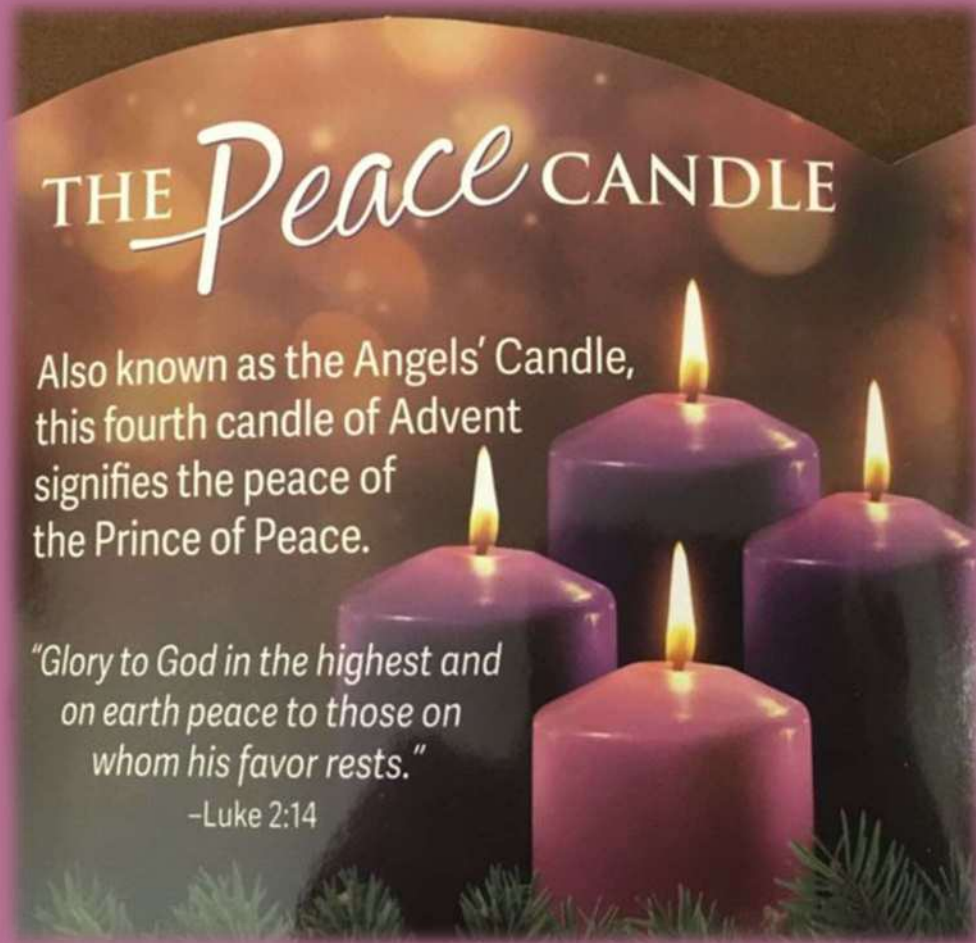


FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21, 2025



Saint Stanislaus & Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Churches

516 East 13th Street

Erie, Pennsylvania 16503

St. Stanislaus: 814.452.6606; Our Mother of Sorrows: 814.452.4832

www.ststanserie.org or www.motherofsorrowerie.org

email: ststaner@outlook.com or hgangemi@breezeline.net

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

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

Mrs. Helen Gangemi, Secretary

Kay Villa, Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Sunday & Monday: Closed

Tuesday - Saturday: By Appointment

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS APOSTOLATE AT ST. HEDWIG'S

LATIN MASS: Sunday at 9:30AM

Tuesday at 5:30PM

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 21st: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Private: Souls in Purgatory by Dr. Hal Angeloff
11:00am (SC) Henry and Elizabeth Hart by Kathy Mays

Monday, December 22nd: Late Advent Weekday

12:05pm (SA) Bernie Zilonka by Gloria Palmer and Family

Tuesday, December 23rd: Saint John of Kanty

12:05pm (SA) Robert Jurino by wife and son

Wednesday, December 24th: Christmas Eve

12:05pm (SA) No Mass at 12:05PM
* 4:00pm (SC) Charles Brower, Anniversary by wife and family

Thursday, December 25th: The Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day

* 11:00am (SC) Sandra Kujan Demchak, Birthday by Robert Demchak

Friday, December 26th: Saint Stephen

12:05pm (SA) John and Mary Cyparski by The Dombkowski Family

Saturday, December 27th: Saint John

Private: Special Intentions of Stephen Waterford

Sunday, December 28th: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Private: Souls in Purgatory by Dr. Hal Angeloff
11:00am (SC) Pat Hart by Kathy Mays

CONFESSIONS: Monday-Friday, 11:30-11:55AM (St. Ann's)

MASS INTENTIONS (Saint Stanislaus)

