



Our Lady of Peace



The Diocese of Erie and Our Lady of Peace are very excited about the opportunity to participate again in the Take Me to Worship campaign that is now being promoted in Erie County until October 15th.

Data from this campaign has shown that when children participate in regular, weekly, organized religion, they are less likely to be involved in violence, drug and alcohol use, and other negative behaviors. Let's take our families to mass regularly!

To find out more and to get involved, please visit: www.takemetoworship.org, or <http://www.eriecd.org/familiesmatter>. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 for more info.

There are yard signs and stickers available in the OLP Church Office.



always
FAMILIES MATTER

Need some ideas to help your family along the journey of life?

Visit the **Families Always Matter** website,

<http://www.ErieRCD.org/fam.htm> to find information/ideas for traditional, single-parent, blended, military, and adoptive/foster families.

At the Diocese of Erie, families always matter!
Go Families!

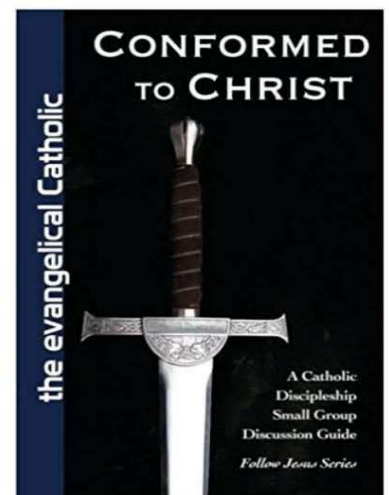
Men's Faith Sharing Group Conformed to Christ

The next meeting is September 27th at 6:30PM in the OLP Church Meeting Room. Even if you have missed previous sessions—each one is new and interesting.

If you are looking to journey deeper into your faith—you can join at any time. This is a great opportunity to meet some great guys and dive deeper into your faith—to be the man Jesus wants us to be for our family and the world.

Please prayerfully considering joining us. If you are interested, please e-mail at olpmfsg@gmail.com or call 835-3608 and leave your name. You can purchase the book on Amazon or your local book store.

Week 5: Spirit – Questions 6-12



September 16, 2018

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2401 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16506

Parish Office Phone

814-833-7701

Fax

814-833-7702

Website

www.olp.org

E-mail

olp@olp.org

School

814-838-3548

Faith Formation Office

814-838-9983

Office Hours: 8:00AM - 8:00PM

Business Hours: 8:00AM - 4:00PM

Parish Pastoral Team

Pastor

Rev. Rich Toohey

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Kyle Seyler

Priest in Residence

Rev. Shane Mathew

Permanent Deacons

Rev. Mr. John Mang

Rev. Mr. Joseph Yochim, Jr.

School Principal

Mrs. Lisa Panighetti

Advancement Director

Mrs. Kathy Grisier

Music/Liturgy Director

Mr. Brian Kuzmin

Faith Formation Director

Mrs. Tammie Mang

Youth Minister

Mr. Corey Ferraro

Office Manager

Mrs. Mary Beth Whitman

Office Secretary

Mrs. Cynthia Berarducci

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Michael Przepierski

Pastoral Council President

Mr. Greg Bosner

Finance Council Chairman

Mr. Paul Vojtek

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month, 11:00AM Mass & 12:30PM respectively. A mandatory preparation class for parents is available:

2018: Sept. 24, Nov. 19.

Call the Parish office to register.

Sacrament of Matrimony An appointment with a parish priest six months prior to the wedding date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 3:45 - 4:45PM or by appt.

New Parishioners Welcome! Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or register online.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) Anyone seeking information on becoming Catholic or completing one's initiation into the Catholic faith should call the Parish Office.

Prayer Request Line:

Marge Ward 833-8837

Christine Beaver 833-8017

Our Mission Statement:

Our Lady of Peace is a Catholic Community of Faith called to proclaim the greatness of the Lord through Worship, Service, Education and Ministry.

Church Cleaners for the Week of September 16

Team 1:

Diane S., Denise G., Meg E.

Thank you to all those who are willing to help with this important ministry of keeping our church clean and beautiful.

Those interested in joining this ministry please call the Church Office.

