

December 1, 2024



Saint Stanislaus & Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Churches

516 East 13th Street

Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

814.452.6606 (Day); 814.452.4832 (Evening/Saturday)

www.statanserie.org or www.motherofsorrowserie.org

email: stater@outlook.com or gangemi@twc.com

Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Fr. Jerry Priscaro, Resident Priest (St. Ann's)

Ms. Debbie Oldenski, Secretary (Day)

Mrs. Helen Gangemi, Secretary (Evening)

OFFICE HOURS

Sunday & Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9:00AM-12:00PM; 4:30PM-6:30PM

Wednesday: 9:00AM-3:00PM; 4:30PM-6:30PM

Thursday: 9:00AM-3:00PM

Friday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Saturday: 9:00AM-3:00PM

MASS TIMES

Saturday 4:00PM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 9:00AM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 11:00AM: St. Casimir

Monday-Friday 12:05PM: St. Ann's

First Saturday 9:00AM: St. Ann's

Weekday at St. Stanislaus: Call Parish Office

MASSES FOR THE WEEK (Our Mother of Sorrows)

Sunday, December 1st: First Sunday of Advent

Private (SA): Special Intentions of Stephen Waterford
11:00am (SC) Bernice Zilonka by Sammy Lee, Helen & Andrew Gangemi

Monday, December 2nd: Advent Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Lucia Lee

Tuesday, December 3rd: Saint Francis Xavier

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Josephine Federowicz (Birthday) by Mark & Diane Olszewski

Wednesday, December 4th: Advent Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

Thursday, December 5th: Advent Weekday

*9:30am (SA) Confessions
*10:00am (SA) For Holy Souls

First Friday, December 6th: Saint Nicholas

11:30am (SA) Confessions
12:05pm (SA) Charlotte Prez by Jerry and Denise Sobrowski

First Saturday, December 7th: Saint Ambrose

9:00am (SA) Special Intentions of Andrew Alexander by The Vento Family
Private: George K. Panayiotou by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Sunday, December 8th : Second Sunday of Advent (Second Collection)

11:00am (SC) Charles Brower, Birthday by Florence Brower

MASS INTENTIONS (Saint Stanislaus)

Mon., Nov. 25th - Private Intention
Tues., Nov. 26th - Ursula Konior (Barbara Agnello)
Wed., Nov. 27th - Walter & Jeannette Kwitowski (Theiss & Selleny Family)
Thur., Nov. 28th, 9:00AM (Thanksgiving) - For the People of St. Stanislaus
Fri., Nov. 29th - Pauline Lubiejewski (Women's Society)
Sat., Nov. 30th, 4:00PM - For the People of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Sun., Dec. 1st, 9:00AM - Gay & Robert Wlodarczyk (Family)

Readings for the week of December 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-14/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-6/Mt 9:35-10:1,5-8
Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

December 1, 2024 1st Sunday of Advent

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, "Don't be afraid." She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, "Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen." A few days later she died.

Christians face the ending of our personal various "worlds" in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves "fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world" (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to "look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." He then compares what's coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That's what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem.

Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you're troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: "Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming."

— Father John Muir



SANCTUARY CANDLES

SAINT STANISLAUS: For Fr. Jason's speedy recovery

HOLY FAMILY: 1) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate; 2) Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS: Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

ST. ANN'S: 1) For all Sick and Shut-ins; 2) For more vocations to religious life

ST. CASIMIR'S: 1) For a blessed Advent Season; 2) For All Parishioners Living and Deceased

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24TH

3:00PM - Kolendy at St. Stanislaus

4:00PM - St. Stanislaus

4:00PM - Our Mother of Sorrows

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25TH

9:00AM - St. Stanislaus

11:00AM - Our Mother of Sorrows

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (MONDAY, DECEMBER 9th)

9:00AM - St. Stanislaus

5:15PM - Our Mother of Sorrows

*Although the Holy Day is transferred from Sunday to Monday, it remains a Holy Day of Obligation.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Women's Society Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 8th, at the 3rd Street Polish Falcons club from noon until 3:00PM. Members, parishioners (from ALL of our parishes), and guests are most welcome to attend. The cost of the meal is \$15. Call Nancy or Don at 814.454.4046 for reservations. The deadline to register is December 3rd. We hope you can join us for this afternoon of much fun, good food, and exceptional fellowship!

Question: What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

Let us walk
in the light
of the Lord

Waiting is not always so easy. If you lack patience, like me, you probably want whatever is going to happen to just happen already. I remember waiting on the births of my children. There was the time I sat with my dying father in the hospital. One year, we waited to see if our oldest child got into the college of his choice, or any college at all, which seemed quite nerve-wracking.

So, to make the time pass more easily, and because it is prudent and wise, we make preparations. We put together nurseries, go over last will and testaments, and look through endless college mailings. Then, when the event finally happens or our fate is unveiled, the preparation ends. Either you have prepared well for that moment, or you realize your actions didn't prepare you at all.

Advent comes every year. So, unlike events in our lives that only happen once, we have been through Advent many times before. Even though this is the case, when Christmas arrives many of us will think we missed it again, and next year will be the

year we really get into Advent. Of course, not to sound morbid, but there is no promise of next year. What if you knew this was your last Advent ever?

I read a book some years ago about how to live your life as if you only had one year to live. The author said that doing this provides incentive for a real commitment to living life to its fullest. You notice things for the first time. You make those plans that you always put off. You tell people what you always wanted to say.

I hope all who read this have many wonderful years ahead of them. However, let's approach this Advent like it is our last. I bet Christmas will seem that much sweeter. And who knows, we may find a new and improved way to live all year long.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

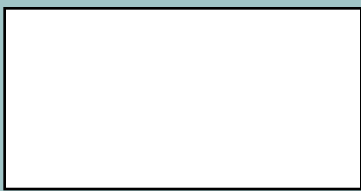
POSITIONS OPEN

There are two positions open on St. Stan's Pastoral Council. If you are interested in filling one of these leadership positions, please send Fr. Jason a letter of intent or speak to him after a weekend Mass.

OPLATKI AVAILABLE

Both St. Stanislaus and Our Mother of Sorrows has oplatki available for the Christmas season. Please stop by the Parish Offices during regular business hours to purchase your Christmas wafers!

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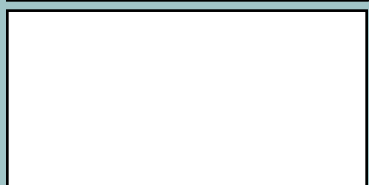
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