 2,695.00  
CSA ONLINE— \$ 690.00

TOTAL— \$ 8,208.00

WEEKLY EXPENSES — \$ 9,197.00

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE 169  
Families— 364

YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE AT :  
[easytithe.com](http://easytithe.com)

**Christmas and New Year Schedule**

December 9: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

7:00 a.m. at St. Joseph/BOL

6:00 p.m. at St. Paul

December 10: Love Lights Mass at St. Paul 6:00 p.m.

December 18: The Light is On for Confessions

5:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph, 6:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph

December 24: Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

5:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Midnight at St. Joseph/BOL

December 25: Nativity of the Lord

10:30 a.m. at St. Paul

December 31: Vigil of Mary, Mother of God

7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

January 1: Feast of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph/BOL



**Sacred Heart / St. Paul Offerings**

November 10, 2024

Offertory: \$ 5,269.00

Weekly Expenses \$ 7,498.00

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

**December 1: HOSPITALITY SUNDAY  
at Sacred Heart**

Coffee and Donuts after the  
8:45 Mass



December 7 at St Paul  
Wine and Cheese after 4 pm Mass

**St Joseph's**

**Saint Clare's Closet**

When going through your closets, keep in mind ...

We are in need of the following items:

- Sheets, Towels, Blankets
- Men's pants, shirts, underwear, socks
- Children's clothes—all sizes
- Teen clothes —all sizes

Clothes can be dropped off during office hours 8-4

**ADORATION HOLY HOUR**

Sponsored by

St Joseph Church

Bread Of Life Catholic Charismatic Community



**Do whatever He tells you**

**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

**DECEMBER 12TH 7PM-8PM**

**ST JOSEPH BREAD OF LIFE- 147 WEST 24TH**

*Fr Steve Schreiber Presiding - Contemporary Worship*

**CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN**

Question: What is the difference between a cross and a crucifix?

Answer: A crucifix always includes Christ's body and a cross does not.



There are free 2025 calendars and Advent Devotional Booklets available now. Get yours today. They are available by the church entrances. Have a Blessed Advent!

### SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS ANGELS 2024

At this time of year we pause to count our blessings and remember those less fortunate. The Christmas angels are still in need of your help. Gift cards, checks, or cash will go a long way to make this a successful parish endeavor. Donations will be accepted thru Sunday December 8th. Donations can be placed in the collection basket, mailed to the Parish office or dropped off at the rectory.

Thank you.

The **Community Outreach Group** will host their annual **Clothing Distribution Party** on the first Saturday in December (12.7.2024) from 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. at St. Paul Center @ 453 West 16<sup>th</sup> Street 16502 (next door to St. Paul Catholic Church @ West 16<sup>th</sup> & Walnut Streets, Erie). In addition to receiving free clothing and coats, patrons can enjoy a free hot lunch. For more information, please search Facebook and YouTube for “Community Outreach Group of Erie, PA,” e-mail Tim Nowakowski @ [TimNow.CommOutrchGrp@gmail.com](mailto:TimNow.CommOutrchGrp@gmail.com), or text/call 814.566-6435.

Our event was profiled in the Diocese of Erie’s Faith Magazine in August 2016: <https://catholicmagazines.org/magazine-archival/fait-erie/er0716>.

The Clothing Distribution Party was started in 1999 by a group of men after they had participated in a Cursillo (kur-SEE-yo) weekend and wanted to more thoroughly live out **Matthew 25:40**.



### Sacred Heart, St. Joseph, St. Paul: SSJ Neighborhood Network Sleigh

All donations will be given to those who attend the St. Paul Soup Kitchen served every Monday Night at St. Paul Center



**Wish List:** \$10 gift cards to Country Fair, Dollar Tree or Walmart. Bath towels / washcloths, Full size Blankets, Hygiene items – including the 3-in-1 body wash/shampoo and other items that can fit in a gallon Ziploc bag (often we have received enough for almost every adult to get a hygiene bag)

**For the children:** Kid kits – slime making kits, jewelry kits, etc., Slippers. Themed hat/glove sets, Kid blanket/pillow. Small bags of candy to give to all Soup Kitchen attendees.

Pick up a shopping list in the vestibule of the church. All items should come unwrapped. Just drop off in the bins in the back of church by December 11<sup>th</sup> and we are so grateful for your support. If you have any questions, please call Jean in the Church office at 814-452-2982.

### Ministry Schedule: December 7/8

**SATURDAY at St. Paul/4:00 p.m.**

**LECTOR:** Mary May

**EMs:** Deacon Doug, Marie Troyer, 1 sub needed

**SUNDAY at Sacred Heart/8:45 a.m.**

**Lit of the Word with Children:** Kristin & Kaitlin

**LECTOR:** Brian McGowan

**EMs:** Team 4 **COUNTERS:** Team 1



**SUNDAY at St. Joseph/BOL/10:45 a.m.**

**Altar Servers:** Liam & Xavier Dietz, Lorelei & Mackenzie Badowski

**Lector:** Frank Snidarich

**EMs:** Bread-Steve Henderson, Dale Jennings

**Cup:** Joe Kohler, Mary Kubacki

**Ushers:** Chuck S., Dave G., Peter Frezza, Paul Miller

**Greeters:** Donna Snippet, Patty Jarrett, Nancy Smith, Bill Smith

If any Liturgical Ministers have any conflicts for upcoming scheduling, please email Jean at [triparish.secretary816@gmail.com](mailto:triparish.secretary816@gmail.com) or call the church office.

### Readings for the week of December 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-

### SAINT PAUL CHRISTMAS WISH TREE

benefits Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network’s Children -The Tree is located in the back of St. Paul Church and it has tickets on it.