Daily at 11:40AM

The Rosary of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary is prayed daily at 11:40AM, just before the 12:10 Mass. Mary invites all her children, if possible, to come and pray her Rosary. Many blessings will be yours! God bless you!



Daily after 12:10 Mass

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed daily after the 12:10 Mass in Mary's Chapel. **All are welcome!**

24th Annual Rosary March
Fatima's 101 Year Anniversary
Sunday, October 14, 2018
 2:00PM
 St. Peter Cathedral
 10th & Sassafras

Please Come Join Us and Pray the Rosary
 Sponsored by the
World Apostolate of Fatima
For more info call: John Walsh 868-1100



For those unable to March, the Rosary will be recited in the Cathedral while the March is taking place.

Sunday's Readings:

First Reading - The Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong? (Isaiah 50:5-9a).

Psalm - I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading - Faith, if it does not have works, is dead (James 2:14-18).

Gospel - Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:27-35).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

LISTENING AND RESPONDING

There are three interwoven themes in today's readings: listening to God, faith vs. good works, and losing our life in order to find it. How are they related?

The Suffering Servant of Isaiah undergoes much distress and ridicule, but is able to bear it because he has listened to the promptings of God day after day. The psalm tells us that God listens, too. God hears our prayers for help and is always ready to save us. As our faith deepens, so does our desire to do the works of justice and charity that build up the reign of God. God directs our actions in ways we often cannot see, and we don't always see the results. We are called upon in faith to trust that what we do is enough, and that willingness to listen to God's promptings will lead us in the right way.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

7:00AM Cheryl Petrus - Family
 12:10PM Raymond Dombrowski -
 Michael & Denise Gaines
 7:00PM **Holy Hour**- Healing and Renewal

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

7:00AM Delores Stevens - Daughter & Family
 12:10PM Bill DeLuca - Family
 2:00PM **School Mass**- Mary DiSanti - Diane DiRenzo

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

7:00AM Jozef Scibor, Sr. - Marilyn Konieczny
 12:10PM Sara Gerbracht - Sally Barrett

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

7:00AM Leroy Platz - Wife, Barbara
 12:10PM William Schneider - Claudia Schneider

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

7:00AM Mary Bello - Rose Chludzinski
 12:10PM Theresa Dzikowski - Tom & Sharon Zielinski

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

8:00AM Guido W. Bucci, Sr. - Sister Kevin Berdis
 2:00PM **Wedding** - Steve Pettys / Sarah Space
 5:00PM Terrance Krott - Mary Alice Hartwell

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30AM Parishioners
 9:00AM Grace Schneider - Family
 11:00AM Steven Dann - Cynthia & Keith Berarducci
Healing Mass
 (see elsewhere in the bulletin for details)
 4:30PM Norma Keep - Porter Family

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Jen Stebell - Marge Ward.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Daniel Luschini - Wife & Children.



Readings for the Week of September 16th

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Ps 40:7-10, 17;
 Lk 7:1-10
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Ps 100:1-5;
 Lk 7:11-17
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13; Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22;
 Lk 7:31-35
 Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28;
 Lk 7:36-50
 Friday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Ps 56:10c-14;
 Lk 8:4-15
 Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54:3-8; Jas 3:16 — 4:3;
 Mk 9:30-37

BANN III
 Steve Pettys / Sarah Space
BANN I
 Jordan Baker / Becca Lupo



OLP 31 Club
Praying for vocations every day of the year!

Members of the 31 Club agree to go to daily Mass on a particular day every month and offer that Mass for an increase of vocations to the Church. There is a great need for vocations in the Church today. One of the best ways to increase vocations is through prayer, and the greatest prayer we have is the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

Upcoming Mass commitments:

Sept. 16: Dee Dee B., Kathi K., Ed Z., Laura D., Kevin D.
 Sept. 17: Len & Cathy K, Helen W, Barbra W., Nancy D.
 Sept. 18: Frank G, Carly Y., Rachel O.
 Sept. 19: Amber D, Chris L, Kim G.
 Sept. 20: Debi C., Kim D., James T., Roseann G., Jack Y.,
 Donna G.

