



Our Lady of Peace

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro/M. Falzoni.

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 

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. Mark Hoffman

Priest in Residence

Rev. Shane Mathew

Permanent Deacons

Rev. Dr. Glenn Bailey

Rev. Mr. John Mang

Rev. Mr. Joseph Yochim, Jr.

School Principal

Mrs. Lisa Panighetti

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Mr. Brian Kuzmin

Faith Formation Director

Mrs. Tammie Mang

*Youth Minister**Office Manager*

Mrs. Mary Beth Whitman

Office Secretary

Mrs. Cynthia Berarducci

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Michael Przepierski

Pastoral Council President

Ms. Nancy Milkowski

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 (6-7PM):

2020: Call the office for info.

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

Wednesdays 11:30-12:00 or by appt. Saturdays 8:30-9AM; 3:45-4:45PM

New Parishioners Welcome!

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or 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:

Day: Kandace, 453-6515

Night: Donna, 866-0792

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.

Pray the Rosary Daily at 11:40AM

The Rosary of the Most Blessed Virgin

Mary can be prayed daily at 11:40AM, in your homes, while Mass is suspended.

Mary invites all her children to pray her Rosary as we seek the protection of our Blessed Mother

**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.

March 2020

22nd Cereal / Baked Beans

29th Canned Vegetables /Bar Soap

Pantry is OPEN March 24th

(every 2nd & 4th Tuesday) 9-11AM for those living in Millcreek, held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3642 West 26th Street.

The West Millcreek Food Pantry
is asking for donations
of the Reusable Grocery Bags.

Please place with food donations.



Thank you.

Sunday's Readings:

First Reading - As the prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David (1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a).

Psalm - The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading - You who were once darkness are now light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8-14).

Gospel - The man who had been blind from birth proclaimed: The one called Jesus made clay with his saliva, anointed my eyes with it, and told me to wash (John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]).

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.

Question of the Week: *Source of Light*

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as Children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. (Ephesians 5:8-9)

Adults: What are you doing in your life right now to move toward light rather than darkness?

Kids: How can you let the light of your faith in Jesus shine for others to see?

LIGHT

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light" (Ephesians 5:14).

We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey of conversion. As always, God never gives up on us, especially those who have "fallen asleep" along the road to conversion. The most powerful stories of conversion are proclaimed during these final weeks of Lent. They have the power to shake us out of our sleep. Today's Gospel story of the healing of the man born blind exposes the real blindness in the time of Christ—the blindness of the self-righteous religious leaders. In a few weeks, at the Easter Vigil, the Church will proclaim "Christ our Light" as the paschal candle is carried into darkened churches throughout the world. May the darkness of sin that still pervades our lives, communities, and world, be dispelled by the Christ who comes to bring sight to the blind and light to the world.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020

- Special Intention for Living & Deceased Priests & Sisters
- Maria DiSanto - Friends

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

- Sarah Addessi - Loretta & Craig Schaal
- Joseph Kostolansky, Jr. - Joan

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020

The Annunciation of the Lord

- Caroline Czarnecki - John Czarnecki
- Urban Barrett - Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

- John Wojtkielewicz - Family
- Frank Pulice - Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020

- Dan Parry - Family
- Judy Nusbaum - Dietz Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020

- Frank Kremenik - Zarnick Family
- David Kensinger - Jackie, Dan & Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Lent

- Marge Wojtkielewicz - Irene Zebrowski
- Ed Tomczak - Wife, JoAnn
- Attilio Mele - Wife
- Parishioners

These Mass intentions are being honored daily by our priests in private.

The church will remain open for private prayer daily from 7:00AM - 8:00PM.

The church office staff is only available by phone or email:

833-7701 / olp@olp.org

**Adoration will take place in church every Wednesday from 8:00AM to 8:00PM.
A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule.**

Readings for the Week of March 22nd

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54 |
| Tuesday: | Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16 |
| Wednesday: | Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38 |
| Thursday: | Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47 |
| Friday: | Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 |
| Saturday: | Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53 |
| Sunday: | Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45] |

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Frank Pulice - Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Mary Burbules - Friends.

Please continue to pray for vocations, at home, on your scheduled day using the prayer below.

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:

Mar. 22: John G., Sally R., Dianne Y., Gloria M.

Mar. 23: Heidi A.

Mar. 24: Mary Ann A., Magherita H., Audrey & Robert H.

Mar. 25: Christine O.

Mar. 26: Cynthia B., Dave W., Joe S., Deb T., Corky Y.

Mar. 27: Ann R.

Mar. 28: Ann F., Michael M., Betty S.

If you would like to join the OLP 31 Club, please call Dave or Kathy Wayman at 397-6443. 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-

The COVID-19 crisis is an unprecedented time in our country and world. The first step that I continue to encourage our parish community of Our Lady of Peace to do is PRAY. Continue to pray for eternal rest for all those who have died from COVID-19, for healing for all those who have it now, for protection for the rest of our world community, for wisdom for our government leaders in establishing guidelines and policies, and for courage and inspiration for the medical community as they are on the front lines of dealing with this Pandemic and seeking solutions for it. The Knights of Columbus have provided a great prayer adapted from Pope Francis that I have included in the bulletin that I would encourage you to say every day during this pandemic.

