

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF...

Marie Zacherl, Eleanor Kahle and Our
Grandmothers
Violet Bennett
Helen Selker, Grace Potvin
My Mother – Emily Kathryn Bower
Alda Zacherl & Elenor Ochs
Florence Heinrich
Lucrezia Gigliotti & Erla Rombold
Imelda Griebel
Celia Schaeffer & Barb Bailey
Elizabeth Kurtzhals & Rose Amato
Lavada Slagle & Anna Pokrifka
Marian Lander
Flo Best, Flo Fescenmyer, Poppy Myers
Olive Glosser
Ginger Rex
Dorothy McNaughton
Adam's & Walter Families
Connie Badamo, Our Grandmothers & God
Mothers
Dorothy Kerle
Rosella Childs
Betty Wolbert & Our Grandmothers
Our Mothers & Grandmothers
Linda McMaster
Norma & Jean Stroup
Shirley Neuberfer & Dottie Kratzer
Joanne, Frances, Lillian & Evelynne
Gerry McMillen
Martina Huefner
Catherine Lutz & Helen Radaker
Our Mothers
Dorothy Kaltenbach & Velma Anthony
Florence Heinrich & Pauline Keim
Ann Gesin & Janet Bowman
Lidieth Rojas, Fanny Rodriguez & Hilda
Ortega
Orville & Genevieve Gesin and John &
Threasa Beary
Marsha McLendon, Tempe Boone McLendon
Reynolds, Leola Marion & Alice Reiner
Catherine Schiavo & Antoinette Frese
Sally Bish
Helen Schaefer & Mona McDade
Genevieve Forsythe, Livia Dorazio & Maxine
Burford
Bonnie Showers Clulow, Irene Showers &
Elizabeth Affrica
Phyllis Aaron & Doris Godfrey
Romane Stiglitz & Leota Steele
Linda Ganoe
Rosa Mussano
Mae Stehle & Phyllis Slike
Norma Lauer & Grace Corbett
Dorothy Kaltenbach

REQUESTED BY...

Rose Marie Kahle
Virginia Martin
David & Margaret Potvin
Dorothy Mechling
Tom & Jackie Zacherl
Leona Heinrich
Rick & Celeste Rombold
Carol Smail
Nancy Weidner
Susie Amato
Catherine Pokrifka
Rob & Lynne Fleisher
Kathy Glosser
Peggy & Kelly Rex
Don & Darlene McNaughton
Regis & Pat Walters
Frank & Anne Badamo
Brian & Laurie Kerle
Analisa & Jeffrey Childs
Paul & Rose Weaver
Jim & Mary Lou Delaney
Anita McMaster
Barb & John Stroup
John & Carol Truscott
Karen Schmidt
Sue & Theresa McMillen
Jean & John Blachier
Tom & Pat Radaker
Nancy Myers
Stacey & Scott Burris
Betty Keim
Jim & Lisa Bowman
Gustavo Barboza & Sandra Trejos
Rita & Henry Beary
Heather & Robert Reiner
Philip & Estelle Frese
Mitzie Leadbetter
Robert & Karen McDade
Margaret & Butch Burford
Rod Showers
Theresa & Dave Aaron
Mary Lou Steele
Holly & Matt Megnin
Anna Mussano
Susan Slike
Deb & Thomas Lauer
Cheryl Anthony

IN MEMORY OF...

Elaine Leonard, Margorite Thompson, Bell
Harlow, Ethel Thompson & Nanny
Miller

Patty Rapp

Mickey Senard

Ruth Delp & Sis Callen

Doris Piatetski, Jeanne Hufnagel & My
Grandmothers

Helen Bornak & Ruth Smith

Dorothy Faye Beary

Joann Black & Joan H. Lander

Mary Montini DelGreco, Diva DelGreco
Kronika & Norma J. Testa

Bessie Hartle & Ann Kinch

Celia Schaeffer, Sisters: Patty & Barb
Dorothy Stahlman

Eileen Love & Linda Wolbert

Philomenia B. Zacherl, Sr. Caroline, OSB
& Maxine Laupher

Donna Moyer

Helen Young, Ruth Hazelton & Doris Young

Mary Selker

Frances Fesenmyer & Harriet Nick

Martha Kerle, Robin Heasley & Our
Grandmothers

Donna Moyer & Eileen Love

Pearl Mangiantini

Our Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers

Eleanor Hermanowixz & Linda Jack

Our Mothers & Deanna Aaron Coon

Rita Drivet

IN HONOR OF...

