

# Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### 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

### Thursday, February 8th: St. Jerome Emiliani

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Lucia Lee

### Friday, February 9th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Sister Ilaria by Lucia Lee

### Saturday, February 10th: St. Scholastica

Private (SA) Joe Carnecky by Mickey Pohl

### Sunday, February 11th: Sixth Ordinary Sunday

*CSA 2024 Commitment Weekend*

Private (SA) Galla and Walach Families by Paul & Lisa Galla

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) William Kennedy, Anniversary by daughter Maureen Kennedy Fink and Family

### Monday, February 12th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) David K. Wienczkowski, Birthday by Sister Kevin Berdis

### Tuesday, February 13th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) James Heubel by Patty and Billy Vogel

### Wednesday, February 14th: Ash Wednesday

*A Day of Fast and Abstinence—Lent Begins*

11:30am (SA) Confessions

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

→4:00pm (SC) Deceased Members of The Ropelewski Family by Estate

## 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) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

2) For a Holy Lenten Season

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

Sunday Offertory: \$1,340.50

Fuel Offering: \$30.00

Ash Wednesday: \$35.00

Catholic Communication: \$120.00

Initial Offering: \$30.00

## CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

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

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

The 2023 CSA has come to a close.

We did not reach our goal of \$35,165.00

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

CSA 2024 Commitment Weekend is next

Sunday, February 11, 2024.

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

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

Thank you for your continued support.

*Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!*



**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

Today after mass we will have the annual “ **blessing of throats**” that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr  **St. Blaise** who lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country to save his life. History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise’s command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

The  **2024 Catholic Services Appeal** has started and the theme for this year’s appeal is One Faith, One Family which speaks to the unity we have as Catholics in the Diocese of Erie. On February 11 you will be invited to make a commitment to support the CSA. The campaign is an essential foundation for the work of the Gospel, extending “our reach beyond what any parish can provide on its own, allowing us to fulfill our mission to evangelize, educate, serve, proclaim the Word, celebrate the sacraments and provide hope to people in need,” as Bishop Lawrence Persico writes.

Please continue to pray for openness and wisdom during these weeks before the  **Pastoral Plan** for Erie County is released which is expected to occur in April. To help us understand what happens when parishes merge or are partnered, the Pastoral Planning Guides that were originally developed in 2016 have been updated. These guides and other resources may be found at <https://eriercd.org/planning-downloads.html>.

The  **Knights of Columbus at Saint Boniface** will be sponsoring a  **Communion Breakfast** on March 10, 2024 Immediately following the 7:30 A.M. Mass. The featured speaker is Mr. Jay Puskar. Mr. Puskar is currently a faculty member in the Department of Business, Computers, & Information Tech at Cathedral Preparatory School, a former Sports Director at WJET, and former student of Saint Boniface Grade School and Seneca High School. See the attached flier.  **Mike Swarm** will be at our 11:00 Mass on February 25 to share more information about this event.

**All are invited to participate in the National Eucharistic Congress pilgrimage.** The Diocese of Erie invites you to join a historic pilgrimage to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 17-21, 2024, the first such gathering in the US in 83 years. The Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration Committee is coordinating the journey, with two motorcoaches, one departing from Our Lady of Peace Church in Erie and another from Holy Redeemer Church in Warren, including a pickup at Good Shepherd Church in West Middlesex. Please visit [www.eriercd.org/EucharisticRevival.html](http://www.eriercd.org/EucharisticRevival.html) for details. For inquiries, contact Jo Feeney by email at [eriedeac@gmail.com](mailto:eriedeac@gmail.com) or by calling or texting 724.699.3340.

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.

### **When Life Seems Overwhelming**

“I know that God will not give me more than I can handle, but sometimes I think God has too much confidence in me.” St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta.

Have we ever felt that life seems overwhelming, that we just can’t handle one more hardship in our life? We can only imagine how Job felt in our first reading. In this long book of the Bible, Job who is a very honest and just person comes upon all types of horrible suffering. Yet, at the end of the book Job is rewarded by God for his faithfulness.

The woes of Job are felt by us. The despair in our first reading is contrasted with the hope of the Gospel. Jesus cures Simon’s mother-in-law and then turns to cure a whole town’s worth of people with various diseases, or who are possessed by demons. Jesus brings hope to this despairing community. Then he goes on to preach and cure in other villages. As he proclaimed: “For this purpose have I come.”

The Good News is that in spite of all the suffering and troubles of our human condition, we know that our suffering is not the end of things. Jesus brings hope to us in our despair.

Jesus wants to grasp us from our troubled human condition, and help lead us into his eternal kingdom, especially when we feel overwhelmed. When we, in our despair approach Jesus in prayer and faith, he will reach out to us in a very personal way and like Simon’s mother-in-law, we will be able to get up and live again.