I also continue to believe we personally and communally have to respond to this with a balanced approach of responsibility and peace that is permeated with prayer. Responsibility and prudence are necessary to take the proper precautions regarding our health, social distancing, food and supplies. And the Spirit of Peace is necessary to prevent anxiety and worry to overwhelm us. Personal Prayer is absolutely necessary to allow God to help us to achieve that balance. Prayer with Sacred Scripture, silence and Christian Music are all great ways to allow God to reign in our hearts and our decisions. The serenity prayer comes to mind..."God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference."

When I was in the Holy Land last Fall I purchased an olive wood carving of "Jesus Calming the Storm." This is one of my favorite moments in the Gospel that I find myself referring to frequently when I am counseling people and I believe it is a great image for us to prayer with in our situation. It certainly is appropriate to ask God to calm this storm as we intercede for an end to this pandemic. BUT we also must take great courage, strength and peace from knowing that Jesus is in our boat!

May God bless our world with health and peace... and our 4th week of Lent 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!
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!
St. Patrick, patron of the Diocese of Erie.... pray for us!



Please see pages 6/7 for the full letter from Bishop Persico informing the diocesan church community of the suspension of all public Masses; and how to live out our Catholic faith during this crisis.

****Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) 2020**

So far we have received 432 pledges for \$165,166. Thank you to all who have responded! Our parish goal is 700 pledges for \$200,000. Remember that every dollar raised over our assessment from the Diocese (this year is \$151,719) stays in our parish to fund the project identified by our parish Properties Committee in conjunction with our Finance Council and Liturgy Committee that is focused on liturgical renewal. More specifically we will purchase a new gold processional cross; restore the church tabernacle, crown; the chains that hold the crown; all our candle stands, holy water fonts, and other items for the sanctuary; replace the altar server albs; and acquire new altar cloths and banners for our sanctuary environment.

**A Stewardship of Sharing
Month of February 2020
Fiscal Year July 2019 - June 2020**

Weekly Envelope	\$ 59,050
Loose.....	\$ 4,628
Monthly School Support.....	\$ 1,088
Total Monthly Offeratory	\$ 64,766
Budgeted Monthly Offeratory	\$ 88,170
Monthly Deficit	\$ 23,404
Diocesan Designated Fund Support	\$ 1,117

**OLP
CRUSADER DERBY**



**Derby tickets can
be mailed to the
church office**

The Sixth Annual
1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
MARCH 28, 2020



CANCELLED

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH
9:00 AM to 3:30 PM / Doors open at 8:30 AM
Adoration, Confession and Mass / Master of Ceremonies: Fr. [redacted]

----- THE SPEAKERS -----



CARALYN COLLAR
Writer and speaker for
BeautyBeyondBones blog



ALYSSA BORMES
Catholic educator, author, speaker
and radio host on *Catholic Kaleidoscope*



S.R. REGINA MARIE GORMAN, OCD
Vicar General of the Carmelite
Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart
of Los Angeles and
noted inspirational speaker

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814/455-7364 or www.138women.com



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

All Faith Formation Classes/Retreats are cancelled through April 12th. The Confirmation Mass scheduled for April 20th, has been postponed. Once more information is available families will be notified.

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

A Family Perspective

Failure to forgive blinds us to another's goodness. Lent provides an opportunity to wash away our blind-spots in the pool of forgiveness. Listen to Jesus in today's gospel: "Go wash and see."

"By turning your eyes on God in meditation, your whole soul will be filled with God."

~Saint Francis de Sales

Confessions still being offered at the following times:

Wednesdays from 11:30am-Noon

Fridays from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Saturdays from 8:30am-9:00am and

3:45pm-4:45pm

Confession is a gift, a means of grace, a way to God, and a way back to God; which brings peace to our hearts. As we are not able to offer a communal Penance Service, please take advantage of these times during the Lenten season.

Ways to stay connected during this time:

As most of our communications will be by Email please make sure the office has your current email.

We will send weekly emails with updates as they become available and resources you can use to strengthen your Spiritual life while you are away from Mass. The website will be updated regularly.

If you have not downloaded **MyParishApp** please see below, we will use the App as well to communicate during this time.

Below are directions on how to log into **FORMED**, which is one of our greatest resources.



Download Our Parish App!

myParish App



Our OLP app is available to download for iPhone and Android smartphones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, an easy-to-access event calendar, and the ability to quickly reply to or share messages via Facebook or Twitter. Download the **myParish app** by **texting APP to phone number 88202**. You will receive a reply with the app link to download. Once downloaded, select Our Lady of Peace, Erie, PA.

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March 17, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

It saddens me to share this with you, but I have decided to suspend all public Masses in the Diocese of Erie effective Wednesday, March 18 until further notice.

This is not a decision I wanted to make; nor did I make it lightly. But given the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is an important decision made for the good of the community, especially the most vulnerable among us.

We are working to make a number of resources available for the faithful, some of which I will share with you in this letter. But first, in the midst of this challenging moment, I want to provide you with spiritual encouragement and strength.