Peggy Wolbert & Patricia Edmonds

Katherine Bowler & Brooke Potvin

Peg Beisler

Susan Larrow

Catherine Wagner

Doris Cherico

Janet O'Hara

Teresita Escala & Analisa Childs

Rayna Hoke, Judy Ryder & Elaine Hoke

Dorothy Rice

Nancy Weidner

Phyllis White

Samantha Stitt & Adam's & Walters
Families

Ruby Norton

Nancy Weidner

DONATIONS...

Amy & Rob Bish

Kathryn Klimek

Thomas & Taylor McConnell

Troy & Gina Amsler

Tim & Sharon Griffin

Ruth Ochs

Dorothy Rice

Sandy & Joe Amato

Nancee & Ryan Miles

Deacon Joe & Jen Glover

Belinda & Dave Staab

Shari Krouse

Emmy Hartle

Mona & Fred Fox

Hermalinda & Ignacio Lopez

REQUESTED BY...

Sue & Brad Leonard

Butch & Lisa Rapp

Cathy Zerbe

Madelon Callen

Pam Hufnagel

Susan & Larry Bornak

Cindy & Curly Beary

Terry & Cindy Black

JoAnne Grine

Marcia & Gary Hartle

Mary Jane McCall

Nancy & Frank Wolbert

Mary Lou Zacherl

Maureen Allen

Shelley & Greg Smith

Teresa & Steve Sleker

Elaine & Tom Fesenmyer

Kim & Clay Kroh

Bruce & Marla McCleary

Madge Copenhaver

Stephanie & Ron Wilshire

Fran & Michael Jack

Robert & Pat Aaron

Charlotte Klein

REQUESTED BY...

Sue & Gary Wolbert

David & Margaret Potvin

Barb & John Stroup

Anita McMaster

Paula & Stanley Reed

Lisa & John Norton

Paul & Rose Weaver

Analisa & Jeffrey Childs

Shawn & Rayna Hoke

Kathleen McElravy

Brian & Laurie Kerle

Anne & Frank Badamo

Regis & Pat Walters

Don & Darlene McNaughton

Peggy Rex & Julie Dunlap

PRAYER LIST

May 2026

Art Aaron.
 Nola Aaron.
 Joe Amato.
 Thomas Amato.
 Marcia Bubb.
 Rod Campbell.
 Ethel Clark.
 Connie Colvin.
 Mary Ann Curran.
 Bob DelGreco.
 Joe DelGreco.
 Patte DelGreco.
 Vicki Ferringier.

Nancy J. Ganoe.
 Jane Griebel.
 Jackii Hajjar.
 Darl Henry.
 Mickey Irey.
 Diane Justice.
 Billy O'Malley.
 Debbie Miles.
 Christine Orbich.
 Regis Orbich.
 Pat Radaker.
 Thomas Radaker.

Jean Raker.
 Greg Rhoades.
 Darla Rosenquest.
 Helen Roush.
 Michael Selker.
 Marlene Smerker.
 Bob Smith.
 Airman Alex Stitt.
 Samantha Stitt.
 Linda Summerville.
 Wes Summerville.
 Judy Urbain.

Tom Urbain.
 Judie Vogus.
 Cathy Wagner.
 Brandon Walters.
 Leo Walters.
 Ron Wolbert, Jr.
 Sue Wolbert.

PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS AND NURSING HOME RESIDENTS:

Rita Amsler	Eleanor Hadjuk	Mary Jane	Aldo Scalise	Rosemary Van
Darlene Bailey	Marge	MacKinlay	Melinia Scalise	Ruiten
Delores Beichner	Hargenrader	Jim Miller	Kate Schmader	BeeDee Walters
Kathryn Curran	Helen Hewlett	Sarah Nickerson	Kay Siegworth	
Sandy Dowling	Ron Kopas	Shirley Ragley	Patsy Strohmyer	
Larry Eisenman	Nancy McCann	Sara Rex	Kathleen	
Beulah Groner	David MacKinlay	Walt Robertson	Thompson	
Mary Groner				

If you would like someone's name added to the Prayer List, either complete the form on the parish website or email a request to the Parish Office with the person's FULL NAME. Names must be submitted by the 25th of the month to be included on following month's prayer list. The list is edited quarterly. Names can be resubmitted.

**PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR
May 2026**

Pope's Intention: For faith-filled young people. We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 3

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 10

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 14 (The Ascension of the Lord)

O God, whose Son today ascended to the heavens as the Apostles looked on, grant, we pray, that, in accordance with his promise, we may be worthy for him to live with us always on earth, and we with him in heaven.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 17

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Savior of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 24 (Pentecost Sunday)

Almighty ever-living God, who willed the Paschal Mystery to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days, grant that from out of the scattered nations the confusion of many tongues may be gathered by heavenly grace into one great confession of your name.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Parish Prayer for the week of May 31 (The Most Holy Trinity)

God our Father, who by sending into the world the Word of truth and the Spirit of sanctification made known to the human race your wondrous mystery, grant us, we pray, that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

October COUNT

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,



Each year, the Diocese of Erie participates in the October Count, recording Sunday Mass attendance during October in parishes across our 13 counties. While not a scientific measure, it offers a meaningful snapshot of parish life. Attendance numbers point to something deeper: the

faithful gathering around the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Catholic life.

This year's report reflects a modest but encouraging increase in average weekend Mass attendance from last year. In the years following significant disruption, we are seeing continued stabilization. Parish communities are gathering. Families are returning to Mass. Many are present with renewed intention and faith. These are hopeful signs of renewal.

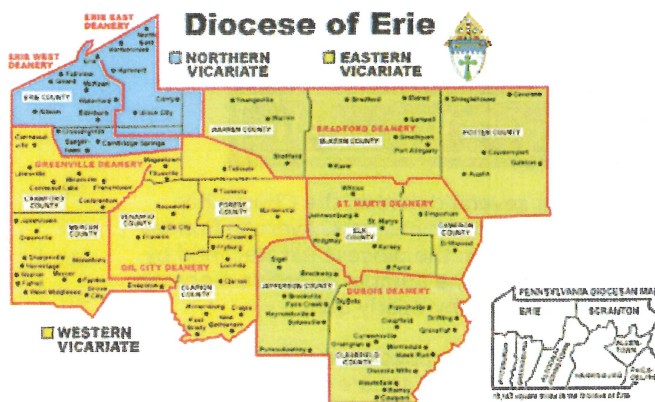
At the same time, the October Count invites us to look at the broader picture. The Church is not simply a collection of buildings or schedules; it is a living body entrusted to our care. Since our first round of pastoral planning in 2017, we have worked to steward our people, priests and resources wisely so that the Eucharist and the sacraments remain accessible across our diocese. This responsibility continues.

The ratio of priests to people remains relatively steady, but the realities of ministry continue to evolve. Fewer priests now carry increasing pastoral and administrative responsibilities, calling for thoughtful discernment and a shared commitment to sustaining vibrant parish life. This reality unfolds as fewer of the faithful gather to worship in churches built decades ago to serve much larger communities.

As we prepare to welcome a new bishop, we look ahead with clarity and hope, trusting that Christ continues to guide His Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of the Diocese of Erie

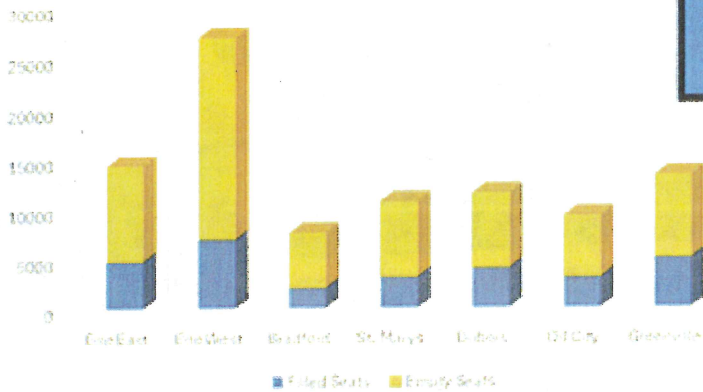


The Diocese of Erie spans 13 counties across northwestern Pennsylvania, covering over 10,000 square miles from Lake Erie to Clearfield County. Serving approximately 190,000 Catholics in 76 parishes, it is geographically one of the largest dioceses in the state, encompassing both urban centers and rural communities.

