

# Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, January 28th: Fourth Ordinary Sunday

*Diocesan Second Collection for Faith Communications*

Private (SA) Special Intentions of Lucia Lee

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

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

### Monday, January 29th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

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

### Tuesday, January 30th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Cathie Dombkowski by Dave and Colleen Dombkowski

### Wednesday, January 31st: Saint John Bosco

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Catherine O'Brian by Friends

### Thursday, February 1st: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Arthur Benson by Lucia Lee

### First Friday, February 2nd: Presentation of the Lord

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions for Cheryl A. Mann by Mary H. Strassley

### First Saturday, February 3rd: St. Blaise & St. Ansgar

8:30am (SA) Confessions

9:00am (SA) Kenneth Shanta by Beverly and Frank Vento

Private (SA) Chet Witkowski by Mickey Pohl

### Sunday, February 4th: Fifth Ordinary Sunday

*CSA 2024 Promotion Weekend*

Private (SA) Mary and Joe Pohl by Mickey Pohl

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Steve Mook, Birthday Feb. 3 by Patty Vali and Barb Grasso

### Monday, February 5th: Saint Agatha

11:30am (SA) Confessions

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

### Tuesday, February 6th: Saint Paul Miki

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Emerson Vento, 7th Birthday by The Vento Family

### Wednesday, February 7th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Jim and Pat Heubel by Dave and Colleen Dombkowski

## THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS

### Holy Family

1) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

2) Galla and Walach Families by Paul & Lisa Galla

Our Mother of Sorrows: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

### St. Ann's

1) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

2) Blessings and Guidance to all parishioners and parishes in the Diocese of Erie

### St. Casimir's

1) Special Intentions of Msgr. Koos

2) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### **Sunday, January 21, 2024**

Sunday Offertory: \$1,715.50

Fuel Offering: \$155.00

Immaculate Conception: \$5.00

Ash Wednesday: \$36.00

Catholic Communication: \$10.00

Assumption: \$10.00

Church in Latin America: \$5.00

Saint Ann's Oil: \$5.00

## CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2023 Goal: \$35,165.00

**Pledged: \$7,627.00      Paid: \$7,565.00**

Thank you to all who have pledged/paid their support to the 2023 CSA.

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

*Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!*

2023 Year End Offertory Statements were mailed to all parishioners who made contributions in 2023.

Thank you for your continued support.

Diocesan Special Collection today, Sunday January 28th, for Help Spread the Faith Communications Collection.



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

Website: [www.motherofsorrowerie.org](http://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

The **Spread the Faith Collection** will be taken up today to help support the **Office of Communication** in the Erie Diocese. The Office of Communication designs public relations strategies and works to maintain good relations with print and broadcast media throughout the 13 counties of our diocese.

The feast of **St. Blase** is on Saturday, February 3. We will be **blessing throats** after the 11:00 am Mass at St. Casimir next Sunday, February 4. There will also be an opportunity to have your throat blessed at the 12:05 weekday masses at St. Ann.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Henry Oldach** whose funeral was yesterday at St. Ann's. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.

Support the Religious Education Ministry at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 837 Barlett Rd., Harborcreek with a **spaghetti dinner fundraiser** on Feb. 4 from 12-5 p.m. Prices are \$13 for a full plate and \$8 for a half plate, dine-in or take-out. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door, but to ensure a meal, it's best to purchase a ticket by Jan. 28. For credit card purchases, visit [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org). For further information, call 814.899.6132.

Join the **adult faith formation class** titled *What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith* on Feb. 8 and 15 at 7 p.m. in **Synod Hall at St. Peter Cathedral**, 230 W. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Erie. This class delves into the liturgical journey of Catholics through the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent and Easter, both as individual experiences and communal celebrations. The session will include a reflection on the Ash Wednesday ritual, emphasizing our mortality and the collective journey in seeking God's mercy. The class also serves as a preparation for Lent, offering insights into the sacraments and the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, underscoring their significance in the faith community. The sessions are free and open to all, with no registration required.

The Office of Virtue & Integrity Education of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring a **Pre-Lenten Retreat** from Feb. 9-10 at St. Thomas More House of Prayer, 365 Hill City Rd, Cranberry. The retreat master for the weekend will be Father Kevin Barrett. The retreat focuses on the strength, beauty, wisdom and goodness of God's plan to bring us back to him. For more information and to sign up, visit <https://www.eriercd.org/chastity/retreat.html>. Call or email Cassondra with questions at 814.824.1216 and [cdragone@eriercd.org](mailto:cdragone@eriercd.org).

**Divine Mercy Encounter (DME) Retreat** February 9-11, 2024 "DME (Divine Mercy Encounter) is a three-day retreat program. Each day has a different focus: Friday is the Day of Invitation, focusing on how God is inviting us into relationship. Saturday is the Day of Encounter, where we encounter God through the sacraments, Adoration, and others. Sunday is the Day of Commission, where we as a community are empowered to evangelize and share our faith. The weekend includes talks, exposure to different types of prayer, Mass, community, and much more. The weekend runs from 10am on Friday to 5pm on Sunday, and retreat participants stay onsite for the weekend." See [www.divinemercyencounter.com](http://www.divinemercyencounter.com) for more information. The other DME retreats in 2024 will be in April, July and November in Erie and August 11-13 in St. Marys, PA.

The Spiritual Family The Work will host its annual retreat for women March 1-3 at **Villa Maria Retreat Center** in Pulaski, Pa. **Father Nicholas Rouch**, vicar general for the Diocese of Erie, will be the retreat master. There will be opportunity for spiritual direction and for confession. Contact Sister Josephine at [erie@thework-fso.org](mailto:erie@thework-fso.org) or 814-384-0556 with questions. If cost is a deterrent for you, please contact Sister Josephine for help.

### Our Source of Authority!

For the most part we are accustomed to knowing authority as defined according to its source. A king, for instance has "inherited authority" by virtue of having been born into a royal line. The president of a corporation exercises "delegated authority" which comes from the board of directors. A professor in a university has "achieved authority" based on years of academic preparation, research and experience. In each case the source of authority is outside the person who holds the power to rule a kingdom, run a business, or teach a class.

In our Gospel this week, the people responded to Jesus as one with authority after he taught them and then cast out the "unclean spirit." Jesus' authority that we hear about in our Gospel is radically different than the authority that was just described. Jesus IS the source of authority and he refers to no source of authority beyond himself.

At one time in our lives most of us have either questioned authority or perhaps even rejected it. And we too are challenged by our own demons and temptations from the evil one. The Good News of the Gospel does not exclude a confrontation with the devil, in fact it is the very test of authority which we all struggle with.

However, when we invoke the authority of Jesus Christ in our lives there is often a violent, convulsive confrontation with the evil one who wants so much to possess our souls and rule our lives, and he comes out of us.

This Gospel is more than about Jesus' teaching and deeds. It is about us being taken in by who Jesus is - the one who teaches with authority, who destroys evil, and who is "the Holy One of God" among us and within us. The Holy One who acts with compassion and whose authority liberates. Our challenge is not only to know him but to fall in love with him.