

Established 1894

Sacred Heart Church

816 West 26th Street, Erie, PA 16508

- Very Rev. John J. Detisch, V.F., *Pastor*
- Rev. Jerome S. Simmons, *In residence*
- Rebecca Flynn, *Pastoral Minister & Liturgy*
- Sr. Ricarda Vincent, S.S.J., *Director of Adult Formation*
- Antonio F. Del Rio, *Director of Religious Education*
- Jesse Spanogle, *Director of Youth Ministries & Technology*
- Patricia Fritz, *Director of Finance*
- Norman J. Zambrzycki, *Director of Facilities*
- Michael Malthaner, *Director of Liturgical Music*
- Jack Hewitt, *President, Pastoral Council*
- Michael W. Beuchert, *Finance Council President*
- Mary Ann Watters, *Parish Secretary*
- Susan Schuschu, *Parish Receptionist*

All Parish Offices: 456-6256 • **Fax:** 459-9533
E-mail Address: heart816@hotmail.com
WEBSITE: www.sacredhearterie.org

MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm
 Sunday: 9:30 am & 11:30 am
 Weekday: 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 pm and by appointment

BAPTISMS

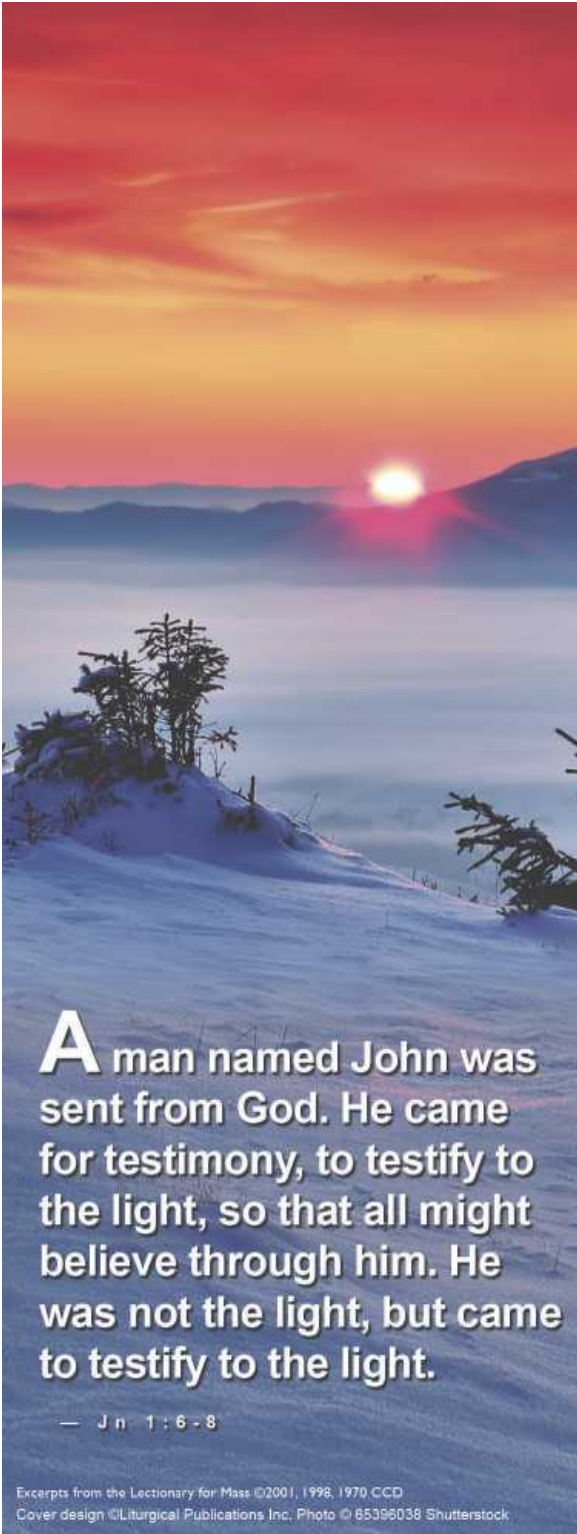
Within parish Mass, as well as private, with proper sacramental preparation three months in advance.
 Baptismal preparation sessions are held quarterly.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Anyone seeking information on becoming a Catholic,
 please call Rebecca Flynn at the rectory, 456-6256, ext. 110.

