

Our Lady of Peace Parish



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



December 27, 2020

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. 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

Music/Liturgy Director

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 Wojtek

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

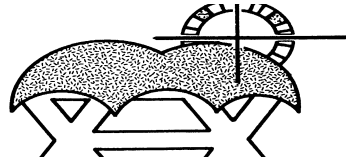
one's initiation into the Catholic

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.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 27, 2020

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

— Luke 2:30-31

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.

December 2020

27th Cereal / Canned Vegetables

Pantry is OPEN

(every 2nd & 4th Tuesday) 9-11AM for those living in

Millcreek & for OLP Parishioners,

at the Westminster Presbyterian Church,

3642 West 26th Street.



The folks at the Food Pantry have expressed their heartfelt thanks to all who have continued to donate items.

The West Millcreek Food Pantry is asking for extra food donations:

- Canned Soup
- Canned Vegetables
- Whole Grain Cereal
- Any non-perishable food/item that you are able to donate
- Plastic Grocery Bags
- Granola Bars

The Food Pantry is so thankful to those who have continued to make donations.

Sunday's Readings:

First Reading - Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3.*

Psalm - Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105.*

Second Reading - Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19.*

Gospel - The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

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

Family Discussion of the Week: Respect for Elders

"Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "will your descendants be." (Gen 15:5)

Adults: What does your family do to honor and respect its oldest members?

Kids: Who are the oldest people you know, and what can you learn from them?

WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimaginable life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

Readings for the Week of December 27th

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

The church office staff is available by phone or email: 833-7701 / olp@olp.org

Confessions available (in the Chapel):

Wednesdays 11:30-Noon
Saturday 8:30-9AM and 3:45-4:45PM
or by appointment - call the Church Office

Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Special Masses This Week:

Monday, December 28th - Feast of the Holy Innocents (memorial for the children killed in Bethlehem by Herod)

Tuesday, December 29th - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr (12th Century England)

Wednesday, December 30th - Sixth Day of the Octave of Christmas

Thursday, December 31st - St. Sylvester I, Pope (4th Century)

Friday, January 1st - Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

Saturday, January 2nd - Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church (4th Century)

No Mass In Time of Pandemic because Masses of Christmas Octave take precedent.

Erie City Mission Volunteers Needed

We need your help in preparing and cooking food for our brothers and sisters in need.

Dates are Saturday's:

January 16; February 20; March 20

Time: 9:00AM to 1:30PM

Qualifies for service hours!

Where: 11th & French St.

What: Prepare/Serve the Lunch Meal

Time: Any parishioner 15 yrs or older

Contact: Scott Barnes, 881-8889

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

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Lee Silverthorn, Sr. - James & Mary Ann Karle.

OLP 31 Club

Praying for vocations every day of the year!

Members 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. 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:

Dec. 27: Ann R.
Dec. 28: Ann F., Michael M.
Dec. 29: Linda M., Janet A.
Dec. 30: Bethann D., Linda D., Julie M., James S.
Dec. 31: Jim Z.

Jan. 1: Maxine R., Mark S., Evelyn V., Pat B.
Jan. 2: Kathy W., Deacon Dennis K.

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.

Holy Hour for Peace

With all that has happened around the world



and within our own community this past year, there is no better way to welcome 2021 than in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

You and your family are invited to join us on **Thursday,**

December 31st at 11:00PM for a

holy hour that will conclude just as the new year begins. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining in on this special night as we celebrate our patroness, Our Lady of Peace, and pray that God blesses us with a peaceful 2021.

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...

Blessed Feast of the Holy Family and Merry Christmas Octave! Back when the pandemic started in March, I spoke about my hope that this could be an opportunity for us all to slow down and recommit to what is most important in our lives- that is faith and family. I have heard from many of you that have felt that renewal to some extent for yourself and your families. Others have said they have felt a continual renewal over the now 9 months that we have dealing with this pandemic. I would like to take this opportunity of the feast of the Holy Family and the start of a new year (gotta love those new year's resolutions!) to encourage you to recommit to refocusing our lives on faith and family. One main area of grace that enables us to sustain such renewal and new life, is prayer. I encourage you to commit to some form of daily prayer in your lives and where possible, family daily prayer as well.

