

# *Our Mother of Sorrows Parish*

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

**July 12, 2020**

**Fifteenth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary  
Time**

A sower went out to sow.  
Some seed fell on the path . . . some fell on rocky ground.  
. . . Some seed fell among thorns.  
. . . But some fell on rich soil, and produced fruit.

Matthew 13:3, 4, 5, 7, 8

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## **OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS PARISH**

### **Rectory/Business Office**

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**Saint Casimir Church \* 629 Hess Ave. \* Erie, PA 16503**

**Saint Ann Church \* 921 East Ave. \* Erie, PA 16503**

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

**PASTOR:** Father James T. O'Hara

**DEACON ASSISTANT:** Deacon Jerome T. Sobrowski

**ASSISTING:** Msgr. Gerald Koos (Retired); Msgr. Robert Smith (Retired); Father Jerry Priscaro (St. Ann), Father Joseph Gregorek (Retired).

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

*Our Mother of Sorrows Parish has delayed re-opening our churches for public Masses at this time.*

**Note:** Each Mass intention will be remembered within the daily private Mass our Priest celebrate.

You may also keep each Mass intention in your daily prayers.

**Saturday, July 11th: Vigil Mass**

(SC) Jerome Sobrowski by Jerry & Denise Sobrowski  
All Parishioners Living and Deceased

**Sunday, July 12th: Fifteenth Ordinary Sunday**

(SC) Louis Szabo by son Louis  
(SC) Don & Pat Malinowski by Edwards Family  
(SC) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

**Monday, July 13th: St. Henry**

(SC) Walter Spichiger by Kowalski Family  
(SA) Special Intentions Wedding Anniversary for Beverly and Frank Vento

**Tuesday, July 14th: St. Kateri Tekakwitha**

(SC) Joseph Rovnak by Emily Sanford and Dewey & Betty Behnke  
(SA) For all special intentions during the upcoming Saint Ann Novena

**Wednesday, July 15th: St. Bonaventure**

(SC) For all of our Priests by A Friend  
(SA) Health & Healing for Joe Krkoska by Don and Judy Halcom

**Thursday, July 16th: Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

(SC) Julia Visosky, Birthday by Christine and Family  
(SC) Joseph Pochatko by Family

**Friday, July 17th: Weekday**

(SC) Johanna Berdis by husband Larry  
(SA) Rose Marie Skrypek by husband Bob

**Saturday, July 18th: St. Camillus de Lellis/Novena Day #1**

***PRIVATE SOLEMN NOVENA TO GOOD SAINT ANN***

(SC) Bob & Eileen Gilmore by Jan and Boys  
All Parishioners Living and Deceased

**Sunday, July 19th: Sixteenth Ordinary Sunday/Novena Day #2**

(SC) Louis & Florence Szabo, Anniversary by Son Louis  
(SC) Catherine Chamberlain by David & Anna Dieteman  
(SC) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

**THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS**

**Holy Family**

- 1) Health & Healing for all Parishioners
  - 2) For all making the Saint Ann Novena
- Our Mother of Sorrows: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

**St. Ann's**

- 1) Rose Marie Skrypek by husband Bob
- 2) For All Parishioners

**St. Casimir's**

- 1) Father Dan Prez by Mother and Family
- 2) For all making the Saint Ann Novena

**OUR BELOVED DEAD**

Service Men and Women, Parishioners,  
Friends & Benefactors  
*Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased.  
May they rest in peace.*

**PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY**

Rev. Joseph Campbell (Germany), Austin Agnello,  
Stephany Agnello, Sterling and Connor Vahey, Nicole and  
Jamie Keller (in Iraq), David Hawkins,  
Nick Torres (in Afghanistan),  
Bryan Spadaccio, Jennifer Smolinsky,  
Gregory Merski, Thomas Kaiser,  
Daniel Kidd (in Hawaii), and David Kraut  
*Please call-in with names to be added or  
removed from this list or change in location.  
Thank you for your service to our country.*

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

The rectory office remains closed until further notice.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Report for June 16, 2020*

**TOTAL COLLECTION \$3,760.54**

**CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL 2020**

*As of June 23, 2020*

**Goal: \$21,446.00**

**Pledged Amount: \$11,450.00**

**Paid Amount: \$9,245.00**

We are only \$9,996.00 away from our goal and we could sure use your help to reach it. Together we can do it! Simply send in your 2020 CSA pledge/contribution and watch our numbers grow.

