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FAMILY PRACTITIONER

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- Saint Patrick

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NEW PARISHIONERS REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

STREET _____

CHECK NEW REGISTRATION CHANGE ADDRESS

For advertising information, contact Minuteman Press • 724.346.1105

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
601 Roemer Blvd.
Farrell, Pa. 16121
Mass time Saturday 4:00 PM

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Glenn Whitman

Weekend Assistance :

Fr. Frank DiCristina

Secretary/Bookkeeper:

Pam Rabold

Organist :

Maureen Murray

Choir Director:

Christina Russo

Liturgical/Maintenance

Joann Horner

Catholic Cemetery Association:

Foreman - Thomas Cimoric

Altar Rosary Chair:

Jean Mabie

Cavatelli Crew Chair:

Flo Fusco

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY

9:00 TO 2:00

724-346-3359

EMAIL:

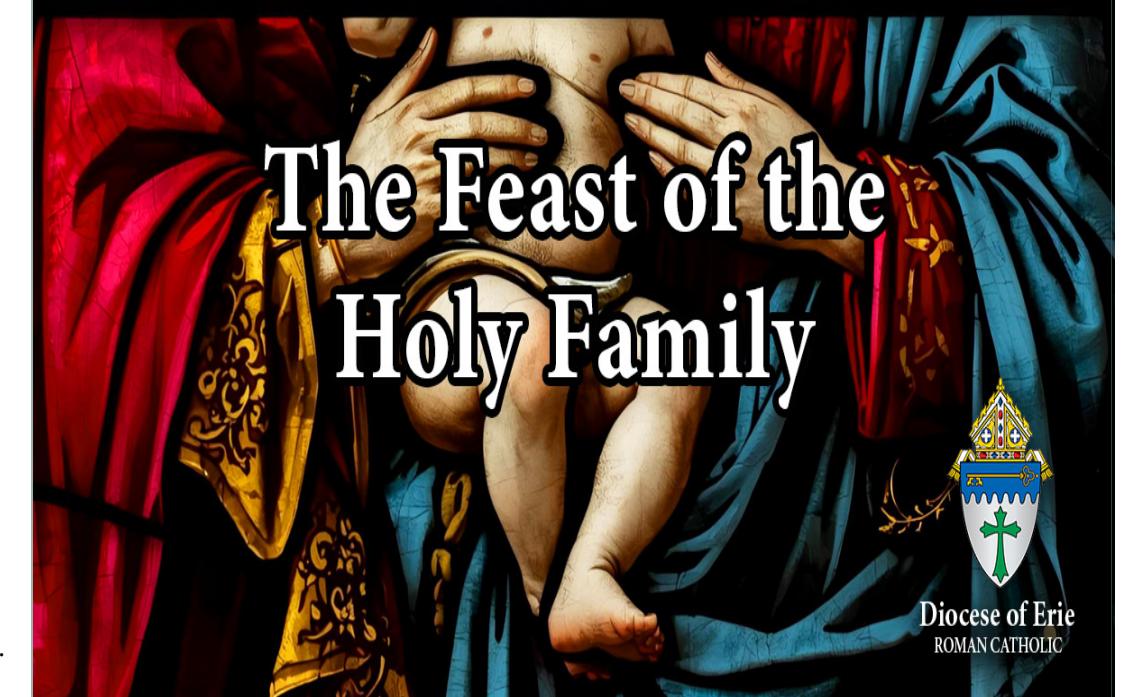
olfrctry@yahoo.com

BAPTISMS:

Please call Parish office

WEDDINGS:

Arrangements six months
in advance. Call Parish office.



Diocese of Erie
ROMAN CATHOLIC

Week of December 28, 2025, Calendar of Events

Monday Dec 29: OFFICE CLOASED

Tuesday, Dec 30: 9:00AM Making Fatima Cavatelli
In the Good Shepherd Social Hall

Wednesday Dec 31: 4:00PM NEW YEARS EVE MASS

Thursday Jan 1: 12:15PM MASS----- FEAST OF MARY

Friday Jan 2: OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, Jan 3: 4:00PM MASS

