

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish

Saint Casimir Church, Saint Ann Church and Holy Family Church



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 3rd: First Sunday of Advent

Private (SA) Galla and Walch Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Fr. Daniel Prez by The Juchno Family and Rod Showers

Monday, December 4th: St. John Damascene

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Roy Lowrance by H. Lee

Tuesday, December 5th: Advent Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Brzezicki and Bargielski Families by Rose Marie Bargielski

Wednesday, December 6th: Saint Nicholas

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) David K. Wienczkowski by brothers, Don, Jr. and Ed Wienczkowski

Thursday, December 7th: Saint Ambrose

11:30am (SA) Confessions

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

Friday, December 8th: Immaculate Conception

A Holy Day of Obligation

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) In memory of Jean Deniziak by Joe and Holly Guzowski

→4:00pm (SC) Rev. Joseph C. Gregorek by Saint Casimir's Holy Name Society

Saturday, December 9th: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

Private (SA) Billy King by Melissa King and Families

Sunday, December 10th: Second Sunday of Advent

Diocesan Second Collection for Religious Retirement

Private (SA) Billy King by Melissa King and Families

10:30 am (SC) Confessions

11:00am(SC) Ron and Dottie Whipple by Family

Monday, December 11th: St. Damasus I

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Tom Damico, Birthday, December 12th, by The Juchno Family

Tuesday, December 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Caroline Larson, 92nd Birthday by nephews Bobby and Michael Osiecki

Wednesday, December 13th: Saint Lucy

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) David Blum, Anniversary by Lori Krasnesky and Judy

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) For blessings, guidance and peace for all parishioners and their parishes in the Erie Diocese
- 2) For a Holy and Blessed Advent Season

St. Casimir's

- 1) Charles Brower, Birthday by wife and family
- 2) All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

FINANCIAL REPORT—November 26, 2023

Sunday Offertory: \$2,774.20

Thanksgiving Day: \$152.00

All Soul's Day: \$20.00

All Saint's Day: \$30.00

Christmas Flowers: \$270.00

Campaign for Human Development: \$10.00

Christmas: \$10.00

Religious Retirement: \$10.00

Immaculate Conception: \$10.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$10.00

Monthly Expenses—November 2023

Income: \$12,582.70

Expenses: \$11,578.34

Difference: \$1,004.36

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

2023 Goal: \$35,165.00

Pledged: \$7,480.00

Paid: \$7,380.00

Thank you to all who have supported the 2023 CSA.
Please issue a **SEPARATE** check for your CSA.

Thank you for keeping the Home Fires Burning!

GECAC Giving Tree—today, December 3rd, is the first day GECAC will pick up your donations. Next, Sunday, December 10th, will be the last day GECAC will pick up all remaining donations after the 11AM Mass. Blessings to you all.

Oplatki (Christmas Wafers) have been ordered. We are waiting on the delivery. I was informed our order was mailed on Tuesday, November 30th. Updates on their arrival will be posted in the bulletin.



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 **Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation.** Our masses will be 12:05 pm at St. Ann and 4:00 pm at St. Casimir. Both masses will be on Friday, December 8.

The Second Collection next week, December 10 is for the **Retirement Fund for Religious.** In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement fund for the Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Thank you for your generosity!

Once again, we are hosting the **GECAC Giving Tree** in our parish and the tags for the gifts are in the back of the church. Our generosity supports the needy here in our parish neighborhoods.

We will be **decorating the church** for Christmas after the 11:00 mass on December 17. All are welcome to stay and help!

Keep up-to-date on Pastoral Planning by visiting www.eriercd.org/planning.html.

St. Francis Xavier Parish will feature *The Fourth Wiseman* on Dec. 8. A Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is scheduled for 6 p.m., with dinner and the movie following from 7-8:30 p.m. at the parish center, 8880 Main St., McKean. Attendees can RSVP by scanning the QR code in the attachment or visiting the website at www.stfrancisxaviermckean.org. For more information, contact Irene at 814.476.7657 ext. 7 or send an email to evangelization@stfrancisxaviermckean.org.

Sacred Heart Parish in Erie presents a three-part Taize-style prayer service series called *Advent Art by Dark* this Advent on Thursdays from 7 to 7:45 p.m. at the church, 816 W. 26th St., Erie. Engage in contemplative prayer accompanied by *Honest Advent* artwork by Scott Erickson. This hybrid experience combines *visio divina*, an art gallery atmosphere, and a self-guided retreat, offering a unique addition to Advent traditions, focusing on embracing darkness with trust in the Light.

Themes for each evening are: Dec. 7: Light & the Cosmic Church ~ Dec. 14: Light & the Global Church ~ Dec. 21: Light & the Mother Church. Attendees will receive a packet of Advent prayer and reflection resources. The services welcome all resonating with diverse Christian traditions and those who appreciate art and meditation. While RSVPs are not mandatory, they are welcomed via Sacred Heart Parish's Facebook event listings at <https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartErie/events>.

The **St. Francis Xavier Parish Bereavement Ministry** in McKean is sponsoring a **blue Christmas potluck luncheon** to remember and honor those who cannot be with us for the holidays. The event will be held on Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the Pie Room at St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, 8880 Main St., McKean. For more information, contact Joyce Traenkner at 207.735.3366.

St. Francis Xavier Parish in McKean, in partnership with Wicks & Wax Studio, invites you to **Make a Candle for Candlemas Day.** The candle-making sessions are available on Jan. 6 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. or Jan. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, 8880 Main St., McKean. The cost is \$30. Additionally, join Adoration and Benediction on Feb. 2 at 5:50 p.m. To RSVP, contact Irene Schneider at 814.476-7657 ext. 7 or via email at evangelization@stfrancisxaviermckean.org. Visit www.stfrancisxaviermckean.org for more information.

Advent, a time of Hope

The church gives us the season of Advent to help us keep our vision. Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means "coming" or "arrival." For us it is the time of year when we specifically look to the coming of Jesus, first in his coming at his birth to bring us salvation and then his final coming, to end our trials on earth and gather us to him in glory. One of the themes of Advent is hope, and most of us would agree that we could use a lot of extra hope this year. So what is hope, and what are we hoping for?

Real hope is one of the most coveted things in today's world. We all know people who are looking for some sign of hope but really don't know specifically what they are hoping for. They do know instinctively that it is something big. While many may hope for wealth, stature, or power, real hope goes beyond the things that we will not take with us when we leave this earth. Most will agree that real hope is in the form of some sort of hope for a better tomorrow and for significance and meaning in our lives. Yet there are times in life where we feel that hope has deserted us. We may experience disappointment, sorrow, and discouragement. Often the darkness just seems unbearable.

It is in these times that God teaches us something significant in our trials. And no matter the circumstances we can count on God to always be there.

Simply stated hope is the abiding trust that God will fulfill this promise to us. It is confidence that if we live according to His laws and teachings, we will have a blessed future. It is believing and expecting that our prayers will be answered. It is sharing hope with others in the true spirit of charity as Jesus has taught us.

What are we hoping for this Advent season?