Sept. 21: George O., Connie R., Maureen T., Rami S.
 Sept. 22: John G., Sally R., Dianne Y., Gloria M.

If you would like to join the OLP 31 Club, please call Dave or Kathy Wayman at 454-8974. There are no dues and no meetings, only opportunities for grace and the satisfaction that comes from helping to fulfill a great need in the Church.

**When at Mass offer the Mass for
 Vocations by praying the prayer below...**

O God, who wills not the death of a sinner * but rather that he be converted and live * grant we beseech you * through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin * Saint Joseph, her spouse * St. Junipero Serra * and all the saints * an increase of laborers for your Church * fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls * through the same Jesus Christ * Your Son * Who lives and reigns with You * In the unity of the Holy Spirit * God forever * and ever. Amen. Serra Prayer for Vocations

From the Pastor's Desk...

To my Spiritual Family of Our Lady of Peace-

A blessed Catechetical Sunday to you! This weekend is the official start of a new year of faith formation in our parish. There is a second collection which is split between the diocesan Catholic Schools Office and our parish faith formation program. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Also we will bless all of our catechists and school teachers at the 9am Mass (September 16th). I am so grateful for their willingness to take on this important role in helping form our children in our Catholic faith and I hope you will join me in thanking them as we ask God to bless and inspire them at Mass.

One great instrument of faith formation over the past 50 years in our parish and the Diocese of Erie is Cursillo. Cursillo is a three day weekend retreat and serves as a "short course" in Catholic belief and spirituality and a wonderful and authentic experience of Christian community. Every parish I have been assigned to over my 17 years of priesthood has been impacted significantly from Cursillo so the fruit of this retreat is very evident. Also, it has had a big impact on the spirituality of my family as my parents made the retreat back in the 1970s and have been on teams and a part of Group Reunions for years.

I will be one of the spiritual directors for Women's Cursillo 253 from October 18-21 held at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek. It would be a great blessing to be able to experience Cursillo with a group of women from OLP and would like to try to get 6-8 individuals. I am hoping that this can help renew our overall parish participation in Cursillo and the community that has experienced it here at OLP. So please call me or the parish office if you want more information or want to sign up. And all you Cursillistas out there, let's bring a friend to Christ and invite them to Cursillo 253 in October!

May God bless our parish faith formation and our week ahead!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Rich

Our Lady of Peace, patroness of our parish & school.... pray for us!
St. Nicholas, patron of the Erie Catholic School System. pray for us!
St. Patrick, patron of the Diocese of Erie.... pray for us!
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the Catholic Church of the USA... pray for us!
St. Joseph, universal patron of the church.... pray for us!

Other notes from the pastor...

****Prayer Opportunities for healing of abuse victims and for renewal of the Church**

Our Holy Hours of Eucharistic Adoration the next two months (September 17th and October 15th) will be offered for the specific intention for healing of victims of abuse (particularly those abused by members of the church) and for the renewal of the Catholic Church in all the diocese of Pennsylvania. I also repeat my offer to meet with you to discuss your concerns, hurts or struggles with all of this. And please see below for other guidance on what to do if you or anyone you know has experienced abuse through the church.

Victim Assistance

The diocese, along with the whole church, continues to reach out to

those who have been abused and hurt by priests, religious or others involved with the church. If you are a victim of abuse, the Diocese wants to help. We aid with counseling, spiritual direction and referrals to other supportive services. For information contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator at 814-451-1521.

****Anointing of the Sick Mass**

Last spring we had a special Mass during which we administered the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and over 70 people received the grace of the anointing. Due to this response and in consultation with the staff and liturgy committee we have decided to have two such Masses a year. Our next one will be Sunday, **September 23rd at 11am Mass.**

Remember that this sacrament is **NOT FOR EVERYONE** but for those who fit in one of the following categories:

- those who are dangerously ill through sickness or old age (physical or psychological)
- a sick person...before surgery whenever the surgery is necessitated by a dangerous illness
- elderly people...if they are weak, though not dangerously ill
- sick children...sufficiently mature to be comforted by the sacrament
- sick people who have lost consciousness or who have lost the use of reason...if ...they would have requested it if they had been in possession of their faculties

Of course, if a sick person who received this anointing recovers his/her health, he/she can in the case of another serious illness receive this sacrament again. If during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious, the sacrament may be repeated as well. So if this applies to you or someone you know, please join us at this special Mass of healing and grace. *Please arrive early so you can sign in and find your seats.*

****Hearing Enhancement available at all Masses**

Hearing devices are available for those in need. See any usher at Mass and let them know you need one.

