

Benedictine Sisters of Erie celebrate 170 years in Erie, Pennsylvania

The Benedictine Sisters of Erie are celebrating the 170th anniversary of their June 23, 1856, arrival in Erie, Pennsylvania. They were the first women's religious community in the Diocese of Erie and the second Benedictine foundation in the United States. The sisters are inviting the public to celebrate both their past and their future at several events in June and July:

Anniversary Mass: Benedictines 170 Years in Erie

On Sunday, June 14, 9:30 am, the public is invited to a special Anniversary Liturgy (Sunday Mass) in the monastery chapel followed by sweet breads and coffee in the dining room. The monastery is located at 6101 East Lake Road, Erie.

Mother Ignatia's Ban the Bootleggers Bash Fundraiser

Saturday, June 20, 6 - 9 pm, is our only fundraising anniversary event, Mother Ignatia's Ban the Bootleggers Bash at Glinodo Center, 6270 East Lake Road, Erie (across from the monastery). Tickets are \$40 and on sale now: [click here](#). To read more about the event and backstory, [click here](#). Contact Michelle Basista, CFRE, for sponsorship opportunities: 814-899-0614 ext 2281 or mbasista@eriebenedictines.org or [download a sponsorship form](#).

Open House at Mount St. Benedict Monastery

On the Feast of St. Benedict, Saturday, July 11, between 2 - 5 pm, we will host an open house at the Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 E Lake Road, Erie. Visit significant spaces of the monastery and enjoy refreshments in the dining room.

- Visit significant spaces of the monastery including the chapel, the library, and other areas that shape our lives
- Spend time with our large collection of Brother Thomas Bezanson pottery—Brother Thomas's work is found in museums around the world
- Enjoy refreshments in the monastery dining room and visit with sisters and oblates
- Walk the beautiful grounds, the Garden of Memories and the trails through the woods to the hermitages
- Chapter 57, the monastery gift shop, will be open
- We will pull the winners of our 2026 annual drawing at 4:30 in the dining room—get your tickets at the Open House if you didn't receive them in the mail

- If you choose, stay for our Liturgy of the Hours (evening praise) at 5:30 pm in the chapel

St. Benedict Academy Open House

The St. Benedict Academy Alumnae Association invites alumnae, family, and

friends to an Open House on Sunday July 26, between 1 - 4 pm at the former SBA

building, 330 East 10th Street. For 120 of the Benedictine Sisters' 170 years in Erie, St. Benedict Academy was their centerpiece on the city's east side. SBA alumnae, your families and friends, are invited to celebrate the heritage that grounded SBA students in believe in themselves through education, faith, and community. Share memories as you once again walk the halls of SBA.

- Refreshments
- Class and memorabilia displays
- Sing along with the recording of Encore 94
- Where Hope Is: Stories of Benedictine Influence will be playing