

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER AND DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, April 7th: Second Sunday of Easter

Private: Sister Elizabeth Ruza, SSJ by David Zero

10:30am (SC) Confessions

11:00am (SC) Audrey A. Bargielski Deegan by Caroline Larson

✦ Sunday, April 7th: Divine Mercy Sunday ✦

Praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary before Mass

1:00 to 2:45PM (SA) Confessions

3:00 PM (SA) Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

Confessions again following the Mass

Monday, April 8th: The Annunciation of the Lord

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Stephen Waterford

Tuesday, April 9th: Easter Weekday

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Sister Ilaria by Lucia Lee

Wednesday, April 10th: Easter Weekday

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Melissa Helsley, Birthday by Kevin Helsley

Thursday, April 11th: Saint Stanislaus

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Sister Julia by Lucia Lee

Friday, April 12th: Easter Weekday

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Sister Elizabeth Ruza, SSJ by The Shade Family

Saturday, April 13th: Saint Martin I

Private: In honor of Our Lady of Fatima by Mickey Pohl

Sunday, April 14th: Third Sunday of Easter

Private: Holy Souls by Stephen Waterford

10:30am (SC) Confessions

11:00am (SC) In memory of Walter F. Baran by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Kraemer

Monday, April 15th: Easter Weekday

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Eileen Ropelewski, Birthday April 16th by Scott, Paula and Danica Hilinski

Tuesday, April 16th: Easter Weekday

11:15am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) In memory of Mary Lou Wieczorek, Birthday by Rosemary Ritter

THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Holy Family

- 1) Galla and Walach Families by Paul & Lisa Galla
 - 2) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate
- Our Mother of Sorrows: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

St. Ann's

- 1) Blessings and Guidance to all parishioners and parishes in the Diocese of Erie
- 2) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

St. Casimir's

- 1) Rev. James T. O'Hara and Rev. Ron Gmerek
- 2) Health & Healing of all Sick and Shut-ins

FINANCIAL REPORT

Holy Week and Easter 2024

3/28/24 Holy Thursday: \$79.00

3/29/24 Good Friday: \$1,319.00

Lenten Sacrifice: \$76.05

Sunday Offertory: \$1,068.00

Saint Ann's Oil: \$30.00

Monthly: \$120.00

Good Friday: \$35.00

Easter: \$1,060.00

Divine Mercy Sunday: \$40.00

Good Shepherd: \$25.00

Saint Ann's Building Fund: \$60.00

Slovak National Club: \$500.00

Income/Expenses ~ March 2024

Income: \$8,727.61

Expenses: \$16,649.90

Difference: -\$7,922.29

City of Erie Property Taxes paid in March: \$3,337.77

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2024 Goal: \$35,165.00

Pledged: \$5,475.00

Paid: \$4,450.00

Please issue a **SEPARATE** check for your CSA.

Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!

Divine Mercy Sunday, Sunday, April 7, 2024

Saint Ann's Church will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on Sunday, April 7th. Confessions, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and 3PM Mass.



OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS PARISH MAILING ADDRESS: 630 Hess Ave., Erie, PA 16503
814-452-4832 phone

Website: www.motherofsorrowerie.org

Saint Casimir Church, 630 Hess Ave., Saint Ann Church, 931 East Ave.,
Holy Family Church, 913 Fulton St. * Erie, PA 16503

DEACON ADMINISTRATOR: Rev. Mr. Jerome T. Sobrowski

FROM THE DESK OF DEACON JERRY

In addition to our 11:00 am Mass, there is a special Divine Mercy Sunday Mass today at 3:00 pm at St. Ann Church. Confessions will be heard prior to Mass.

As you are aware tomorrow on April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada. A total solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk. Except during the brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the face of the sun is completely blocked by the Moon, **it is not safe to look directly at the Sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing.** Enjoy the eclipse and remember to make safety the top priority.

While many see April 8 as “**eclipse day**” it is also the **Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.** It is usually on March 25 but since that day fell during Holy Week this year it was moved to the next available day on the Liturgical Calendar. While Erie is in the “path of totality” we remember that Mary placed herself in the path of totality of grace by saying yes to God’s plan.

This Thursday’s **Pastoral Planning Meeting** is scheduled for 6 pm at St. Mark Center when the final plan for Erie County is expected to be released. Our parish finance and pastoral council members will also attend this meeting. I will not be able to have the results in the bulletins for April 14 and April 21 as the editions for these weekends will need to be done in advance. In the meantime, I will provide updates at our masses. You may also visit <https://www.eriercd.org/planning.html> to stay current on the latest developments. Please continue to pray for the process and all involved remembering that God desires to give us a future full of hope.

All are encouraged to subscribe to the weekly *Diocese of ErieE-News* free of charge. The Diocese of ErieE-News is a quick and engaging way to stay informed about local/regional, national and international news of interest to Catholics. Delivered by email each Wednesday morning, it is designed so that readers can scroll quickly through headlines and photos, opting to click on links for more in-depth stories. Major holy days and holidays are noted, parish and school events are covered and sections ranging from “Picture of the week” and “Just for fun” to “In case you missed it on social media” provide opportunities for lively content — a little something for everyone. The award-winning publication is available, free of charge, through the subscribe button at www.eriercd.org/news/.

Our Need for Divine Mercy

Healing plays a huge role in our society. We spend billions on healthcare, and rightly so. Like our physical health, our spiritual health also needs attention. Throughout the Gospels, healing is one of the major themes of Jesus’ earthly ministry. Some are recalled in detail, others simply noted. Yet all these healings are signs of the kingdom of God. Here in Christ, God comes forth into our world in a new and dynamic way, fulfilling his promises and even at times turning the laws of nature upside down.

Today, we hear this ministry of spiritual healing being passed to the Eleven, through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our Gospel passage is the scriptural basis for the sacrament of reconciliation. John tells us that Jesus appears to the Eleven as they hid in the Upper Room.

In this moment of encounter and empowerment, the Apostles are given a holy responsibility to share God’s healing and forgiveness with others. They are now carriers of God’s promises, and have the power to heal physically and spiritually in Christ’s name. What they say about the risen Christ is no mere fantasy or delusion. They witnessed his death and Resurrection, and now they bear witness to his risen glory – becoming instruments of the very mercy and forgiveness that Jesus so abundantly and generously bestows on all who follow him.

John then shows us how Thomas receives this life-changing mercy. Thomas finds it hard to believe what the other disciples tell him, and so Jesus literally stands before him and shows him his wounds: he gently takes Thomas from doubt to faith. Using his own words, Jesus coaxes one of the great declarations of faith – My Lord and my God. In that moment, Thomas is both healed and changed – healed of his grief and pain, changed from doubt to belief.

The need for that mercy and healing is just as great today as it was in the first century. Perhaps that is why Pope John Paul declared today to be Divine Mercy Sunday. At the heart of our faith is this recognition that we need the risen Christ; we need his healing and above all his steadfast mercy. Without these we are lost, still in our sins – unable to be reconciled with God. As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection, let us each open our own hearts to that healing and then commit ourselves to be channels of that healing in our words and actions.