*Please remember during this time you may drop your weekly offertory in the mail slot at the rectory office or mail your offertory to the rectory office.*

The rectory office is located at  
913 Fulton Street, Erie, PA 16503

Thanks for keeping the home fires burning!



### ***FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK continued***

Today is the 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Please offer your prayers again today for good health and healing for all parishioners, neighbors and friends of our parish, for an end to the COVID-19 Virus, for all who are suffering because of the virus, and for the spiritual and temporal needs of all especially those who will make the annual Novena to Saint Ann, privately this year due to the virus. Let's continue to pray for one another! †

Bishop Persico has continued his dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and also the Easter Duty to all in the Erie Diocese because of the medical emergency caused by the coronavirus crisis! Stay Home, Shelter in Place, Stay Healthy, Stay Safe and pray the novena privately! Pray for the day when we can all get together again. † Unfortunately the Annual Saint Ann Novena will be private this year. Please say the prayers at home and begin on July 18th and continue until the Feast of Saints Joachim and Ann, July 26th. All of our priests will join you privately at the altar. We will remember all of you and your intentions. Msgr. Gerald Joseph Koos, Father Jerry Priscaro, and your Pastor Father James T. O'Hara will join you each day of the novena privately at the altar. We will remember the intentions of all making the novena at home! Good Saint Ann, pray for all of us! † Congratulations again to Father John Paul Kuzma OFM Cap. who has been assigned to the formation team at Borromeo Seminary in Wickliffe, Ohio. Father John Paul is a native of Holy Family and a graduate of Holy Family School. Father John Paul was a regular at the novena when he lived at home in Erie and I know that if he is able he will be praying the novena with us again this year. His new mailing address, as of August 1, 2020, is Borromeo Seminary, 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092. He will now be much closer to home. Welcome home Father John Paul! † Thanks again to those who keep sending collection envelopes by mail or those who bring them to the mail slot at the rectory! You know how much we need your help, both spiritual and financial during this difficult time. You help us pay the bills which never end and you keep us alive and well. We will be back in Church next year at this time for our novena. This is a difficult time for all of us! I know that the Lord appreciates your sacrifices and your prayers. Your reward will be great both in heaven and here upon the earth! Your support will save the day and help us open soon for public Masses. Until then Msgr. Koos, Father Jerry Priscaro and I continue to remember you and those you love in all of our Masses, prayers and sacrifices. Stay Safe! Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Happy and Stay Cool! Hope to see all Soon! † Let us now ask Saint Ann to Pray for us! Amen!

### ***FROM THE DESK OF DEACON JERRY***

#### **What do We Sow?**

All of us have felt the frustration of not being able to get our message across to others at times. We wonder why they "just don't get it!"

In our Gospel about the sower, Jesus wants to appeal to his listeners but they are having a difficult time accepting the plain truth – they just don't get it! Rather than getting frustrated he uses a parable as a way to appeal to their emotions, gain their attention and convince them of his teachings. In a most loving and mindful manner we see Jesus working through his listener's mental defense mechanisms to bring them the truth.

Unfortunately, the same can happen to us, often without us even being aware of it. We become resistant to Christ's word and we build up our mental self-defense mechanisms. Often our word is basically the way we see the world, what we think is true. Our word concerns what we consider important, how we determine right from wrong, what we value, how we make decisions, choices and so on. And our word is frequently in direct opposition with the word of God.

So where do we see ourselves in this parable? Are we the seed? If so, what are we planting and where is our seed falling?

Do we plant honesty? If so, we will reap trust.

Do we plant goodness? If so, we will reap friendship and harmony in our communities.

Do we plant hard work? If so, we will reap success.

Do we plant forgiveness? If so, we will reap reconciliation.

Do we plant our faith in Jesus Christ? If so we will reap an abundant and overflowing harvest of his gifts.

In living our lives of faith, we hear Jesus' words over and over again. Familiarity with the word of the Lord is good, but it can also lead us to skim over or fail to take in the message contained. Jesus gives us this parable so that we will look and see, so that we will hear and listen and understand. This parable is about nourishing and growing our faith and sharing the word with others.

Like the seed that fell on rich soil, may our own hearts be a place for our faith to take root and bear much fruit.

May we go forth and scatter God's word with abandon and hope and may we always bear fruit in our daily living, achieving the end for which God sent it.

