

Our Parish Community exists to satisfy Hungry Hearts with the Real Presence of Christ

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church and
Saint Joseph/Bread of Life Community
St. Paul Church (Mission)



March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent



SACRED HEART OF JESUS

816 West 26th St, Erie, PA 16508

ST. JOSEPH BREAD OF LIFE

147 West 24th St, Erie, PA 16502

ST. PAUL CHURCH (Mission)

1617 Walnut St, Erie, PA 16502

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri, 8-4

at St. Joseph Bread of Life

Phone: 814-452-2982

SUNDAY HOURS:

9:45-11:00 am

at Sacred Heart

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 4:00 pm @ St. Paul

Sunday 8:45 am @ Sacred Heart

10:45 am @ St. Joseph BOL

WEEKDAY MASSES:

at St. Joseph Bread of Life

Monday & Tuesday at 7:00 am

Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Thursday & Friday at 7:00 am

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays

1 pm – 2:00 pm @ Sacred Heart

3:15 pm – 3:45 pm @ St. Paul and

Wednesdays, 4:45 – 5:45 pm @ St. Joseph

CONTACT US:

PASTORAL STAFF

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 March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent

To my Family of Sacred Heart (St. Paul) and St. Joseph/BOL Parishes,

A CSA THANK YOU: We are off to a good start for this year's Catholic Services Appeal! Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to our parishes. Our three faith communities, each with their own rich history and beautiful traditions, are truly becoming one family. To survive and thrive, we must become one family. We are not there yet, but we are surely getting there. Look, troubles are to be expected. Even the Brady Bunch had troubles when they joined together. But do not let your heart be worried. I want to see us become an absolutely amazing parish community, and I believe that most of you want that too. Together, right now, we are facing challenges, overcoming obstacles – and with our eyes on Christ – we are taking the next good step forward. Truly, we are satisfying hungry hearts with the real presence of Christ. Our parish CSA project, the upgrading of the sound systems at all three churches, is definitely a good step forward. When Deacon Tony preaches one of his humorous, profound and convicting sermons, we want to hear him clearly! If the deacon says, “do love one another,” but your kids hear, “please shove your brother” - it's not a good thing! Your CSA donation is making the new sound systems possible. Thanks for dropping a pledge in the basket. Awesome things are happening!

CARING FOR THE KIDS THIS LENT: The families, children and teens of our parish community are a tremendous blessing! Always remember – *If the church ain't crying, then the church is dying!* Well, we are alive and crying! Our middle-schoolers are on retreat this Sunday. What a great way for them to enter fully into Lent. Our high school kids are looking forward to November's trip to Indianapolis and the National Catholic Youth Conference. Our younger ones have the June Vacation Bible School on their horizon. For now, though, our youth are encouraged to pick up a Lenten “project” as they leave Mass each weekend. The activities are not only faith-building, but fun as well. Plan, too, to bring your children to the “Kids Track” of the Lenten Parish Mission. This is a great way for them to share in the life of our Catholic Church. God bless our kids! They are a treasure!

SHORT TAKES: Many thanks to the ladies of the Altar Society and all who have worked so hard to make this weekend's spaghetti dinner a success. Please stop by and enjoy a wonderful meal . . . Our OCIA candidates – those preparing to enter the Church at the Easter Vigil – are heading to the Cathedral today to meet the bishop and commit to their continued preparation. Please pray for them over these weeks ahead . . . Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be commissioned at St. Paul during the Saturday evening Mass on March 15. May God reward them for their generous service . . . Are you ready for the Lenten Parish Mission? Please pray for me as the preacher, and please pray for an outpouring of the Spirit as we enter into those three nights of mission . . . Stations of the Cross are being prayed each Friday during this Lenten season. What a beautiful way to share in the Paschal Mystery . . . Our parish 9th graders are celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation at a number of different places this spring. The first one happens at St. Luke this week. I look forward to being on the altar . . . Finally, I encourage you to be faithful to your Lenten commitments. Prayer, fasting, self-denial and almsgiving are steps on the path to holiness. May Christ bless you all!

Sacred Heart of Jesus – Have mercy on us!
Mary, Mother of God – Pray for us!
Our Lady of Guadalupe – Pray for us!
St. Joseph – Pray for us!
St. Paul – Pray for us!
 Fr. Steve



Send prayer requests to bfaithful@verizon.net or the Prayer Line at Sacred Heart/St Paul, Call Jeannie at (814) 866-3235 or Debbie at (814) 504-0294, debKnecht004@aol.com. or go to the **NEW WEBSITE** stjoseph-sacredheart.org and click on the prayer request button to submit your prayer request.