Sharing Hearts

- Coordinator:** Diane Murphy864-3848
- Prayer Line:** Debbie Knecht504-0294
- Jeannie VanBuskirk.....866-3235
- Visitation of Shut-Ins:** Cathy Elizabeth Miller838-9815
- Writing Notes to Shut-ins:** Mary Rose Hogenmiller866-0683
- Bereavement Ministry:** Rebecca Flynn456-6256
- Ivajeane Coverdale.....866-6625



A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

— Jn 1:6-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD
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“Sacred Heart Parish is a community of Catholic Christians with a mission of making Christ’s presence a reality for the good of the world, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to the greater honor and glory of God.”



What a great evening we had last Sunday night! As in years past, the Knights of Columbus have hosted an annual "Light up for Christ" celebration, where we open up the Advent season with a nice prayer service, light up the lawn trees, and head to the auditorium for homemade chili, cookies, and a nice few hours together. Even though it started to drizzle, it was the warmest time we have ever had! In fact, I mowed the lawn a few hours before!! My new record: mowing on December 4th! (The old record was a few years ago, when I mowed last on December 2nd ...) Thanks so much to the Knights for all the work ... to Nick & Janice Sivillo for that great chili ... and everyone for coming.

I want to thank everyone for their generosity this week for the Fund for the Retired Religious. As you have heard, and already know, the health care costs of taking care of our elderly and retired religious Sisters and Brothers are escalating each year, and their needs are great. I know how difficult it is for everyone in these days. Thank you so much for your sacrifice of a few dollars, helping to take care of those who gave their lives so that we may know the Lord.

As of this writing, if not AT the exact time of this writing, Bishop Trautman is meeting with Pope Benedict XVI, along with the contingency of New Jersey Bishops. From what I gathered, the plane ride over initiated some dehydration, which threw his system out of balance. Bishop Brandt and Bishop Barchak, both from Erie, convinced him on the 2nd day of the trip that he should get checked out at the hospital, which he did. He was released last Sunday, and was to return home earlier in the week, cutting short his trip by about 6 days. But, before he left, he was to meet with the Holy Father, and preside and preach at a Mass of all the bishops from New Jersey and Pennsylvania at St. Mary Maggiore, one of Rome's four major basilicas. I know he must be disappointed at the change of plans. But, as a bishop, I am sure that he has encountered so many things like this since 1990!

The wild part of the Bishop's trip came from his barber and mine, Frank Romeo. Frank, who is from Italy, has a cousin who is a physician in Rome. Frank sent an email to his cousin about Bishop Trautman; who then, in turn, checked on the Bishop several times. The bishop was quite surprised that he was being evaluated by a physician with Erie ties! Yes ... this really is a small world!

Next Sunday is our Advent Penance service. Please take advantage of the opportunity to receive the absolution of the Sacrament, and give yourself some peace. We will have about 5 priests here that night, to hear confessions for as long as it takes. It will be the last opportunity to have your confession heard here before Christmas. There is no better feeling in the world when the priest prays those sacred words over us, "...and I absolve you of all your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." I do have to tell you that I am very concerned that, out of 51 Saturdays throughout the year, and all the other opportunities, I am hearing very few confessions of our children and young people. Parents, please know of the duty and responsibility that you have as the #1 influence on your child's faith life. Our young people must know of the need to be absolved from sin, and it is up to YOU to see to it that they receive that Sacrament, until they can go on their own. Please, for the sake of their faith and their salvation, as well as your own, come and enjoy the wonderful joy of the Sacrament of

Reconciliation. What a beautiful way to celebrate the Birth of Our Lord ... redeemed and forgiven!

Thank you to Fr. Simmons and Fr. Mathew for covering for me this weekend, while I tend to the parishes of St. Dominick in Sigel and Immaculate Conception in Brookville. It is important that the priests help each other, and that they can get away and re-charge. Fr. Laska was very excited for his first vacation in 3 years. He surely needed it! Thank you all for your understanding and prayers.

Enjoy the 3rd Week of Advent!
Fr. D.

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:

	Dec. 4, 2011	Dec. 5, 2010
Repairs & Improvements	\$423.00	\$488.00
Food Panty	\$162.00	\$50.00
Sacrificial Giving	\$8,039.88	\$7,008.72
Votive Candles	\$0.00	\$0.00
All Saints Day	\$6.00	\$4.00
Human Development	\$0.00	\$5.00
Christmas	\$20.00	\$5.00
Christmas Flowers	\$1,874.00	\$1,741.00
Immaculate Conception	\$53.00	\$27.00
Thanksgiving	\$61.00	\$0.00
Religious Retirement	\$0.00	\$25.00
TOTAL COLLECTED	\$10,638.88	\$9,353.72

(*includes loose money). Last week, out of 698 families of the parish, 273 envelopes (39%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$20.98**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. Thanks for your sacrifice.



