

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 5th: Fifth Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Linda Rau by Dr. Hal Angeloff

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00 am (SC) Fr. Daniel Prez by Chris and Eva Misevski

Blessing of Throats

Monday, February 6th: Saint Paul Miki

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Richard Spaeder by Sue and Jerry Verga

Tuesday, February 7th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Sister Julia LaPrad by H. Lee

Wednesday, February 8th: St. Jerome Emiliani and St. Josephine Bakhita

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Larry Santia, Birthday February 9th by wife Kathy

Thursday, February 9th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Harriet Gallagher by The Theresa Juchno Family

Friday, February 10th: Saint Scholastica

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Betty Wasielewski by Ray Wasielewski

Saturday, February 11th: Our Lady of Lourdes

Private (SA) Habas, Kulig & Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

Sunday, February 12th: Sixth Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Billy King by Melissa King and Families

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00 am (SC) In memory of Jean Deniziak by Joe and Holly Guzowski

Monday, February 13th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Harriet Gallagher by The Theresa Juchno Family

Tuesday, February 14th: Sts. Cyril and Methodius

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Health and Healing for Monica Palkovic by Mom and Family

Wednesday, February 15th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) All Legion of Mary, Living and Deceased by Jean Wroblewski

THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS

Holy Family

1) Galla & Walach Family by Paul & Lisa Galla

2) Habas, Kulig & Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

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

St. Ann's

1) Deceased members of the Hartman Family by Family

2) Deceased members of the Jant Family by Family

St. Casimir's

1) For all parishioners Living and Deceased

2) Barbara J. Juchno by Michele Owens

FINANCIAL REPORT Sunday, January 29, 2023

Offertory: \$2,257.50

Catholic Communications: \$40.00

Sale at Holy Family 1/28/2023: \$1,799.00

Sale at Holy Family 1/29/2023: \$2,547.00

Expenses: Penelec Jan. 2023: \$820.07

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2022 Goal: \$31,397.00

Pledged: \$11,141.00 **Paid: \$10,502.00**

The 2022 CSA has ended.

Thank you to all who supported the 2022 CSA.

The 2023 Catholic Services Appeal begins soon. Commitment Sunday is February 19, 2023.

The Diocese has set our 2023 goal at \$35,165.00.

→ Please issue a **separate check** for
→ CSA Contribution and Mass Intentions

Please do not include your CSA contributions or Mass requests on the same check as your offertory. Separate checks, please. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office address is 630 Hess Ave., Erie, PA 16503.

The mail slot is on the south side of St. Casimir's Church right at the end of the handicap ramp.

All mail and other correspondence should now be addressed to or dropped off at 630 Hess Ave.

Office hours are by appointment only.

PLEASE NOTE THIS ADDRESS CHANGE!



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

A special **THANK YOU** to all who attended and participated in last week's sale at the **Holy Family School Gymnasium**. The sale was very well organized and planned and we took in \$4,346 that will be used to establish a Holy Family scholarship fund to be used toward Catholic education.

We recently received the **October Mass count** for all the parishes in the diocese and the numbers are not good. October Counts, which are taken in many dioceses across the country, are not scientific figures, but they do offer a sense of the direction in which attendance is trending. An average of just 26,770 people attends Mass each week at all 94 parishes in the diocese. It's a trend that very much mirrors what is happening across the Northeast. I have attached the results from the East and West Erie Deaneries for your review. The extra-large decline in our parish is largely due to the departure of the Latin Mass but even so, our numbers as well as the majority of parishes in the report are still down. Commenting on the report, **Bishop Persico** said: "This is why I have remained committed to pastoral planning, in the coming weeks, we will be introducing another round of public meetings to share new statistics and gather feedback as we work to right-size the number of parishes we have in relation to the number of practicing Catholics as well as the number of priests available." A link to the full, parish-by-parish report of the entire diocese can be found at <https://www.eriecd.org/octcount.html>.

St. Benedict Alumnae Association will host a BINGO on Sunday, February 19, at the Polish Falcons, 431 E. 3rd. The doors will open at noon and games will start at 1:00 pm. Packets are \$25. There will also be a 50/50, \$100 lottery wreath and games of chance. All proceeds benefit the ministries of the Sisters, which help with scholarships for grade school and high school students, and inner city day care.

Lift our heads!

A student was in class one day when the professor decided to give a pop quiz. She was a conscientious student and breezed through the questions. That is, until she read the last one: "What is the name of the woman who cleans this floor of the building?"

She knew the woman referred to in the questions. She had seen her many times but had to hand in her paper leaving the last question blank. When another student complained and asked if the last question would count toward the grade, the professor replied, "Absolutely, in your careers you will meet many people. All of them are significant! They deserve your attention and care, even if all you can do is smile and say hello."

The student, upon reflecting on the situation thought "I just got caught up in routine – became indifferent to the needs of others. Most of the time my head was down and I was preoccupied doing other things that I never noticed who was around me." Doesn't that happen to all of us at one time or another? Our heads are down, we get immersed in our own activities and fail to notice much less acknowledge those around us.

In our Gospel Jesus is calling us to lift up our heads. He uses the images of salt and light to remind us as Christians we are to be the light to the world by reaching out to others.

When we think of light and salt, neither can exist for its own sake. Light is no good if there is no one to use it or to bask in its glow. Light is meant to penetrate and overcome darkness so it does not make sense to hide it. Likewise, salt is no good by itself unless it brings flavor to food.

So the words of Jesus, *You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden*, challenge us to shine with Christ's presence, compassion, care and love. We can do this in a very practical way as suggested by Isaiah in our first reading by sharing our bread, sheltering the oppressed and homeless, clothing the naked and fighting against oppression, lies and false accusation. Jesus reminds us that we are not to do these good deeds for the sole purpose of being seen, but the deeds are to be done before others. To do that we first have to notice those around us and then see their lives as significant and deserving of our attention. We have to lift up our heads!

The lives of the saints offer many examples. One of our modern-day saints, St. Mother Teresa shone the light of Christ on others by ministering to the poorest of the poor. She saw the significance of each one of their lives. During her acceptance speech for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, Mother Teresa said, "I personally am most unworthy . . . But I am grateful and very happy to receive [this award] in the name of the hungry, of the naked, of the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the leprous, of all those people who feel unwanted." Mother Theresa lifted up her head.

While we may never rise to the level of charity that Mother Teresa did each of us has the opportunity to be the light of Christ to the world by using our gifts, and through the circumstances and our state in our lives. All we need to do is lift up our heads and look around.