****Wish List-FORMED, Catholic ON DEMAND**

I am very grateful to the donors who have donated towards 50 of the social room chairs that we asked for recently! As mentioned last week, I have talked to our parish staff as well as our Faith Formation Committee, and we all agree that we would like to purchase a parish subscription to FORMED. FORMED is the revolutionary digital platform that would give us unprecedented access to video-based study programs, feature films, audio presentations, and eBooks from the Church's foremost presenters. It is the Catholic version of ON DEMAND that many of us have with our cable or internet providers and once we get a parish password, all parishioners could use the account on their computers and in their homes. The challenge is that we were not able to include FORMED in our 2018-19 budget and the yearly parish cost is \$1,850. We have one generous donor who committed to one fourth of the cost so I would like to see if we have three other donors who would be willing to cover the other 3 quarters at \$450 each. This will be a valuable asset in our Religious Education and Faith Formation classes and will also allow us to empower our parents to bring faith formation right into their homes with their children. Let me know if you are interested in helping make this happen for OLP and I will let everyone know our login info once we are able to register.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Elementary (Grades K-5) - Classes begin September 16, 2018. Parent meeting at 10:40AM in the gym. **ALL** parents should attend. Class time remains 10:30 to 12:15 with dismissal from the cafeteria..

Secondary (Grades 6-10) - Classes begin September 23, 2018, with the Student/Parent meeting at 5:30PM in the church.

Confirmation (Grade 11) - Catholic school and public school students must register and attend classes to be confirmed in 2018. Classes begin September 16, 2018, with the Student/Parent meeting at 6:00PM in the church.

Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) - Thinking of becoming Catholic? Needing to complete your sacraments? Call now as classes have started... RCIA meets Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the Social Room.

All forms can be found on our website under the Faith Formation tab at www.olp.org

For more info please contact Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Director, at 838-9983 or Tammie.mang@olp.org

Continued From the Pastor's Desk Continued...

****Part-time Communications Coordinator Needed** We are looking to establish a new position on our staff in response to the Pastoral Council's recommendation last year. We are seeking a part time Communications Coordinator who will help oversee our social media communications as well as evaluating areas that we can grow in our effort to communicate our mission here at Our Lady of Peace more effectively. As recognized by the Pastoral Council, part of the new evangelization is meeting our people where they are and we know that more and more people (especially our younger generations) are in the world of social media. For this reason, this job will require expertise in social media and technology and some experience in communication will be helpful as well. Let me know if you would be interested or want to recommend someone for this position.

****Thank you to the OLP Picnic Committee** Last Saturday was the OLP Picnic and I want to thank the Picnic Committee and their many helpers for hosting a wonderful community building event where "All are Welcome." Looking forward to an equally great event next year.

West Millcreek Food Pantry

The following are suggested items to purchase for each week; you may buy what is on sale; all non-perishables are acceptable. CEREAL is needed.

September 2018

- 16th Tuna / Canned Spaghetti
- 23rd Toilet Tissue / Bar Soap
- 30th Spaghetti Sauce / Spaghetti



Pantry is OPEN September 25th (every 2nd & 4th Tuesday) 9-11AM for those living in Millcreek.