Mass Intentions

Monday, March 10 / 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Lenten Weekday

+Fr John Walsh (Dan & Dawn Schaaf)

Tuesday, March 11/ 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Lenten Weekday

+Tom Doyle (Carol Doyle)

Wednesday, March 12 / 6:00 pm, St. Joseph
Lenten Weekday

+Geraldine DeMarco (Family)

Thursday, March 13 / 7:00 am, St Joseph
Lenten Weekday

+Ted Kierzek (Nancy Murray)

Friday, March 14 / 7:00 am, St. Joseph
Lenten Weekday

+Patrick J. DiPaolo (Mom & Dad)

Saturday, March 15 / 4:00 pm at St. Paul
Lenten Weekday

+Living & Deceased Members of the Parishes

Sunday, March 16 / 8:45 am Sacred Heart
Second Sunday of Lent
+Joel Buckel (Michele & Bunny)

Sunday, March 16 / 10:45 am St Joseph BOL
+Carmen Ruggiero (Family)

FIND YOUR MISSION

JOIN the Knights of Columbus Meetings held the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. In the Sacred Heart Auditorium. NEXT MEETING: March 10th



Please Pray For the Following:

Please keep the following requests in your conversations with God:

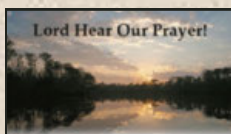
Healing—Jim

Strength/Healing—Nathaniel

Peace/Strength—Peggy, Dan, Marcia

Eternal Rest—Jim, Bob, Georgia

Living & Deceased Members of the Parish



Perpetual Adoration

We are always in need of Committed Adorers in our Adoration Chapel at St Joseph BOL. Please sign up for an hour with Jesus! Call or text Geoff & Amber Dietz at 814-403-3921 to sign up .

The following 62 hours are in need of another committed adorers.

Sunday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 6 AM, 8 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 11 PM

Monday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 9 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM, 9 PM, 11 PM

Tuesday: 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 10 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 11 PM

Wednesday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 3 AM, 12 PM

Thursday: 1 AM, 2 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 11 PM

Friday: 1 AM, 2 AM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 7 PM, 11 PM

Saturday: 12 AM, 1 AM, 2 AM, 3 AM, 4 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 6 PM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM

Please commit to 1 hour for Jesus!

This week the Church Sanctuary Candle will burn in memory of:



(SH) PATRICK J. DIPAOLO FROM FAMILY
(SJ) JOSEPH GAROFALO FROM ELLEN, JIMMY & JENNA
ADORATION CHAPEL:
JOSEPH GAROFALO FROM ELLEN, JIMMY & JENNA

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE A SANCTUARY CANDLE OR BREAD AND WINE MEMORIAL IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 814-452-2982.

BREAD & WINE MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED THIS WEEK IN MEMORY OF:
ELIZABETH & ALBERT FEIKLS FROM ROBERT FEIKLS

Sacred Heart Altar Society March Meeting

March 12th beginning at 6:00 with Rosary Followed by business meeting and hospitality. Join us! All women from Sacred Heart, St. Paul, and St. Joseph/Bread of Life encouraged to join us in our mission and adventures.



Lenten prayer

Dear God, During Lent help us to keep our eyes on Jesus. Help us to spend more time talking and listening to you. Help us to share what we have with others and be sorry for times we have done wrong.
Amen



Thank you for your generous support of our churches!



Weekly Offerings-2/23/25

	Offertory + CSA
St. Joseph BOL CSA 2025	\$ 4,122.52 \$ 2,269.00
Sacred Heart / St. Paul	\$ 5,727.00

You may give online at easytithes.com

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 2025

SUNDAY: DT 26:4-10/PS 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (see 5B)/ROM 10:8-13/LK 4:1-13
 MONDAY: LV 19:1-2, 11-18/PS 19:8, 9, 10, 15/MT 25:31-46
 TUESDAY: IS 55:10-11/PS 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/MT 6:7-15
 WEDNESDAY: JON 3:1-10/PS 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/LK 11:29-32
 THURSDAY: EST C:12, 14-16, 23-25/PS 138:1-2aB, 2CD6-3, 7C-8/MT 7:7-12
 FRIDAY: EZ 18:21-28/PS 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7BC-8/MT 5:20-26
 SATURDAY: DT 26:16-19/PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/MT 5:43-48



CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments- Pledge to Heal:

The Diocese of Erie remains committed to helping survivors of clergy sexual abuse heal and recover. The diocese will provide counseling assistance for those who have been abused by a member of the clergy. For more information, please contact Dr. Gerard Tobin, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 814-451-1521. *The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact their local law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the diocese, email ErieRCD@KLGates.com. Victims/survivors or concerned individuals can report abuse directly to the diocese by calling 814-451-1543.*

Thanks for coming to the February Family Dinner at St. Paul. It was a great night of food, fellowship and faith. Special thanks to our Rigatoni and Meatball Chefs and all



The volunteers who helped make this meal possible. Chief cooks were Rick and Jean King, Scott Panetta & Mark Macerata!

Kinship Korner

Easter Basket Collection

As Easter approaches this year, we will again be helping Community Shelter Services (CSS) by collecting Easter basket items for the homeless and at-risk children in their programs. The dead line for donations is April 13th. The following items are requested:

Easter baskets, Easter "grass", individual size wrapped Easter candy, and any small toys such as stuffed animals, plastic toys, Hot Wheel cars, coloring books, crayons, or any other small item you think a child would like to find in their basket.

This collection was a great success last year and because of that, they requested our assistance again this year. These items can be placed in the storage totes marked Kinship in the entryways of SPs or SJ/BOL or in the Kinship box located under the Holy Family statue at SH.

Bags of Hope

Below is a photograph showing the handmade Blessing Bags from Mary Temple's Sew What group. Each bag had personal care items, socks, pants, sweatshirts, hats, scarves, mittens, plus the 2 pairs of donated sneakers, and 4 coats. The bags were taken to St. Patrick's Haven for distribution. St. Pat's Haven is a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph not the SSJ Neighborhood Network as stated in an earlier bulletin.



Tom Hudson 814-864-1615 Kinship Ministry and Sharon Bond 814-450-7748 Bags of Hope Coordinators



Building Greeters & Ushers Ministry

Sacred Heart Church is looking for more Greeters and Ushers for the 8:45 a.m. Mass. If you want to learn more about the ministry.

Please see Jean Malthaner or talk to one of the ushers at Mass.

Letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

Romans 8:6

Live LENT...

as a selfless servant.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Why attend this powerful prayer?

We can look at suffering from a different perspective.

Our Lord understands our struggles and gives us the grace we need to bear them well. We can learn how to do this from His example. He endured His suffering with patience, dignity, and humility. Jesus never stopped loving, forgiving, and praying for his persecutors. Even though the situation was so intense, He obeyed God's Will. His response to such an extreme situation was one of love. He endured it for our salvation. From His example, we can learn to love with humility and patience despite our broken world.

Fridays during Lent at Sacred Heart Church at 7 p.m.



Lenten Activity Projects for kids & families

Will be available every week at every church After Masses. Join in this journey of Lent with fun activities featuring ways for your children to learn more about Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving during Lent.

Look for your packet every week!



Magnificat Lenten Booklets

are available at the entrances of all churches. These are a great way to include prayer and reflection time into your daily schedule during this Lenten Season. They are free. Pick one today!



LENTEN PARISH MISSION

MARCH 17-19, 2025

**at St. Joseph BOL Church
Hosted by St. Joseph Bread of Life and Sacred Heart (St. Paul) Parishes
Preacher: Fr. Steve Schreiber**

Monday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day - Diocese of Erie Patron)
6:10 Music, 6:30 Welcome and Opening Prayer
Mission Talk: The Epic Adventure of Following Christ
7:15-8 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction

Tuesday, March 18
6:10 Music, 6:30 Welcome and Prayer
6:35 Confession Preparation Talk: Coming to Their Senses
7:15 Individual Confessions with 5 priests

**Wednesday, March 19
(Solemnity of St. Joseph - Patronal Feast)**
6:10 Music, 6:30 Welcome, 6:35 Mass for the Solemnity
7:30 Fellowship in the Community Center

Everyone is welcome
147 West 24th Street, Erie

Parish Mission Kids Track for students in Grades 1-8

Please bring your school aged children to the Parish Mission. They will join in child friendly prayer activities in the Community Center with our Faith Formation Leaders Clint & Stacey Badowski while you attend the adult mission in church. They will join the mission in church for adoration, confession and Mass.