	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Annual Change (24-25)	Percent Change
Erie West	10,248	9,462	9,092	6,005	6,276	6,721	6,513	6,858	345	5%
Erie East	6,756	6,402	6,070	4,256	4,311	4,644	4,513	4,674	161	4%
Greenville	6,614	6,192	6,062	4,155	4,485	4,646	4,635	4,825	190	4%
DuBois	5,753	5,234	5,007	3,464	3,866	3,961	3,963	3,964	1	0%
Oil City	4,224	3,836	3,873	2,659	2,903	2,977	3,106	3,109	3	0%
St. Marys	4,585	4,307	4,165	2,838	3,030	3,065	3,010	3,077	67	2%
Bradford	2,956	2,726	2,678	1,684	1,885	1,983	1,889	1,983	94	5%
TOTAL	41,138	39,159	36,927	23,041	26,756	28,047	27,629	28,490	+861	+3%

Sunday Mass participation across the Diocese of Erie tells a story of disruption, resilience and gradual return. While attendance has not reached pre-pandemic levels, the October Count shows that Sunday Mass attendance has increased by nearly 14% since the pandemic low in 2021, reflecting steady stabilization across multiple deaneries as parish communities continue to gather to celebrate the Eucharist.

Attendance and Seating by Deanery



SUNDAY SEATING CAPACITY: 92,872
 AVERAGE MASS ATTENDANCE: 28,490

SEATS FILLED: 31%
 SEATS EMPTY: 69%

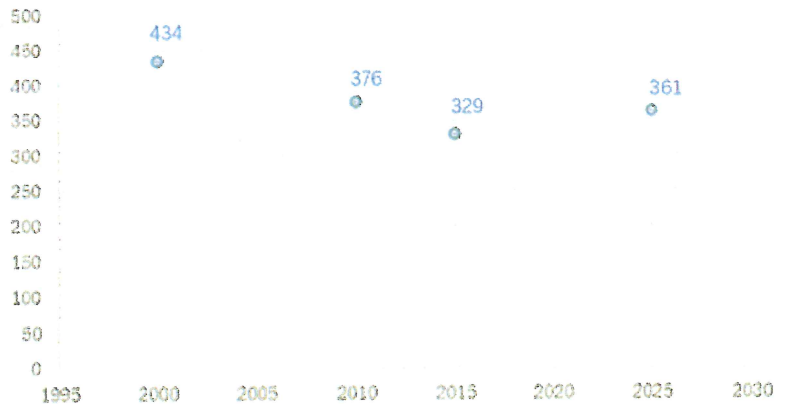
Mass Seating

Across the Diocese of Erie, available church seating significantly exceeds current weekend Mass attendance. This reflects long-term shifts in participation that have occurred across the Catholic Church in the United States.

Attendee to Priest Ratio

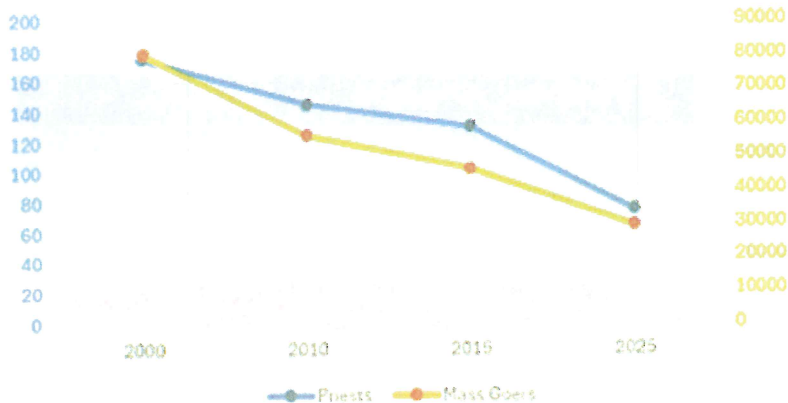
Over the past several decades, the Church has experienced significant changes. Average Sunday Mass participation in the diocese has declined by roughly 65%, while the number of active diocesan priests has declined by nearly 58%.

At the same time, the diocese continues to serve 13 counties, over 10,000 square miles, maintaining churches, parish buildings and ministries throughout the region.



Mass Goers per Priest

Priests and Mass Attendance Trends (2000-2025)



Ratio Trend

Over the past two decades, both the number of diocesan priests and Sunday Mass attendance have steadily declined. While the ratio of priests to Mass attendees has remained relatively consistent, the nature of ministry has changed.

Priests now carry broader responsibilities, often serving multiple parishes, missions and secondary churches, while also managing increased administrative and pastoral demands.

Planning for the Future

With fewer priests and changing patterns of Mass attendance, the Diocese of Erie continues to responsibly adjust parish structures, Mass schedules and collaborations among parish communities to serve the faithful well. These efforts help ensure that the Eucharist and the sacraments remain accessible while strengthening parish life for the future.

Read the full October Count report at ErieRCD.org/OctoberCount.html