-On each ticket is a child’s first name, age, and gender.

-We ask you to take a ticket, purchase gifts for the child and place them under the tree OR

bring them to St. Joseph Rectory on or before December 11.

-We suggest that you purchase 2 gifts (1 article of clothing and 1 toy) Keep the total cost under \$50.

-If you choose, you may give a cash donation by placing it in the offertory or send it to St. Joseph Church at 147 West 24th St, Erie, PA 16502 ATTN: St. Paul Christmas Wish Tree

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Tony at 814-452-2982

All items should come unwrapped. Just drop off in the back of church by **December 11th**.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Holiday Feast

Sacred Heart KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Holiday Feast  
Tickets are FOR SALE!

The first HOLIDAY FEAST drawing is November 25, 2024 and the second drawing is December 16. The Knights ask you to keep selling and buying tickets. Still just \$1 and more tickets are available at the rectory. The prize is the same~\$250 gift card from the Parish, and \$50 to the seller. Thanks to you and this raffle, needy families of all three churches will have a happier holiday season.



## Faith Formation

Clint Badowski  
faithformation@stjoesbol.org



PLEASE DONATE ITEMS FOR A

# BABY SHOWER

CELEBRATING  
*Our Mother Mary*

THIS IS FOR A SERVICE PROJECT FOR OUR RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION PROGRAM

DONATIONS NEEDED BY DECEMBER 8TH  
BOXES FOR DONATIONS AT THE BACK OF ALL CHURCHES  
ALL DONATIONS WILL BE DONATED LOCALLY  
TO MOTHERS AND BABIES IN NEED

ITEMS NEEDED:

-DIAPERS	-FORMULA
-BABY CLOTHES	-HUSHERS/BINKIES
-BOTTLES	-BABY BLANKETS
-BABY TOYS	

Advent Sundays at St. Peter Cathedral

## SOLEMN VESPERS

First Sunday of Advent, December 1  
Presider & Homilist Fr. Michael Kesicki

Third Sunday of Advent, December 15  
Presider and Homilist Fr. Joe Petrone

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22  
Presider and Homilist Bishop Lawrence Persico

Singing led by the Priest Schola

\* Vespers will take place at 4:00 pm



All are invited to join in praying the prayers of the universal church in person or via livestream

## Deacon Dabblings

**THANKSGIVING DAY SHOULD NOT BE CALLED  
TURKEY DAY!**

This coming Thursday we will be celebrating Thanksgiving Day. It seems like it happens faster every year. One minute you're watching your favorite Halloween horror movies, the next, and before you know it, it's time to remove the frozen bowling ball from the freezer in the shape of a turkey for Thanksgiving and firing up the oven. The traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner for most families is roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, green beans, candied sweet potatoes, some kind of salad and pumpkin pie. I am sure that there are some variations thrown in, but most Thanksgiving Day dinners have most of these items on the table. But not so when I was growing up! As a first-generation Italian youngster, I never saw, let alone eat a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner until I started dating my future wife. Thanksgiving Day dinner for me was comprised of lasagna, meatballs, sausage, chicken cutlets, and salad, (always eaten last on the same plate that had left over sauce on it). Dessert was my mother's homemade biscotti that we dipped in wine.

My first Thanksgiving dinner with my future in-laws had me wondering, "What is that stuff Mrs. Mombrea is scraping out from inside the turkey? Did she forget to clean out the guts?" When I saw that she had put them on a plate and placed on the dining room table, I decided right there and then that I would pass on the turkey guts. Once Mary explained to me that the unappetizing glob on the plate was actually a bread concoction called stuffing, she convinced me to try it, and it turned out to be my favorite part of the meal. The mashed potatoes and gravy (first time I ever had gravy) were superb, the green beans cooked in mushroom soup and covered with crisp onion strips were also a new introduction to my taste buds and were very good. The roast turkey was almost as good as the chicken cutlets and the pumpkin and pecan pies were delicious. But what happened to the lasagna? Does it come later? As it turned out, subsequent holiday meals had my in-laws making the traditional turkey for Thanksgiving and ham for Christmas, while my mother brought lasagna for Thanksgiving and ravioli for Christmas.

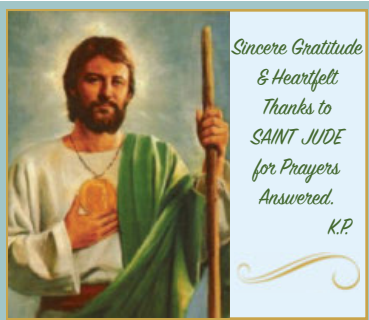
But let's not forget that Thanksgiving Day is not just about food. That day has been set aside for us to realize something that we should recognize every day of our lives; that everything we have comes from God. We so often get wrapped up in our troubles and in the obstacles, we face that we forget how fortunate we are. A good reminder would be to take a piece of paper and down the left-hand side, list the problems that you are facing and on the right-hand side, list the things for which you should be thankful. I have done it and believe me, the list right side of the page was much, much longer than that on the left-hand side.

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer."—Maya Angelou

Peace of Christ,  
Deacon Tony

## **Family Perspective**

At this time of year, we are especially mindful of our family as we prepare for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent, take time to appreciate the gift of the people in your life. The best gift this season might be your genuine appreciation of others.



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

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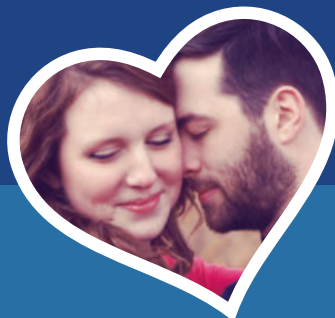


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