YOUth Stand for Life

Please contact Jesse if you would like to attend our YOUth Stand for Life trip to Washington, D.C. this year! Last year we took a total of 23 YOUth from Catholic Connection. This is a once in a lifetime pilgrimage sponsored by the Diocese of Erie! The cost is \$100 per person. We will be leaving from St. Marks on January 22nd and getting back on the 23rd. Attendants will have to miss one day of school. Seats are very limited so join us as we stand for life (from womb to tomb!) Peace. Jess

Baptisms

Welcome to our faith community our newly baptized:
Tristan Michael Boes
Karter Jacob Kleckner



Monday, December 12th Our lady of Guadalupe
 8:30 - Anthony "Danny" Riazzi - Ann Marie & Ron Sitter

Tuesday, December 13th St. Lucy
 8:30 - Thomas E. Mish - Tom & Linda Mish

Wednesday, December 14th St. John of the Cross
 8:30 - Alice & Frank Zupanick—Family

Thursday, December 15th
 8:30 -Margaret McLaughlin - Big Giveaway Committee

Friday, December 16th
 8:30 - Communion Service

Saturday, December 17th
 4:30 - Frank Simonelli - Robert Brabender

Sunday, December 18th Fourth Sunday of Advent
 9:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish
 11:30 - John & Antoionette (Corsi) Colao - Daughter, Janet DiPaolo & Family

Priest Schedule for

Saturday, 4:30PM - Fr. Detisch

Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM - Fr. Detisch

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of †William Moore from Family.

The Bread and Wine is being offered in memory of †Joan & Nicholas Virgilio from their Children.

Scripture Readings for Next Week

2Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 16 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

The following have contributed to the Fr. Engel Scholarship Fund in memory of Louise Cutri:

- * Dolores (Toni) Oldach
- * Lorraine Squeglia
- * Paul & Joyce Williams
- * Earl & Jay Mittelmeier
- * Sacred Heart Altar Society

TO ALL PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Christmas and New Year bulletin schedules:

If you want your "blurb" or article in for Christmas, you need to have it to the parish office on or before the 15th of December.

The New Year's bulletin "blurbs" need to be in on or by the 19th of December. Any questions, please call Mary Ann in the parish office, 456-6256.

Thanks for your help.

This Week in our Parish

Monday - Boy Scouts in audi at 6PM
 Faith Sharing Group in Findlay Rm at 7PM
 Knights in audi at 7:30PM

Tuesday - Food Pantry in audi at 9AM

Wednesday -Last Day for Christmas Gifts Drop-Off

Thursday -Youth Group in audi at 7PM
 RCIA in Findlay Rm at 7:30PM

Friday - Church Cleaning Team #7 (Charlene Michael) on December 16th in the AM

Sunday - Faith Sharing in Findlay Rm at 10:30AM
 Religious Ed in school at 10:45AM
 Penance Celebration in Church at 7PM

Retirement Fund for the Religious

Retired Religious need your support. By 2019, it is projected that retired religious will outnumber wage-earning religious by nearly four to one. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps ensure that elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests receive the care they so richly deserve, now and in the future. Please give generously to today's second collection.



"Notes from the Christmas Angels"

Your generosity is simply overwhelming—as you have once again bared our giving tree!!!! Many thanks for helping us out. You are all in our prayers.

We are also accepting toys, coloring books, games, etc—these may be dropped off at the Parish Office. And just a reminder: all gifts *must* be returned to the Rectory by *Wednesday, December 14th, 2011.*

The Christmas Angels



The Knights of Columbus would like to express their thanks and appreciation to all those who braved the rainy weather Sunday evening to attend our "Light Up for Christ" ceremony. We had a turn out of approximately 170 people who enjoyed not only the prayer service, but also the fellowship that followed. Also, we would like to thank Robin and Kathy Herman for all their work on the lovely door prizes, and the Erie Seawolves for their many donations. A special thank you to our own Fr. John who this year provided the beautiful tree light decorations. Our Council is both proud and honored to host this annual event. We look forward to seeing you again next year.



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Sacred Heart Church

Membership Form

New Parishioner
 New Phone
 New Address
 Moving, please remove
 from mailing list.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Welcome. We extend our hearts to you here, celebrating with us at Sacred Heart, whether longtime parishioner or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God you are with us! If you are not registered, please fill out this form and bring or mail it to the parish office or place in the collection basket. We will make arrangements for your registration. New phone numbers and address change information are also appreciated.