

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023 TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 20th: Twentieth Ordinary Sunday

Special Second Diocesan Collection-Church in Latin America

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

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Michael Lucas and Msgr. John Lucas,
Anniversary by Toni Barich

Monday, August 21st: St. Pius X

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Joseph E. Hartman by Nieces

Tuesday, August 22nd: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

11:30am (SA) Confessions

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

Wednesday, August 23rd: Saint Rose of Lima

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Caroline Larson and
the Living and Deceased Family Members by
The Legion of Mary

Thursday, August 24th: Saint Bartholomew

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Billy King by Melissa King and Families

Friday, August 25th: St. Louis and St. Joseph Calasanz

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Jules Himmenger by Bob Demchak

Saturday, August 26th: Weekday

Private (SA) Michael Mazza by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Sunday, August 27th: Twenty-First Ordinary Sunday

Private (SA) Ann and Carson Engelskirger by Dr. Hal Angeloff

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Nancy Sobrowski by Jerry and Denise
Sobrowski

Monday, August 28th: Saint Augustine

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Thomas Murawski by Delphine Palkovic

Tuesday, August 29th: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Angela Helsley by son Kevin Helsley

Wednesday, August 30th: Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Lucia Lee by H. Lee

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 Kathie Hamilton
- 2) Health and Healing of Bev Vento from Family

St. Casimir's

- 1) Steve Mook by Patty Vali and Barb Grasso
- 2) All Parishioners Living and Deceased

FINANCIAL REPORT—August 13, 2023

Sunday Offertory: \$1,463.36

Church in Latin America: \$10.00

Assumption: \$15.00

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2023 Goal: \$35,165.00

We are \$25,201.00 away from our goal!

Can you help?

Pledged: \$9,964.00

Paid: \$6,614.00

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

Happy to report an increase this week-Thank You!

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

Erie Gives Day

August 8th: \$5,430.00 +

\$100.00 received 8/12/2023

Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!

► **Please remember to use our correct address...**

630 Hess Ave., Erie, PA 16503

Our envelope provider is having a very difficult time getting our correct address on the mailings of your monthly packets. I am continually in contact with them trying to get them to update their data base. Thank you for your patience.



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

The third in a series of three letters from **Bishop Persico** on **Pastoral Planning** will be read today in all parishes in Erie County. In addition to sharing the letter with you at our 11:00 am Mass, a copy is attached to this bulletin and additional copies are in the back of church. The letter is also posted on the bulletin boards and it can be found at www.eriercd.org/planning.html. Please continue to pray to the Holy Spirit for wisdom, courage, strength, and guidance so we may respond to change with open minds and hearts.

Today's **second collection** is for the **Church in Latin America** and helps the poorest dioceses obtain basic necessities they would be unable to afford. Your contribution, and especially your prayers, will help make our Catholic faith a living reality for people throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

Holy Trinity Parish in Erie will celebrate its **30th Annual Zabawa** Polish Heritage event from Aug. 25-27 at E. 23rd & Reed streets, Erie. Hours are Friday from 5 to 10 p.m., Saturday from 12 to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event showcases authentic Polish foods and renowned Polka bands. Highlights include a Polka Mass on Saturday at 5 p.m., celebrated by Bishop Persico with The Kozmix from Pittsburgh, and a Polish Heritage Mass on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. featuring the Holy Trinity Choir. Admission is free, with additional parking and a shuttle at E. 34th & Ash streets, Erie. For more information, call 814.456.0671.

Join the **Benedictine Sisters** on Aug. 26 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Glinodo Center, 6270 E. Lake Rd, Harborcreek, for the **Glinodo Goat Fest**. As Let's Goat Buffalo aids in clearing invasive plant species, attendees can enjoy a storybook trail, environmental programs at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., snacks, nature art, games and observing the hard-working goats (No petting due to poison ivy clearing). This family-friendly event is free and open to all.

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Erie will host a **Blue Mass** on Sept. 6 at 6 p.m. at the church, 1626 W. 26th St., Erie, to honor public safety personnel. The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico will preside. Mass is open to the public, and first responders are encouraged to attend in uniform. A reception will follow in the church's cafeteria.

St. George Parish in Erie will host a prayer service on Sept. 9 following the 8 a.m. Mass to mark the **11th Annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children**. The prayer service will be held at St. George Church, 5145 Peach St., Erie, and will last for approximately 45 minutes. Contact the parish office at 814.866.7532 for more information.

How great is our faith?

Each one of us, by the grace of God has been given the gift of faith, but is it great faith?

In our Gospel this week there are four distinct movements in the Canaanite woman's encounter with Jesus that we can use as a test of how great our faith is. **Test 1) The woman makes her request** – the woman was asking for a miracle for her daughter and not herself and in doing so was placing herself at risk. She made the plea "Have pity" on me because she was really one with her daughter. This is as strong sign of unity. The risk of being rejected and the risk associated with going against the cultural norms of her time – a Canaanite woman appealing to a Jewish teacher. What is that we need and do we have the courage to take our needs to God?

Test 2) Jesus rejects her request – One of the biggest fears that many of us have is the fear of being rejected. So did the Canaanite woman yet she accepted the initial response from Jesus. Is our faith strong enough to accept that God may not answer our prayers the way we expect him to?

Test 3) The woman reacts and persists. She believed in Jesus and knew that he could do and would do what she asked. If we go back and read this Gospel it is apparent that the woman's faith grew as the encounter with Jesus became longer. She knew that he would do it because he cared. She was not angry with God for sending her this trial and she did not come to Jesus furiously demanding justice. How do we react when our prayers are not answered the way we expect? Do we get mad at God and give in to hopelessness and despair or do we pray for continued patience, guidance, wisdom, and consolation? Do we persist? Do we realize when God says no – there is always a bigger yes somewhere else.

Test 4) Jesus responds. The woman was not only persistent – she was also satisfied with what Jesus gave. Are we satisfied with God's response – do we give thanks?

Our first reading today, and our Gospel encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman shows us that with God there are no boundaries or barriers, his unrestricted love and mercy is open to all of us who approach him with a sincere heart.

Great faith requires more than conforming our intellects to the truths that have been revealed to us. Great faith also requires sincere hearts and a desire to follow Jesus and to live out our discipleship by showing love and mercy to those in need.

How great is our faith?