Mon., Dec. 22nd - Private Intention
Tues., Dec. 23rd - Stella Lewandowski (Joseph Orsledi & Mary Breckner)
Wed., Dec. 24th - For all Priests of the Diocese of Erie
Thur., Dec. 25th - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Fri., Dec. 26th - Martha Malanowski (Agostini Family)
Sat., Dec. 27th, 4:00PM - For the People of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Sun., Dec. 28th, 9:00AM - Mary Brocius (Dennis Nowacinski)

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— Father John Muir

St. Stan's

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Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14/Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Thursday: Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17/Mt 10:17-22
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1-8
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-5/Col 3:12-21/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Mother of Sorrows

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SANCTUARY CANDLES

SAINT STANISLAUS: For all Unborn Children and the Homeless

HOLY FAMILY: 1) Galla & Walach Families by Paul & Lisa Galla; 2) Joseph Stahon by Family

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

ST. ANN'S: 1) Joseph Pochatko by Family; 2) Charles Chase by Charlotte & Family

ST. CASIMIR'S: 1) Bernie Zilonka by Gloria Palmer & Family; 2) Theresa Juchno by Michelle Owens

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

December 24th: Christmas Eve

3:30PM - Kolendy (St. Stanislaus)
4:00PM - Christmas Eve Mass (St. Stanislaus)
4:00PM - Christmas Eve Mass (St. Casimir's)*

December 25th: Christmas Day

9:00AM - Christmas Day Mass (St. Stanislaus)
11:00AM - Christmas Day Mass (St. Casimir's)*

January 1st: Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day)

9:00AM - St. Stanislaus
10:00AM - St. Ann's*

***Please note these corrections from previous bulletins.**

FROZEN PIEROGI

St. Stanislaus has homemade frozen pierogi available for purchase. The cost is \$25 per dozen. If interested, call the Parish Office, or talk to John Villa or Fr. Jason.

CHRISTMAS OPLATEK

Christmas Oplatek (wafers) will be available at St. Stanislaus during the Advent and Christmas seasons. A monetary donation to offset their cost would be appreciated. You can pick up your Oplatek in the vestibule of the church, or by contacting the Parish Office.

JANUARY LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society has lottery raffle tickets available. Only five dollars gives you 31 chances to win throughout the month of January, 2026. You win if your ticket number matches the PA Daily Lottery Drawing. Tickets will be available in the vestibule of the church, from any member of the Holy Name Society, Fr. Jason, or by calling the parish office. Tickets make great stocking stuffers!

THE HAGEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

...proudly announces the opening of a landmark exhibit, "The Story of Us, Erie Polonia: Churches & Neighborhoods," curated by St. Stan's very own Bobby J. Sulecki. The exhibit runs through January 30, 2026, on the second floor of the Wood-Morrison House, 338 West 6th St., and is included with general admission. The exhibit explores the founding of St. Stanislaus, the Mother Church of Erie's Polonia, followed by Holy Trinity, St. Hedwig, and St. Casimir's, and others.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our next Eucharistic Adoration will take place on the third Sunday of January, the 18th, following the 9:00AM Mass until about 11:00AM. Considering making adoration a New Year's Resolution.



MARY, DID YOU KNOW?

Mary, did you know, that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know, that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new? This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know, that your baby boy will give sight to the blind man? Mary, did you know, that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God? Mary, did you know?

The blind will see. The deaf will hear. The dead will live again! The lame will leap. The dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb!

Mary, did you know, that your baby boy is the Lord of all creation? Mary, did you know, that your baby boy will one day rule the nations? Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb? And the sleeping child you're holding is the great I AM!

THE FIRST TRANSFIGURATION

I imagine Joseph waking up the morning after the dream, blinking in the dim half-light of the dawn.

One day, decades from now, the baby his wife carries will stand on a mountaintop. His face will shine like the sun, and those who look upon him will fall down upon their own faces in fear.

We call this the transfiguration, and Joseph won't be there to see it. But that doesn't matter. What those men will learn on the mountaintop, Joseph already knows. He learned it last night.

Today, he shrugs off the remnants of slumber and stands up.

"Rise, and do not be afraid." This is what the baby — a baby no longer, but a man now, one in the last days of his life — will say to his companions on the mountain a few decades from now. They will look up to see him standing there the same as he always was, and they will realize that he did not change at all. They did.

"Do not be afraid." This is what the angel said last night as he revealed to Joseph the will of God: that Joseph take Mary and the Child as his own, despite having so many reasons not to do so. And today Joseph wakes up and the world is the same as it always was: Mary is pregnant, and the Child does not belong to him.

No, the world has not changed. Joseph has. He rises, and goes to Mary.

Advent is drawing quickly to a close, and Christmas is coming soon. The change is upon us. Do we rise to accept it, or do we fall on our faces in fear?

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