**Rosary/CCM Meeting
September 20, 2018**

*Tureen Dinner
6:00PM Cafeteria*

**If you are inter in joining or have any questions, please call:
Marilyn 833-4683 or Pat 838-7145**

**A Stewardship of Sharing
Week of September 2, 2018
Fiscal Year July 2017 - June 2018**

Weekly Envelope	\$ 12,640
Loose	\$ 1,336
Other Income.....	\$ 1,850
Total Weekly Income	\$ 15,826

**2018 CSA
February 2018 to January 2019**

Goal	\$ 220,000
Pledge Payments Received to Date	\$ 183,819
Total Pledges	\$ 222,254
646 Families - Goal is 700 Families	

Every dollar raised to make our goal supports important Diocesan services and **every dollar raised over our goal will be kept in the parish.**

Online Safety Tips for Parents & Kids

Diocesan Child Protection Policies: The Diocese of Erie, along with all dioceses of the United States, has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse and to aid in creating safe environments. The diocese is committed to on-going screening and training of paid or volunteer persons who have regular contact with our children and youth under the age of 18. It is also committed to the yearly inservicing and training of our children, youth and parents regarding touching-safety and safe environments. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>.

A Family Perspective

If commitment is the choice we make to give up other choices, then it is about "losing ourselves."

If we try to be independent from others by "saving ourselves," we end up lonely and alone.

Happiness is found in commitments.

The gospel is true: We save our life by losing it!

Our Lady of Peace Parish Membership Form

CHECK ONE:

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

- New Registration
- Change of Address
- Moving out of Parish
- Want envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to rectory.



Youth Ministry Ramblings and

Updates:

From: Mr. Corey Ferraro

Hello everyone!

Thanks to all of you for making me feel so welcome during my first few weeks at OLP!

It is such a blessing to be able to work at such a vibrant and wonderful Parish!

Here are some important pieces of Youth Group info:

Our next gatherings will be on Thursday, September 20th. Junior High Youth Group (EPIC) will be from 6 to 7:30PM in the new Youth Room (next to the Social Room) then the Chapel, and Senior High Youth Group (NuDGE) will be from 7:30 to 8:45PM in the Chapel then the Youth Room. All are welcome!

We are having Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday, September 17th from 7-8 PM in the Church. All members of both Youth Groups are invited, and are encouraged to bring their families too! We will have snacks afterwards in the Youth Room. The theme of the night will be Healing, as we continue to pray for healing and strength after the Grand Jury Report.

Please contact Mandy Kelly to get a ticket for the I77 Project, which is an awesome Adoration opportunity that will be held on the 27th of September. It is open to all Youth Group members and their families!

Keep your eye out: You will find a calendar of Youth Group events for the months of October and November in the bulletin on the weekend of the 28th and 29th.

Thanks again everyone, and have a blessed week!

This Weekend...

Special Collection for Catholic Education

Today is the 2018 Catholic Education Collection! Please support this important program, where half of what you give will remain at Our Lady of Peace Parish to support our own religious education and faith formation programs. Your support helps to make these lifelong faith formation ministries possible. ***Thank you for your support!***

We are happy to inform you that the Diocese recently awarded Our Lady of Peace youth and chaperones funds to attend Steubenville Youth Conference on July 20-22, 2018. These funds are made available by Bishop Persico from the Religious Education Endowment Fund (REEF) as a result of the generosity of the faithful people of the Diocese of Erie who regularly contribute to the annual Catholic Education Collection.

Advertiser of the Week...

Our bulletin is supported through the generosity of the advertisers - many of whom are our parishioners. Most are members of our local community. Please support our advertisers with your patronage. Tell the business owner that you appreciate their support of our parish through their ad in the bulletin.



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Location: Presque Isle State Park - Beach #1

Date & Time: October 7, 2018 Rosary will be recited at 4:00PM -
Please arrive at 3:30PM

Purpose: To call upon God through the powerful intercession of Our Lady to heal our country.

Remember the Holy League of Nations that Pope St. Pius V formed in 1571, and the result of the battle they engaged in? Their victory at Lepanto on Oct. 7, 1571 was attributed to the Rosary, and the date became the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary.

The new [Holy League of Nations](#) is gearing up for another battle this October 7 - using only one weapon - the Rosary.

The battleground is not Lepanto but this entire country. Plus other countries also joining in this international Allied effort. It's not named Operation This or That, but very much to the point — the "U.S. Rosary Coast to Coast."

Mark Your Calendar: SaveAround Coupon Book 2019

Coupon Book Sales after all the Masses
on the weekends of
September 29/30
And
October 6/7



Just a 🎵 from Music Ministry. . . This week's highlight:

SpiritSong Youth Ensemble

Invites teens to turn their passion of singing into praise!