I have mentioned in a few homilies that one of my siblings suggested back in March that we as a family pray the Night Prayer of the church every night on Zoom. Night Prayer is part of the Liturgy of the Hours which is the formal daily prayer of the Catholic Church outside of Mass which priests and deacons commit to praying five times a day. What a blessing that has been to me and my family as we pray for and with each other every night via zoom.

One resource in helping you do this is the book that we gave out as a gift at Christmas (thanks to the great generosity of Warren and Christine Beaver, and Mike and Mary Beth Whitman!). If you have not taken one already, I strongly encourage you to do so. The book is called "I Heard God Laugh" and it is a practical guide to life's essential daily habit of care for our soul (through prayer). The greatest gift you can give to yourself and your family is a relationship with God and prayer is ESSENTIAL for that relationship. So consider how you can grow individually and as a family through prayer on this feast of the Holy Family.

May God bless all families and our continued celebrations of the Christmas Octave ahead!

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!

Other notes from the pastor...

****Please be aware that the Parish Office Staff will be off this week as part of their Christmas break (well deserved!). They will be attending to any emergencies and urgent needs but otherwise they will look forward to starting back up on January 4th. Thank you for your patience and support.**

****First Friday Adoration is cancelled this week since it falls on a holiday.** Our monthly day of adoration has been moved

to Friday, January 22nd from 7am to 7pm which is the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn.

****65th Anniversary Acts of Kindness and Formation** We are so grateful for the participation in our Rosary-Acts of Kindness and Formation challenge. We have completed one full rosary and are hopeful to complete one possibly two more. Please turn in your completed acts of kindness and formation this week as the deadline is January 1st. **A big thank you to the OLP Prayer Line Ministry who logged 2,770 Acts of Kindness for the Anniversary Rosary Challenge!** This is a great reminder of what a blessing this ministry is for our parish. We have 50 parishioners in this ministry who are the true prayer warriors for our spiritual family as they pray every day for the needs of our community and for all the specific intentions that the parish submits to them. Praise God for their witness and support!

****I regret to announce that due to the COVID pandemic we will not be able to have our Parish Appreciation Dinner this year in January.** I hope that we can do it sometime later in the year when things open up; but until then please know how grateful I am to all of you.

****Fr. Kyle Update** I continue to get questions about Fr. Kyle and so I take this opportunity to tell you that he is now home in Franklin with his parents. He helps out with the parish there occasionally and continues to work on his physical and emotional health. During this holiday season, remember to keep Fr. Kyle in your prayers and feel free to send him a note of encouragement at 416 Moreland Dr., Franklin, PA 16323.

****Special Masses This Week** Monday, December 28th- Feast of the Holy Innocents (memorial for the children killed in Bethlehem by Herod); Tuesday, December 29th- St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr (12th century England); Wednesday, December 30th- Sixth Day of the Octave of Christmas; Thursday, December 31st- St. Sylvester I, Pope (4th Century); Friday, January 1st- Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God; Saturday, January 2nd-Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church (4th Century).

***No Mass In Time of Pandemic because Masses of the Christmas Octave take precedent.**

****House Blessings** The Christmas Season, and more specifically the Epiphany, is the traditional time of year for house blessings. Fr. Mark and I are more than willing to come to your homes and bless them with you. Feel free to call either one of us and set up a time to do so.

****Epiphany Next Sunday and House Blessing Cards** Once again we will bless and distribute the House Blessing Cards next weekend on the Feast of the Epiphany. Recall that the "20+C+M+B+21" on the cards stands for the year with the first letter of the 3 magi, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar as well as the first letters of the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" translates to "Christ bless this home/dwelling." Pick up your house blessing cards next weekend and place them over the main door to your house on the inside.

****Christmas Gloria** The Gloria returns to Mass on Christmas Eve as we join the Angels who sang the opening line of the Gloria on that first Christmas Night. Let's continue to give Glory to God in our Christmas celebrations!

