

December 29, 2024

**FEAST OF THE
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**



DECEMBER 25, 2024

**FEAST OF THE
HOLY FAMILY**



DECEMBER 29, 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 29th: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Private (SA): Jack Babcock by Dr. Hal Angeloff

11:00am (SC) Charlotte Prez by Janet Turowski

Monday, December 30th: Sixth Day with the Octave of Christmas

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Rose Marie Skrypek (Anniversary) by husband Bob Skrypek

Tuesday, December 31st: Seventh Day with the Octave of Christmas

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) For Holy Souls

5:15pm (SC) In memory of Eileen Ropelewski by Estate

Wednesday, January 1st: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:30am (SA) Confessions

10:00am (SA) Charlotte Prez by Dave and Barb Danylko

Thursday, January 2nd: Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Deceased Members of the Ropelewski Family by Estate

First Friday, January 3rd: Christmas Weekday

11:30am (SA) Confessions

12:05pm (SA) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

First Saturday, January 4th: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30am (SA) Confessions

9:00am (SA) Barry Lees by Dr. Hal Angeloff

Private: For Holy Souls

Sunday, January 5th: Epiphany of the Lord

Private (SA): Dr. Morris Greenberg by Dr. Hal Angeloff

11:00am (SC) Charlotte Prez by Judy Stanek

MASS INTENTIONS (Saint Stanislaus)

Mon., Dec. 30th - Private Intention

Tues., Dec. 31st - Joan & John Oldenski (Family)

Wed., Jan. 1st, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus

Thur., Jan. 2nd - Helen Skowronski (E. Lubecki)

Fri., Jan 3rd - Special Intention

Sat., Jan 4th, 4:00PM - Camille Riffe (Dottie Pedersen)

Sun., Jan 5th, 9:00AM - For the People of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-28/Ps 84:2-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3-6/Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

December 29, 2024

The Holy Family

As a first-time pastor in a parish, I received a phone call one afternoon from a young married couple, "Father, our 2-year-old son drowned in our pool this morning. We are at the hospital. Please help us." I sped over. The little boy was gone, his body cold, slightly blue, laid out on a bed. His parents were distraught and in shock. For the next few years, I walked with the couple along their difficult and painful road. They openly shared with me how they were often tempted to blame and accuse each other for the loss. And yet, by God's grace, their love for each grew stronger and deeper as the years went by.

The Holy Family was not without its pain and loss, either. Luke tells us, after losing their twelve-year-old son, Joseph and Mary "after three days found him in the temple area, sitting among the teachers..." (Luke 2:46). We don't know specifically what those three days were like for them except for what Mary says: "Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." The three days of his absence foreshadow his death and burial. His finding in the temple is a kind of resurrection for his family. They had to learn, again and again, that their family was becoming a place where death and resurrection was not only accepted but welcomed and celebrated. But surely they deeply felt the dangerous agony of their loss — just like every couple who has lost a child.

What losses in your experience of family still cause you anxiety? In what ways has God's presence seemingly vanished in your family? Will you keep searching for Jesus? Remember, he will rise and be found. Your family may be suffering, but when he is found, it will be stronger than ever before.

— Father John Muir



SANCTUARY CANDLES

SAINT STANISLAUS: Alice Zimmerman by Helen Zimmerman

HOLY FAMILY: 1) Blessings for a prosperous Christmas season; 2) For all of our sick and shut-ins

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

ST. ANN'S: 1) Rose Marie Skrypek, Anniversary by husband Bob Skrypek; 2) For all parishioners living and deceased

ST. CASIMIR'S: 1) Habas, Kulig and Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate; 2) Galla and Walach Families by Paul and Lisa Galla

**OUR PARISH OFFICES
WILL BE CLOSED FROM
JANUARY 1st & JANUARY 2nd
SO THAT OUR STAFF CAN ENJOY THE
HOLIDAYS WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND
FRIENDS.**

FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (January 1st)

Our Mother of Sorrows: December 31st at 5:15PM
St. Stanislaus: January 1st at 9:00AM
*Holy Day of Obligation

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration will be held at St. Stan's on Sunday, January 19th, following the 9:00AM Mass until 11:00AM. Please consider taking time to spend in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

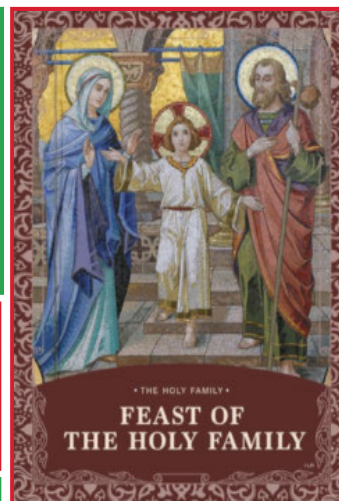
Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

LIFE HACK

Habits are hard to break. For nearly a year now, we have been dating our checks with "2024." Inevitably, many of us accidentally continue dating checks "2024," even after the new year, resulting in checks being unable to be processed. As the New Year approaches, consider pre-dating a few checks with "2025" now, so when the new year arrives, your checks can be properly processed.



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

As has become customary at Our Mother of Sorrows, next Sunday, December 29th, Mass will be celebrated at Holy Family Church at 11:00AM (not at St. Casimir's). Brother John Paul Kuzma will celebrate Mass for the intentions of the Galla and Walach Families, as requested by Paul and Lisa Galla. All are invited and encouraged to attend Holy Family's namesake feast day!

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE GRATEFUL!

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of our assisting priests, I wanted to take a moment to extend my personal and profound thanks for you many kind expressions Christmas wishes. Thank you, also, for your generous and thoughtful gifts.

I also want to extend our gratitude to all who made this holiday season so special and beautiful. Thanks to those who decorated our liturgical spaces. Thanks to those who offered their ministry this season (lectors, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, choir members, organists, greater, ushers, and so on). We are grateful to you year round, but especially for your time during this busy season.

For my part, I am deeply grateful to Fr. Priscaro, Fr. Koos, and Fr. Swoger for their ongoing assistance and support ever since our partnership became a reality.

I also want to thank each and every one of you, my parishioners. Throughout this holiday season, I will remember all of you in a special way in my prayers. On this Feast of the Holy Family, I will pray that our parish family will model the love and faith of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

- Fr. Jason

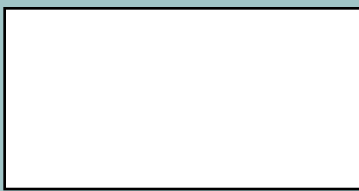
CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Women's Society Christmas Party has been rescheduled for Sunday, January 12th, 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 January 6th. We hope you can join us for this afternoon of much fun, good food, and exceptional fellowship!

TAX INFORMATION

It is that time of year when some are gathering information in preparation for submitting your taxes. If you need a record of your charitable giving to our parishes, please call the Parish Office during regular business hours and a record can be mailed to you. Thank you for your giving throughout the year!

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