12/20/2025, 12/25/2025 AND 12/27/2025 WILL PRINT ON
01/3/2025 BULLETIN

# of Registered Families	379
# of Envelopes Used	
Cemetery Fund	\$
Offertory Collection	\$
Loose Offertory	\$



Intentions

SATURDAY, Dec 27 at 4:00 pm
MASS
Mary Lou Cimoric
Jim Shollenberger

Requested By

Husband, Tom
Wife, Karen

Monday, Dec 29 at 6:30 am

Prayer Service

Tuesday, Dec 30 at 6:30 am

Prayer Service

Wednesday, Dec 31 4:00PM
NEWYEARS EVE MASS
FOR ALL DECEASED
PARISHIONERS

Thursday Jan 1, 12:15 MASS

FEAST OF MARY

FIRST Friday MASS Jan 3 at 7:00am

Fr. Frank – Healthy Recovery

Juraj Mijo Rozman

Saturday, Jan 4 at 4:00 pm MASS

James Marasco

Beverly Palermo

Mark Szugye

Bob & Ginna From

MINISTRY
SCHEDULE

LECTOR

SATURDAY
4:00 PM
JAN 3

EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTERS

Debbie Andursky
Tresa Templeton

ALTAR
SERVERS

Joe Perrico
John Jarocki
Jean Burke

GREETERS

John Jarocki
Jean Burke

Altar Candles the Week of
DEC 28 thru JAN 3, 2026

SANCTUARY LIGHT

BETTY POWELL

From Vic Petrykowski

BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR

CYNTHIA REICHENBACHER

From Tracy Templeton

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

PERRY TEMPLETON

From Tracy Templeton

Blessed Virgin Mary Altar Flowers

For this week were donated in memory of

JANICE GRANDE

From Brian & Carol Wingrove

I know Jesus was born in a manger, but why is that important and what does it mean?

When the child Jesus was born, his mother Mary laid him in a manger (Lk 2:7). The word “manger” comes from the Latin word *manducare* which means “to eat.” A manger or crib is a wooden or stone feeding trough or food box that holds hay for larger farm animals like cattle, horses, and donkeys. Mangers were located wherever livestock were kept, places like stables, corrals, or caves. Farmers were sure to keep their mangers well-supplied with fodder at all times so the animals would never go hungry. The cattle can walk up to a manger at any time, and then spend long, leisure hours chomping away, chewing and slowly re-chewing their cud.

When Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem there was no room for them at the inn, so they were forced to find lodging elsewhere, probably in a cave where animals were staying. When Jesus was born, Mary would not have wanted to lay her infant on the hard, cold, stone floor. Instead, she had to make due with what was available and the manger proved to be a convenient alternative: the hay was soft, the box was up and off the ground, and the sides tall enough to keep her child safely inside.

Once laid there, an angel told the shepherds that they would find their newborn Messiah and Lord “lying in a manger” (Lk 2:12). They went in haste and found the child in the feeding trough and they feasted their eyes on him (Lk 2:16).

Jesus was not laid in a manger by accident. It is a major spiritual symbol. Animals go to the manger for physical food, but with Jesus lying on the hay, we can go to the manger for spiritual food. Jesus has an infinite storehouse of nourishment available, and we can approach him any time and never go hungry. Jesus feeds us with Word and Sacrament, his gospel and the Eucharist. Jesus wants us to devour his word (Jer 15:16; Ez 3:1; Rev 10:9-10), chew on it, slowly ruminate on its meaning, swallow and digest it, and make it part of the fabric of our being. Jesus’ Word is like no other food, it has the power to save our souls (Jas 1:21). Not only that, the infant in the feeding trough is the Bread of Life (Jn 6:35), the true bread come down from heaven, and whoever eats this bread will live forever (Jn 6:51). If a person wants to be spiritually well-fed, it is important to read Scripture and receive the Eucharist often.

The manger is a momentous sign that Jesus is sustenance for us. The shepherds feasted first. Now it is our turn. Jesus born on the first Christmas is food for our souls.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWER LIST 2025

Martinko, Karen John Martinko, Thomas & Mary Sansosh, John & Susan Martinko, Patsy & Carrie Fragle
Mikota, Lorraine Mrs. Mary Esmond, Mr. Leo Esmond, Mr. Joseph Mikota
Miller, M/M Jerome Felix & Sugar Zappa, Ralph & Mary Miller
Missory, M/M Robert
Nevant, Mrs. Thomas Carmen & Tresa Tizio, Nevant Family, Cynthia Reichenbacher
Nicoloff, Mrs. Joan Mae & Julius Kurpe, Donald Kurpe, Molly Merritt
Pacsi, Rita Pacsi & Suchy Family
Palermo, Beverly Edward A. Palermo, Michael A. Palermo, Beverly V. Palermo
Rabold, Pamela Joseph & Arlene Hoak, Mary DeCarmen, Barbara Hufnagel, Elizabeth "Liz" Cione
Reichenbacher, Adolf Cynthia Reichenbacher
Richnavsky, Joseph Zofia Richnavsky, Mary & Joe Ziolkoski, David Reed, John, Norma & Johnny Joe Vozar
Richnavsky, Sophie Joseph & Sophia Richnavsky Sr., Anthony & Anna Tomczak, Edward Geisler, John & Mary Vozar
Roscoe, Carol Nick Roscoe, Mary Roscoe, Stephen Roscoe, Elaine Allen, Mary Palis
Sakonyi, Christine Harry Mason & Deann (His Daughter), Bob Sakoni, John A. & Assunta Smegal, Frank Gabriel
Santell, M/M Robert Norbert & Helen Santell, John & Yolanda Haas
Schuster, M/M Willaim Walter & Josephine Sobash, William Schuster, Louise Richards, David Schuster
Settle, Rose Armenia & Nunzio Palanti, Terry Carter
Sposito, M/M Richard John M. Sposito, Chris Luchey, Arthur G. Sposito, Agnes Sposito
Stefanak, Jean Ted & Elsie Stefanak, Ted Stefanak Jr., Ken Ulan Sr.
Szugye, Dolly Szugye Family
Templeton, Tresa Perry Templeton, John & Betty Tizio, Cynthia Reichenbacher, Fr. Matt
Thomas, Beverly William Thomas, Johanna & Paul Vernille, Pauline & Roy McBriar, John Jr., Jeffrey, Valerie
Vernille, Janet Vernille, Thomas & Vernille Deceased, DeMartinis & Zappa Deceased, Carol
Greene, Petty Jane Trontel
Tobin, M/M Michael Danny DelliBovi, Dolores DelliBovi, Christopher A. Dillon
Vargo, M/M Robert Rose Jovenall, Raymond Jovenall, Theresa Komar, Ivan Komar
Visniski, M/M Joseph Bayuk Family, The Visniski Family
Williot, M/M Gene Frank & Jennie Williot