****Christmas Octave** Every year I emphasize the importance of the entire Christmas Octave when we celebrate the truth and joy of Christmas in an intensified way for 8 days liturgically (Dec. 25-Jan.1). All the Masses are celebrated as if it is Christmas day with the Gloria, song and all the decorations. Consider going to an extra Mass or two (in person or virtually) or engage in other spiritual practices during the Octave to say thank you to God for the blessings of Christmas!

****Christmas Season** The Christmas Season lasts for almost 3 weeks. Highlights include the Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday, December 27th), Mary the Mother of God (Friday, January 1st), the Epiphany (Sunday, January 3rd where we will have the Proclamation of the dates for Easter and other significant dates of the Liturgical Year). The Christmas Season will conclude on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 10th when we will have Solemn Evening Prayer with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament at 6pm (after Adoration from 5:15pm-6pm).

****Holy Hour for Peace** We will continue the recent tradition here at OLP by ringing in the New Year with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 11pm-12 Midnight on New Year's Eve (Monday, December 31st). What a great way to start the new year by receiving the Blessing (Benediction) of Jesus through His Eucharistic Presence right at Midnight! We will pray for peace in our world though a litany of peace.

****Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is Friday, January 1st and is a holy day of obligation and the last day of the Octave of Christmas.** It has also been designated for years as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. For all those reasons, it is a great day to participate in Mass which will be held at 5:30pm on Thursday, December 31st and 10am on Friday, January 1st.

****Parish Calendars** Our parish calendars are in for 2021! I am very grateful to our sponsors- Maleno Development and Real Estate, First National Bank/Manager Chris Hanes, Beer and Pop Warehouse, Cynthia Berarducci, Realtor at Howard Hanna, E.C.C.A INC, and the Knights of Columbus OLP Council 11454.

****Night To Shine (an initiative of the Tim Tebow Foundation)** OLP will again be the church sponsor for this prom night event for those with disabilities in our community of Erie. This year it will be a virtual event combined with a "Shrine Thru" experience that we will host right here at OLP on **Friday, February 12th**. If you would like to help financially support this event or volunteer to help, please call the parish office.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Classes have begun for all Religious Education students. If you have not heard from your child's catechist or Confirmation facilitator please contact Tammie Mang.

Jan. 3, 2021 - Confirmation zoom class NOT in-person class, facilitators will be contacting their students regarding the time.

Jan. 9 & 10, 2021 - Rite of Enrollment for Confirmation students at the following Masses: Saturday, Jan. 9 at 5PM, Sunday, Jan. 10 at 9AM and 11AM. Students must choose a date and email tammie.mang@olp.org with their choice by Jan. 3.

Jan. 18, 2021 - Confirmation Retreat. Morning session is 8:45am to 12:30pm. Afternoon session is 12:15 to 4:00pm. All retreat paperwork and payments of \$10 are due no later than Jan. 10.

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

A Family Perspective

The gospel today shows Mary and Joseph weren't 'perfect' parents. If you have ever been 'amazed' and 'astonished' at what came out of your child's mouth, then you are in good company. If there were times you 'didn't understand' your children or felt 'anxious' about their behavior so did Mary and Joseph. Parenting is tough but it is also the stuff of holiness.



Our Lady of Peace...

Pray for us.

Watch Our Lady of Peace Mass On Our YouTube Channel

7:00AM Weekdays
8:00AM Saturdays
9:00AM Sundays



Simply go to www.olp.org, scroll down to 'Find Us on Social Media,' click on YouTube and you will be connected to our YouTube Channel. Once there you can watch previous Masses and also Subscribe by clicking the red Subscribe button.

HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Our Lady of Peace Parish Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

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

CHECK ONE:

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

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 are sending weekly emails with updates and resources you can use to strengthen your Spiritual life. Also visit our website: **www.olp.org**.

Downloaded the **MyParishApp** as we will use the App as well to communicate during this time.