Who: *SpiritSong* welcomes all youth in 5th through 12th grades

When: *SpiritSong* ministers at the Saturday, 5:00PM Mass twice a month

Rehearsals: Wednesday from 5:15 to 6:30PM

Additional Opportunities: *SpiritSong* not only sings at Mass on a regular basis, but they are also invited to participate in the annual OLP Epiphany Concert during the Christmas Season. Occasionally throughout the year, *SpiritSong* is invited to join Selah Praise Band for seasonal liturgies and special events. *SpiritSong* members are also invited to join with all of music ministry in the Festival Ensemble for the Triduum, Confirmation, and other special parish liturgies.

We welcome new members anytime throughout the year.

Interested youth are welcome to sit in on any rehearsal just to try us out!

To join *SpiritSong* or if you have any questions about this ministry, please contact:

*Debby Holmes at 838-6306 or debbyholmes75@gmail.com

*Brian Kuzmin at 833-7701 x 203 or brian.kuzmin@olp.org

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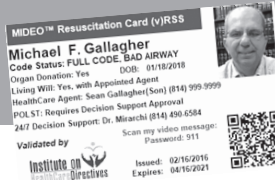


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Litany of Healing and Renewal

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and most loving God, through your Son you brought compassion, healing and hope to our world. In this time of pain and confusion, we ask you to receive these petitions from your people. In these words, we renew our faith in your power to heal victims, to heal the wounds of your Church, and to draw all of us into a new era of safety and trust. We need you. We trust you. We place our needs before you:

For those who have been abused: that they may experience healing from shame, isolation, anger, and despair; that they may be listened to with compassion, treated with dignity, and supported in the healing process. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For those who counsel victims: That their words of wisdom and compassion may be instruments of healing for those they accompany. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For the perpetrators of abuse: That they may experience sincere remorse for their crimes, approach God with sorrow, and be prepared to make reparation for the damage they have caused. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For those who failed to protect children, those who, in any way, betrayed the trust placed in them: May they humbly acknowledge their responsibility for harm done to children. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For the faithful who are angry, scandalized, discouraged: That they may come to recognize the real presence of Christ in His Church despite the tragic failures of Church members and leaders. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For all the faithful: That our response to this dark episode will result in even stronger faith that Christ will rebuild His Church and not allow evil to prevail; may we grow in our conviction that where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more; and may we renew our commitment to participate in the sacraments, learn the faith, join our parish communities, and serve the poor and marginalized. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For our priests: that they may be protected from discouragement and that they may experience a renewal of authentic priestly identity, intimate union with Christ, joyful zeal for souls, liberating chastity, and humble charity. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For young people discerning a religious vocation to priesthood or consecrated life: That the tragic failures of some may not blind them to the heroic virtue of many. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For our bishops: That they may take initiatives which: protect the flock entrusted to their care, restore trust, are transparent and free of self-interest, and unite the flock with the Heart of the Shepherd. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For non-Catholics who may be tempted to disparage Catholics, the Catholic faith, and the Catholic Church because of these scandals: May they be blessed to encounter the witness of faithful Catholics. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For law enforcement officials, legislators and judges: That they may carefully weigh all aspects of the scourge of child abuse in our society as they pursue justice. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For all professionals in the news media and communications: That they may adhere to the highest ethical standards, seeking the truth as they bring to light the extent of this scandal and the ways the Church is responding. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For all who work with children, especially teachers, coaches, and youth ministers: That they might experience a renewed commitment to their treasured service, and find ways to protect and enhance the dignity of each child. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For all parents: that they may foster family life rooted in love, prayer, faith, and mercy; homes filled with joy and consecrated to God which form children in virtue and mature faith. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

For all children: That they may be loved by their family, protected in home and school, and learn about the goodness of God so that they can develop a personal relationship with Jesus. We pray,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

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CONCLUDING PRAYER

"Prayer for Healing Victims from Abuse" by the USCCB

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonize
over the harm done
to our brothers and sisters.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers,
soothe restless hearts with hope,
steady shaken spirits with faith:
Show us the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and grace,
so that we may act with justice
and find peace in you.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.