AS WE GATHER, THIS YEAR, TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF
OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST,
LET US REMEMBER OUR MANY LOVED ONES THAT
CAME BEFORE US. THEY GAVE US
OUR FAITH, OUR LOVE AND OUR FRIENDSHIP FOR EACH OTHER.
MAY THEY ALL REST IN THE ARMS OF OUR LORD.

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

The angel told Joseph in a dream to take the child and his mother to the land of Israel.

I once saw a painting of the Holy Family that showed Joseph doing carpentry while Jesus held a tool and Mary watched at the door, doing nothing. Not like any family I know.

We know what real families are like. In a real family, Jesus would have been getting in his father's way or off somewhere else when Joseph wanted help. Mary would have been working keeping the house livable and the family fed.

If that picture of Joseph's workshop is of a holy family, we're all out of luck. All we can do is stare at it wistfully and think of how nice it would be if all families were perfect. If family holiness is some impossible situation of goodness, harmony, cleanliness and hard work, there is no reason for us to celebrate this day.

Perhaps the painting was wrong. Maybe Jesus was a pest around the house. Maybe Mary shouted herself hoarse calling him to meals. Maybe Joseph got so caught up in his work that Mary and Jesus stood at the workshop door, ignored. Maybe Mary sometimes burned the bread.

We just celebrated the birth of Jesus and our faith tells us that God wasn't play-acting at being human. Jesus really needed to be toilet trained, he really got bumps and bruises horsing around with his friends. Yes, he could be a pest! The family we call the Holy Family was not all that different from other families.

The word “holy” comes from the word healthy. Holiness is a sort of health, and health may be a path for us to understand holiness. When we're healthy we move through life with a certain confidence – not

fearing life or the world or that everyday we're going to face a calamity. Holiness is also a kind of confidence, a confidence that God's love for us is stronger than sin or death.

Consider those people who make physical and mental health the exclusive object of their lives each and every day. They can be burdensome to us. They are neither happy nor truly healthy, because health is a by-product of a certain kind of life. One who walks, runs, climbs or dances for the joy of it is healthy.

Holiness, too, is a result, not an objective. When I'm filled with amazement at God's love, especially during these days of the Christmas season, and share that love with people in my life, I become holy. I feel my prayer is joyful; I pray with gusto. If I turn prayer into some form of spiritual calisthenics, I will be neither happy nor holy.

That takes us back to the Holy Family. It was holy not because it lived an exalted life unavailable to the rest of us. It was holy because it was a group of people not unlike ourselves who loved, who lived, who wept and laughed. Theirs was a home in which a boy could, as the Scriptures say, “grow in strength and size, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was with him.”

Our homes can be the same, maybe more than we realize they are. They have their problems, no family is without them. Every mother feels swords pierce her heart from time to time. Home is where we learn to love...and to love God. That's where we practice sharing, openness and patience; and that is a reflection of God's love for us all.

May 2026 be a blessing for all your families!

Father Glenn and Father Frank



CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments- Bullying is defined as any unwanted aggressive behavior by another youth or group of youths that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. 20% of youth ages 12-18 experience bullying. When adults respond quickly to bullying behavior, they send the message that bullying is not acceptable. There are ways parents can make a positive difference. Parents can educate themselves on the signs that a child is being bullied or is a bully. Parents should keep the lines of communication open with their child and model for their child how to treat others. Encourage your child to be inclusive by welcoming others to join their activities and groups. For more information on how to prevent bullying in your community visit www.stopbullying.org.