Faith Formation

Clint Badowski

faithformation@stjoesbol.org



Meet the Catechist

Katie Schwenk
6th-8th Grade EDGE

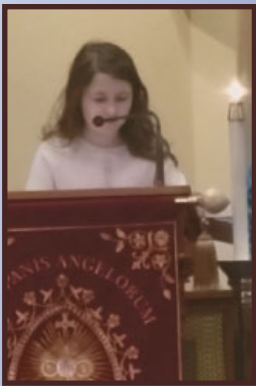
How long have you been a catechist and what grades have you taught?
I have been a catechist for 4 years. I have taught 3rd previously, and this year I am in the 6th-8th grade Edge room and teaching First Holy Communion.

What is something about our Faith that inspires you?
The Rosary

What is your favorite part about being a catechist?
Listening to how youth sees God in everyday life.

What is something about your faith you wish you knew sooner?
I wish I found how awesome prayer is at a younger time in my life.

If you could ask Jesus one question in person, what would it be?
I do not know if can honestly narrow down all the questions I have for Him and pick just 1. But I would definitely start the conversation with Thank you for never giving up on me.



Deacon Dabblings

LENT: IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

Every year, as Lent approaches, most of us begin to think about what we are going to do to make this season meaningful. Many lean toward giving something up for Lent, the most popular being giving up sweets, and certain recreational activities, and. This allows us to make a sacrifice and at the same time drop an inch or two off the waistline. I have been guilty of this for many years only to eat three pounds of chocolate on Easter Sunday and regain the weight that was lost. Lately though, rather than giving something up, I have been leaning toward doing something(s) positive to grow Spiritually during this season. I came across an article that used inanimate objects to describe what would be the best thing to do to improve their existence during Lent. See what you think.

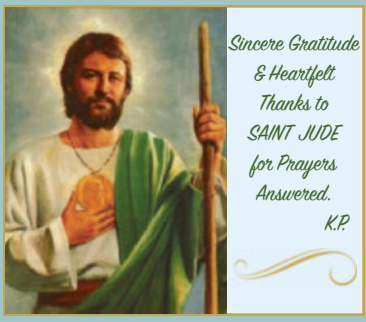
If we were knives, Lent would be a time to sharpen our cutting edges. If we were cars, Lent would be a time for an oil change and a tune-up. If we were swimming pools, Lent would be a time to filter the dirt out of our water. If we were gardens, Lent would be a time to fertilize our soil and dig out our weeds. If we were carpets, Lent would be a time to get power cleaned. If we were VCRs, Lent would be a time to clean our heads and adjust our tracking. If we were computers, Lent would be a time to overhaul our disk drive. If we were highways, Lent would be a time to repair our cracks and fill our chuckholes. If we were TV sets, Lent would be a time to adjust our focus and our fine-tuning. If we were silverware, Lent would be a time to clean away our tarnish. If we were batteries, Lent would be a time to be recharged. If we were seeds, Lent would be a time to germinate and reach for the sun.¹

But we are none of these things: We are people who sometimes do wrong things, and we must atone for them. We are people who sometimes get spiritually lazy; we need to get back into shape. We are people who sometimes become selfish; we need to abandon our nearsightedness and begin thinking of others again. We are people who sometimes lose sight of our purpose on earth and the wonderful potential within us so, we need to regain our vision. And because we are also people who sometimes tend to put those things off, we need to make time for important things in our life. So, we have Lent, a holy time of reflection, prayer, and sacrifice.

This is the First Sunday of Lent and Holy Week seems so far off. But is it really? We must prepare ourselves to live our lives in the way Christ demands. We must start today. Jesus didn't just go out and square off against the devil. No, he prepared himself through isolation and prayer. And we need to do the same thing because just like Jesus, temptation will constantly come into our life, and we have to be prepared to fend it off. So, whether your Lenten promise is to give up sweets, or to stop poking the cat with a fork, everyday make time for prayer, and quiet reflection, reach out to those in need, mend any quarrels with others, and make this Lenten season the most wonderful time of the year!

Peace of Christ,
Deacon Tony

¹<http://www.stagnes.rcec.london.on.ca/lenten.htm>



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& Heartfelt
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for Prayers
Answered.
K.P.*

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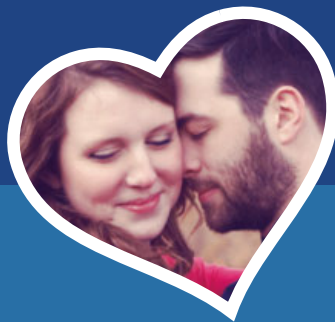


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