It is understandable that people are feeling overwhelmed — there's so much uncertainty in our lives in the face of this pandemic, something we have never experienced. In recent days, our lives have changed considerably. Families are scrambling to figure out how they are going to address the needs of children who are suddenly no longer leaving the house to go to school. Many of us are not allowed to visit elderly relatives who are in nursing homes. It's difficult not to wonder what additional limitations may be imposed at any given moment.

We are all human, and our concerns are natural. We can't help but worry about how we will navigate these changes in our lives. In addition to those whose health is at risk, I am particularly concerned for those whose livelihoods will be compromised for what could be a significant period of time.

There is no better time to grow in our faith than in a moment of trial. While the stress is real, our faith teaches us to trust in the Lord. "Your Father knows what you need before you ask him," Jesus said, just before he gave us the Lord's Prayer.

Even though public Masses have been suspended, I want to assure you every priest in the diocese will continue to offer a private Mass each day. I have asked that they remember the intentions of their parishioners at each Mass; that will be my intention as well.



DIOCESE OF ERIE ◆ P.O. Box 10397 ◆ ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16514-0397

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In addition, we each still have an obligation to "keep holy the Sabbath." Please give serious consideration as to how you will accomplish this, particularly throughout Holy Week and Easter. I am asking families to worship together in their homes each Sunday. Our website will have a link to the readings for Sunday Mass, and we expect to livestream a Mass from St. Peter Cathedral in Erie, the mother church of the diocese, each Sunday morning. Please reference www.ErieRCD.org for final details, including the time. I have every confidence the Lord will bless us as we find new and creative ways to welcome him into our lives.

I have asked pastors to keep their churches open for visitation as much as possible. Many parishes will offer Exposition so people will be able to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, even if it must be done while remaining an acceptable distance away from others. We also will soon publish information about how baptisms, reconciliation, confirmation, weddings, anointings and funerals will be handled in the coming weeks and months.

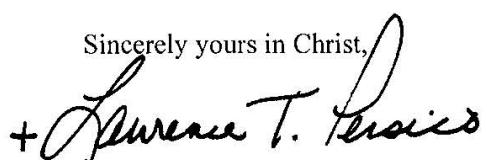
There are many Scripture verses that can help us, and we have begun to provide spiritual resources for you at www.ErieRCD.org/inspiration.html. Be intentional about setting aside time to read and pray so you will remain centered. Remember to pray for others at this moment: for our leaders, for researchers, for healthcare workers, for the sick, for our communities, for those who will suffer financial hardship, and for those who have died, as well as their families, among others. As a Christian community, we must intercede on behalf of each other.

We've included a link to Pope Francis' prayer to Our Lady, Salvation of the People of Rome, among the resources we've posted. And although our site also includes a Spiritual Communion prayer, given that we will have no public Masses until further notice, I want to share it with you here. I recommend you pray it every day:

"My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you at this moment sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen."

Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas, pray for us.
St. Patrick, patron of the Diocese of Erie, pray for us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

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2020 Catholic Services Appeal Forward Together: Doing the Work of Christ

The Catholic Services Appeal (SCA) is the annual fundraising campaign for the 13-county Diocese of Erie. Parishioners are asked by Bishop Lawrence Persico for financial support that extends beyond individual parishes to fund the projects, ministries and departments of the diocese. *The CSA reminds us that we are all part of the same Catholic family and that the work of the diocese is the work of the church.*

The 2020 Catholic Services Appeal Commitment Sunday was held last weekend in our parish. The church serves each of us and our support is essential in continuing God's work in our area. Every CSA donation also brings us closer to being able to complete our own parish project of which we are focusing on liturgical renewal. More specifically we will purchase a new gold processional cross; restore the original church tabernacle, crown, candle stands and holy water fonts. We will also replace the altar server albs and purchase seasonal liturgical altar cloths to enhance our worship space.

Donations to the CSA make the following work of Christ possible:

Cultivating Catholic Leadership

- The Catholic Schools Office supports Catholic education in 32

Catholic schools in the diocese.

- Lifelong faith formation initiatives throughout the diocese include youth and young adult ministry opportunities, family life outreach and support for parish-based faith formation efforts.
- Clergy services provide ongoing education to priests and deacons, as well as guidance and assistance to parishes, institutions, pastors and people throughout the diocese.
- Tuition assistance programs help make Catholic education a possibility for families throughout the diocese.

Scan the QR Code
to watch the CSA video, which
is approximately 4 minutes.



LENT AND CRS RICE BOWL

Lent is a 40-day journey of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Each day during Lent, we have the opportunity to be inspired by the stories of people and communities from around the world, and to take time to set aside a little of ourselves to make room for a stranger. This Lent, CRS Rice Bowl invites you, your family and community to journey with Christ through fear to fortitude, recognizing God's invitation to reach out beyond ourselves to encounter the needs of all.

Meet Maria Ana. Maria Ana and her brothers receive one meal a day at school, so that they can focus on achieving their dreams. How was education important for your future? How can we ensure that all young people have a chance to be educated? **Visit: crsricebowl.org for more info.**