PARENTING POINTERS

Take time to savor each gift you open and appreciate the giver. Help your children learn that as they receive, so they are also responsible for giving. Choose a charity to support as a family. Remember, those who have less through prayer and a donation.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

“On the fourth Day of Christmas my true love gave to me, four calling birds...” How do you call your true love? Do you have a pet name? Say your spouse’s name with special tenderness today.

A MEANINGFUL GIFT FOR THE NEW YEAR

Planning a wedding in 2026? Start your marriage with intention and faith. Join the **Engagement Encounter** retreat, February 6-8 at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. This weekend fulfills diocesan marriage prep requirements and welcomes **Catholic and interfaith couples**. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email: familylife@erieRCD.org Register online: https://www.eriercd.org/familylifeoffice/Give_yourselves—or_a_couple_you_love—the_gift_of_a_strong_foundation_this_season.

“God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving.”
POPE FRANCIS

CHRISTMAS FLOWER LIST 2025

Algoe, Sandra	Marge Stefanak, Andy Stefanak
Anderson, Kathleen	John T. Anderson, John & Betty Songer, Tom & Betty Anderson
Andrusky, M/M Martin	Rose & Joseph Lombardi
AnnaMarie, Donatelli	Rosaria & Frank Donatelli, Raymond F. Donatelli, Antonio G. Donatelli
Bakondy, David	Simon & Mary Bakondy, James Bakondy, Grace Bakondy
Balcerzak, M/M Arthur	Clement & Evelyn Balcerzak, Kieran, Betty, Dan & Joe Fyfe, Felix, Esther & Luce Solares
Barkovich, M/M Randy	Kasimere Barkovich, Theresa Barkovich, Raymond Jovenall, Rose Jovenall
Bernat, John	Grace Bernat, Jack Bernat
Barnhart, Patricia	George Barnhart Family, John Fabry Family, Garhart Family, Michael May Family
Bartholomew, M/M	Edward & MaryLou Grajcar, Harry & Esther Bartholomew, Donna Beckwith, William & Bertha Toskin, Katie Michelle Pavlik
Berger, M/M Phillip	Dr. & Mrs. A.D. Wiercinski
Bianco, Ray	Cy & Rose Bianco, Arleen Bianco
Braya, M/M Joseph	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Braya
Carpenter, M/M Walter	Carl & Verna Picciotto, Rudy & Violet Carpenter, Anthony & Mary Picciotto, Nicola & Anna Galarde
Chervinko, Farnces	Mary & Bob Chervinko, Pat Chervinko, Deceased Chervinko Family & Deceased Richnavsky Family
Chieffo, Mrs. Paula	Larry Chieffo Sr., Larry Chieffo Jr., Chieffo-Staccine Families
Cimoric, M/M Tom	Joseph Ser (Father), Marlene Ser Jacoby (Sister)
Dillon, M/M Stanley	Mielcarek & Dillon Family, Rogan & Puhala Family
Drabick, John	Drabick & August Families
Falvo, M/M Sam	Falvo Deceased, Bobish Deceased
Fromm, M/M Robert	Gene & Helen Scarmack, Greg & Gerard Scarmack Family
Fusco, Florence	Deceased members of the Gentile Family
Gentile, M/M Joseph	Michael & Margaret Zelch, Nick & Josephine Gligor, Harry & Janice Grande
Gligor, M/M Nick	Ivan & Pauline Ference, Timothy Ference, Mary Rust, Edward Green
Green, Elizabeth	Peter & Catherine Iacino, Sam Iacino, Joseph & Lucille Perriello, Iacino, Perre & Grande Ceased
Iacino, LuAnn	Joseph & Eleanor Squatrito
Kelecseny, M/M Pat	John J. Krlin Jr., MaryAnn Krlin & Family
Krlin, MaryAnn	Mary Lou Cimoric, Annette Baltes
Klenke, M/M Paul	John R. Kusnir, John A & Pauline Kusnir, John & Yolanda Haas
Kusnir, Linda	Denny Lauderman, Mrs, Cecile Lauderman Sr., Mr. Charles Lauderman Sr. Margaret Oncea
Lauderman, Cecile	Dominic & Victoria Lombardi
Lombardi, Luigi	Joseph & Marie Lyden, Dennis Lyden, Michael Lyden
Lunich, Janet	Anthony & Rose Magnotto, The Pasin & Paleita Family, Virginia Olsen
Magnotto, Marilyn	Salvadore “Sonny” & Dorothy Mancino, Philip & Mary Mancino, Mark Taylor, Marisa Perrico
Mancino, Cynthia	Carl & Pauline Marks, Grace & Carmen Pastore, Deceased members of the Marks & Lipani Families
Marks, MaryRose	Nick Marnejon, Paul & Angeline Agresti, Agnes Juric, Leon & Picini Families
Marnejon, Mrs. Nick	