

# Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023 THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, November 5th: Thirty-First Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by The Kulig Estate

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Fr. Daniel Prez by The Carroll Family

### Monday, November 6th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) John Palmer by Family

### Tuesday, November 7th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Stephen Waterford by H. Lee

### Wednesday, November 8th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Rev. James T. O'Hara, Anniversary by Mickey Pohl

### Thursday, November 9th: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Tom Damico by The Juchno Family

### Friday, November 10th: St. Leo the Great

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Frank J. Vento, 70th Birthday Nov. 1st by wife Beverly and Family

### Saturday, November 11th: St. Martin of Tours

Private (SA) The deceased members of The Ropelewski Family by Estate

### Sunday, November 12th: Thirty-Second Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Billy King by Melissa King and Family

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) John, Birthday and Jean Denziak by Dorothy and Cindy Snider

### Monday, November 13th: St. Frances Xavier

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Joseph and Helena Maciejczyk, Wedding Anniversary Nov. 12th by Christine Visosky

### Tuesday, November 14th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) The Sisters of St. Joseph who taught at St. Ann's by Mickey Pohl

### Wednesday, November 15th: St. Albert the Great

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) David K. Wienczkowski by Loving Mother Kay Wienczkowski

## 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) David K. Wienczkowski by Anna Marie Dowd
- 2) Rev. James T. O'Hara by Parishioners

### St. Casimir's

- 1) For blessings, guidance and peace for all parishioners and their parishes in the Erie Diocese
- 2) All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

## FINANCIAL REPORT—October 29, 2023

*Sunday Offertory: \$1,907.30*

*World Mission Sunday: \$20.00*

*All Soul's Day: \$25.00*

*All Saint's Day: \$23.00*

*Christmas Flowers: \$30.00*

*Campaign for Human Development: \$10.00.*

*Food Pantry: \$5.00*

### Monthly Expenses ~ October 2023

*Income: \$9,773.15*

*Expenses: \$10,788.75*

*Difference: -\$1,005.60*

## CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

**2023 Goal: \$35,165.00**

**Pledged: \$7,450.00      Paid: \$7,300.00**

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!*

Christmas Flower list—the deadline is Sunday, December 3, 2023 to have your Christmas Flower envelopes in to be included on the listing of donors. Thank you.



**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**

Next Sunday, Nov. 12 has been designated by Bishop Persico as a **weekend of prayer for Pastoral Planning across the Diocese of Erie**. There will be special prayers at our 11:00 am Mass. As with every endeavor we undertake, prayer must be at the center of our efforts. Keep up-to-date on Pastoral Planning by visiting [www.eriercd.org/planning.html](http://www.eriercd.org/planning.html).

**A scam is being perpetrated** across the country by malicious individuals preying on churches and members of the clergy. The scam plays on your sympathies or your natural inclination to be helpful. Any communication asking you to purchase gift cards should be considered a scam. You should always verify such requests by calling the parish directly. Don't use phone numbers in the fraudulent email or text. Always look for the parish's official phone number found on our website or in your Sunday bulletin. In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for money or personal information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

The **Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus** is sponsoring a dance featuring Erie's most popular band, **The Groove**, on Nov. 10 in the gym, 837 Bartlett Rd., Harborcreek from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets are on sale after Saturday/Sunday Masses and are available in the parish office from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ticket price is \$15 per person. The dance has been a sell-out in the past, so get your tickets early. Capacity is limited.

The **Faith Formation Office** of the diocese is hosting a spiritual formation opportunity in November. Father Jeff Lucas of the Epiphany of the Lord Parish in Meadville will speak about Pillar One of the Eucharistic Revival. There are three chances to attend — one in each vicariate. Faith Formation leaders, catechists, parishioners and other ministry leaders are all welcome to attend. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Please contact Mary Hickin with questions at 814.824.1222 or [mhickin@eriercd.org](mailto:mhickin@eriercd.org).

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Ladies' Guild** will once again hold a **Christmas Bake Sale**. You can order and pay online at [www.olmc-erie.org](http://www.olmc-erie.org), call your order in to the parish office at 814-825-7313, or drop off/mail your order. Order sheets can be printed from the website. **All orders must be pre-paid.** The deadline for ordering is **Tuesday, November 14 at 1:00 pm** and pick-up will be in Scheffner Hall on Saturday, **December 9 from 3-5 pm** and **Sunday, December 10 from 8:30 am-12:00 pm**. Questions? Call Diane at 814-456-1183 after 4 pm.

**St. Luke Parish** in Erie invites you to join Funtastics, a group of card-playing adults that meets regularly at the St. Luke cafeteria, 421 E. 38th St., Erie. The group enjoys games of Euchre as well as single-deck and double-deck Pinochle. Upcoming gatherings are scheduled for Nov. 9, Nov. 30, Dec. 14 and Dec. 28, all starting at 6 p.m. For more information, contact Kevin at 814.882.8070.

### **Praying for All Souls**

All Souls' Day, which we celebrated last Thursday, has been part of Catholic tradition for centuries and the way it is celebrated has changed over time and varies across cultures. The month of November serves as a powerful reminder for us to pray for all souls undergoing purification. Pope Francis has said that doing so "is the best spiritual help that we can give to their souls, particularly to those who are the most forsaken." (Angelus address, Nov. 2, 2014)

We can assist our loved ones with prayers – that they may be cleansed and purified, and enter eternal life in heaven. If we believe in Jesus and follow his path, we hope to one day find rest in the arms of our Lord. As Saint Paul reminds us in Scripture, *Hope does not disappoint*.

As we focus on praying for the faithful departed this month, the question of suffering seems to come up. Why do we suffer, what is the meaning of suffering? During the expressions of suffering that we witness or perhaps encounter ourselves we ask how could a loving and caring God let this happen?

Throughout history, many people have attempted to answer this burning question; for some, suffering is a divine punishment, for others a test or an opportunity to strengthen faith or to show heroic virtue or fidelity. Yet in the end, it remains a mystery – beyond our comprehension.

As Christians, we know that Jesus was "similarly ... tested in every way." At first glance this may not sound helpful, but when we look through the eyes of faith, we see that these words are not simply meant to explain suffering, but to help us realize that even in suffering there can be good.

The crucifixes we wear and that adorn our homes and churches are a constant reminder of the suffering that Jesus went through to justify us, to restore us to a right relationship with God.

While suffering cannot be avoided or even fully explained, we can begin to use it for a greater purpose, that is we can learn from it and, as people of faith, join our suffering to that of the Suffering Servant whom we now recognize as Christ. Then, our suffering may not seem so inscrutable or meaningless.

What gives us final hope is that not only did Jesus experience suffering, as we do, but he ultimately overcame it in the Resurrection.

It is harder to imagine a greater sense of good that results from our suffering than knowing we too will overcome it and share in the triumph of the resurrection with all the souls we are praying for this month.