

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2022 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 31st: Eighteenth Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Norman Borczon by G. Palmer
10:30 am (SC) Confessions
11:00 am (SC) Habas, Kulig, Laszewski Families by
Kulig Estate

Monday, August 1st: St. Alphonisus Liguori

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) All Veterans, Living and Deceased by Jean
Wroblewski

Tuesday, August, 2nd: St. Eusebius of Vercelli and St. Peter Julian Eymard

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) In memory of Eileen Ropelewski by Estate

Wednesday, August 3rd: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Dorothy M. Angeloff by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Thursday, August 4th: Saint John Vianney

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Helena Maciejczyk, birthday by Christine
Visosky

First Friday, August 5th:

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Mary Lou Wiczorek by Cheryl Stewart

First Saturday, The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:30 am (SA) Confessions
9:00 am (SA) Sandra Kujan Demchak by Bob Demchak
Private (SA) Gladys Jechna by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Sunday, August 7th: Nineteenth Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Holy Souls in Purgatory by Dr. Hal Angeloff
10:30 am (SC) Confessions
11:00 am (SC) Michael Lucas by Phyllis Rzodkiewicz

Monday, August 8th: Saint Dominic

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Agnes Ruza Priscaro by The Boccio Family

Tuesday, August 9th: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) The Deceased Members of The
Ropelewski Family

Wednesday, August 10th: St. Lawrence

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Mark Allen, Anniversary by Loving Mother

THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Holy Family

1) Galla & Walach Family by Paul & Lisa Galla
2) All Parishioners Living and Deceased
Our Mother of Sorrows: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred
Merski by The Merski Family

St. Ann's

1) For all who attended the 103rd Annual St. Ann Novena
2) Rev. James T. O'Hara by Friends

St. Casimir's

1) Habas, Kulig & Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate
2) Prayers for more vocations to Religious Life

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sunday, July 24, 2022 ~ Offertory: \$1,525.00
St. Ann Novena ~ July 22-July 26 (8:30AM): \$5,613.37

Expenses

2022 Saint Ann Novena: \$4,317.99*
* as of 7/30/2022

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2022 Goal: \$31,397.00

Pledged: \$9,364.00 Paid: \$6,259.00

\$22,033.00 Away from Reaching Our Goal.

Thank you to all who have Pledged or Paid their 2022
CSA. Please make your pledge today!

CSA envelopes are in your monthly packet or available in
the back of the church. You may drop your CSA envelope
in the offertory basket, or mail it to the office at 913
Fulton St., Erie, PA 16503.

Please issue a **separate check** for

→ CSA contribution

→ Mass Intentions

Please do not include them on the check for your
offertory. Thank you.

Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!

ERIE GIVES DAY is **Tuesday, August 9, 2022** from 8AM to 8PM. Please consider supporting Our Mother of Sorrow Parish on Erie Gives Day. As always, **select Holy Family Church** to support our parish. On August 9th visit www.ErieGives.org and select Holy Family Church to support Our Mother of Sorrow Parish. Thank you in advance for your love and support of Our Mother of Sorrow Parish.

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS PARISH 913 Fulton St. * Erie, PA 16503

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Saint Casimir Church, 630 Hess Ave., Saint Ann Church, 921 East Ave.,

Holy Family Church, 913 Fulton St. * Erie, PA 16503

DEACON ADMINISTRATOR: Rev. Mr. Jerome T. Sobrowski



From the Desk of Deacon Jerry

A special thank you to all who attended the **103rd Annual Novena in honor of Good St. Ann** and to those who helped with the preparations before during and after. Over 1,200 people attended throughout the nine days and **Fr. Phil Dabney's** presentations were insightful, uplifting and inspiring. Next year's presenter is already lined up and we are anticipating Fr. Dabney's return for the 2024 Novena.

Our **office move** to the downstairs at St. Casimir is shaping up nicely. The external walls are up and finished and we are waiting to have the wiring completed and the interior walls finished. We are on schedule to move in by the end of August.

Please pray for the soul of **Walter Zaborowski** who went home to the Lord and whose funeral was at Holy Family on Thursday. Also, please pray for the soul of **Msgr. Ritchie** who went home to the Lord this week. Msgr. Ritchie was the long-time pastor at Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek. Eternal Rest Grant unto Them O Lord!

Please continue to **pray for vocations** to the priesthood. The number of priests in our diocese continues to decline and it appears to only be getting worse.

The **126th annual Frenchtown ham/chicken dinner** will be held today at St. Hippolyte Church, located on Route 27 just seven miles east of Meadville. Dinner will be served from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. (or until sold out).

What matters to God!

“Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!” Each of us have most likely been vain about something whether it be a skill, accomplishment, or even our appearance.

Qoheleth, who wrote the Book of Ecclesiastes that we hear from this week defines vanity as worthless and futile pursuits. In Qoheleth's time the people around him were so obsessed with pursuing of wealth and possessions that they started to forget God, and what it meant to lead a good life. So he tells us that nothing but *sorrow and grief* come from what we pursue on earth and that it is our earthly labors – far better for us to store up for ourselves treasures in heaven.

In our Gospel Jesus reminds us that “*one's life does not consist of possessions,*” but in the spiritual treasures we store up for ourselves by doing good and seeking justice. He gives us this very popular parable of the wealthy landowner building bigger barns for his harvest to show us that what we have here is not making the journey with us to the afterlife. Jesus then points out the moral of the story by saying, woe to those who *store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.*

Jesus is not asking us to give up all our possessions. He tells us there is nothing wrong with possessions in themselves and there is nothing wrong with achieving success in life – where the problem occurs is when the drive for more and more possessions becomes our main priority to the exclusion of others and our relationship with God. When we no longer pursue what matters to God.

So what does matter to God? It is not how much money we have or how much property we own. It is not about the awards or recognition that we may have received. It is more about how much we are willing to share than how much we can keep for ourselves.

What matters to God is our faith, hope and charity, and how we use these virtues to benefit those around us. All we have to do is look at the landowner in our Gospel to be reminded just how short our time is here and we may be asked to account for our life at a time when we least expect it. Our titles, social status or possessions will not matter on that day, only how much love we shared with those around us.

If we are to pursue what matters to God, it is important to step back and evaluate what we treasure and value. The answer for the rich man in our Gospel is obvious: He values a bountiful harvest and the ability and freedom to store up his riches for himself. But this control is fleeting, as his material goods will do nothing for him after his untimely death. Today Jesus invites us to look at this parable and reflect on our own lives. What are we pursuing? What satisfies us? Do we grab and hoard and live with greed instead of practicing hospitality and generosity?

May we always guard against becoming like the landowner or the people in Qoheleth's time that we become so self-absorbed and preoccupied with ourselves that we fail to recognize each and every day the precious gift of life and of each other that Jesus has given us. May we always strive to share our treasure here on earth so that all of us may enjoy the true treasure and live in God's love forever in heaven.

That is what matters to God!