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS**

Bishop Emeritus Donald Trautman, Father Jim O'Hara, Msgr. Gerald Koos, Fr. Daniel Prez, Fr. Joseph Gregorek, Fr. John Santor, Msgr. Robert Smith, Deacon Glen Kuzma, Deacon Dennis Kudlak, Dianne Connors, Michael Burenko, Charlotte Prez, Pat & Gene Maciak, John Maciak, Anne Goodrich, Tom Duska, Sr., Kay Majersky, Maryann Marchant, Karen Antonio, Theresa Juchno, Theresa Zaborowski, Victoria Vargo, Lynn Clint, Sr. Rose Kuzma, Audrey Draszkievicz, Janice Schroeder, Walter Burenko, Jr., Margaret Kuzma, Jim Berdis, Jr. Susan Spadaccio, Eileen Ropelewski, Andrew G., Catherine Jankowski, Margaret Cermak, Robert and Karen Mazur, Raymond Wasielewski, Mike Lucas, Jennifer Galla, Diane Pavlik, Linda Krause, Douglas B. (father) and Douglas B. (son), Elizabeth Sliska, Gregory Wright, Tom Duska, II, Frances Birchard, Mary Ann Palkovic, Thomas Sisca, Fritz Gingenbach, Marlene Lucas, Mary Lou Wiczorek, Robert Jaskiewicz, Lucille Rovnak, Simon de la Guerra, Carol Krysiak, Kathy Newhouse, Alice Bock, Lorena Derks, Dawn Statton, Dr. Richard Cerami, Peyton Madura, Judy Marini, Austin M., Rose Gray, Lottie Carter, Jean Benedict, Jerry Jeroski, Linda Kuzma, Mary Wierzbicki, Mary Lepkowski, Michelle Spath, Michael Wiczorek, Dolores Campbell, Paul Martin, Sr., Dolores Osiecki, Betty Miller, William Brennan, Sr. Rose Rovnak, OSF, Sr. Margaret Rovnak, OSF, Dorothy Wright, Jerry Hoydic, Grace Guelcher, Ann Winschel, Marie Jurino, Joe Habas, Dolores Causgrove, Patricia Mazzaresse, Michael Ryan, Anne Marie Wykoff, Joanne Nelson, Evelyn Buczynski, Jim Heubel, Eugeniusz Szczepura, Fr. John Murray C.Ss.R., The Wienczkowski Family, Eileen Fulton, Jane Singleton, Eloise Conley, Lorraine Oster, Al Klugiewicz, The Clara Jong Family, Thomas Lucas, Rose Kowalski, Rosemarie Dzialo, Mark McMahan, Lillian Kolbas, Joyce Mueck, Carol Reynolds-Wolfe, John Wolfe, Leokadia Bajek, Walter Zaborowski, Dannielle Bizzarro, Ed Hart, Hank and Dorothy Oldach, Sister Grace Cermak, and all others in need of our prayers. Pray for all of them!

*Please call in with names that should be added or removed from this list. Remember you are our only source of information, hospital, nursing homes, etc. do not provide us with any information. Thank you.*



## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

### **Reopening our Parish for Public Masses.**

Given concerns for the safety and health of everyone, as well as our current inability to comply with the required protocols, we have delayed re-opening our churches for public masses. In the next several weeks we will meet with Pastoral Council and re-assess our ability to comply with the restrictions and protocol and re-evaluate our status soon. Our priests and the majority of our parishioners are in the high-risk category defined by the CDC. As the behavior and spread of the virus continues to remain unpredictable, it is still too risky to gather – even with social distancing practices in place. The protocol for re-establishing public masses as outlined by the Bishop is very demanding and complex. To meet this protocol will require a core group of volunteers willing to be at all masses. The decision to re-open is also optional and the dispensation from Sunday and Holy Day masses still remains in effect. Several parishes in our diocese as well as other areas of the country have chosen to delay re-opening for public masses. If you wish to view the protocols or Bishop Persico's town hall meeting, you will find a link at our website [www.motherofsorrowerie.org](http://www.motherofsorrowerie.org) or at the website for the diocese [www.ErieRDC.org](http://www.ErieRDC.org). Our Mass and Sacraments are the very heart of our faith and who we are and we all miss them dearly. It is our hope and prayer that we will all be safely worshiping together in the near future.

*From the Pastor's Desk continued on next page...*