To the right are directions for the App and 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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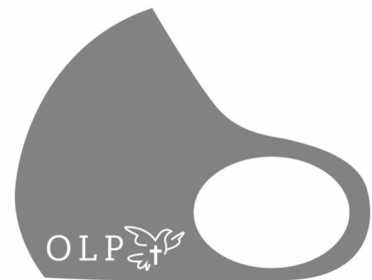
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Mass Schedule and Intentions

SUNDAY, December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

7:30AM John & Marge Wojtkielewicz - Family
9:00AM Hank & JoAnne Starr - Family
11:00AM Marie Kengersky - Jim & Jo Rudolph
4:30PM Parishioners



MONDAY, December 28, 2020

7:00AM Ann Cuzzola - Family
12:10PM Larry & Patricia Smith - Family

TUESDAY, December 29, 2020

7:00AM Virginia Wiley - Matt, Kathy & Brian
12:10PM Jennie Dzeskewicz - Rose Garbulinski

WEDNESDAY, December 30, 2020

7:00AM Marcy Lubin - Family
12:10PM Dorothy Czajka - Sister

THURSDAY, December 31, 2020

7:00AM Bernard Wiercinski - Jean Verdecchia
12:10PM Josephine Przybycin - Fred & Evelyn Fried

New Year's Mass Schedule

THURSDAY, December 31, 2020

Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
5:30PM - Marian Mong - Sister, Lorraine Trampenau & Family
11-Midnight Holy Hour for Peace



FRIDAY, January 1, 2021

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
10:00AM Parishioners

SATURDAY, January 2, 2021

8:00AM Special Intention for those Suffering the Effects of COVID-19
5:00PM Nick Chiocco - Wife & Children



SUNDAY, January 3, 2021

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30AM Parishioners
9:00AM Tillie Kraus - Linda & Chuck Rohrbach
11:00AM Jack Dann - Keith & Cynthia Berarducci
4:30PM David Thorpe - Siggia Family



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

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FEAST OF FAITH Processions

Why does the liturgy begin with a procession? It is not just a practical matter of getting the ministers of the liturgy from the sacristy to the sanctuary. The procession is a powerful sign of who we are as Christian people. We are not static, staying in one place. We are going somewhere. Our procession leads us to the altar, sign of Christ's presence in our midst. We move, we process, because we recognize our need for what Christ is preparing for us at that table. We go forward eagerly, because we are hungry for that heavenly food.

This procession is an orderly one: servers, deacon, priest presider. Each is set apart by distinctive vesture: albs for the altar servers, dalmatic for the deacon, chasuble for the priest. The procession is an image of the hierarchical structure of the Church. On a deeper level it is an image of unity in diversity. We are all on a journey to the heavenly city, but each of us is clothed with different gifts. We all receive the call to service, but not in the same way. Only by coming together in all our wonderful variety can we achieve the work of the kingdom.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Office for the Protection of Children/Youth

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments - Keeping God's Children Protected and Safe: The safe environment training of our children and youth is a key component in the Policy for the Protection of Children. Each year our schools and parishes are mandated to provide this training to all youth in catholic school and parish programs. Since 2003 over 200,000 children have received age-appropriate abuse prevention education. The Diocese maintains a working relationship with agencies in each of our 13 counties to provide training for our youth in schools and parishes. In addition, the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth maintains a media library containing videos for schools and parishes to provide child abuse prevention education. From 2016-19 over 31,000 parents have also received child abuse prevention education.

Visit: <http://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

People for Life, Inc.

- **Erie March for Life**
Saturday, January 23, 2021 11AM
The March will take place in downtown Erie; exact meeting location to be announced.
Program begins at 11:00AM (please arrive by 10:45AM)
- **March for Life in Washington, DC**
Friday, January 29, 2021 \$55 a seat
Bus leaves Erie Thursday Evening (Jan. 28) at 11PM
March in Washington and return Saturday morning
RSVP your seat ASAP
- **43rd Annual Pro-Life Breakfast**
NEW DATE: Saturday, April 24, 2021
Bayfront Convention Center, Erie
Guest Speaker: **Rachel Bovard**
Reservations TBA



Please visit: www.peopleforlife.org
for instructions for all COVID requirements.

People for Life, 1625 West 26th Street, Erie
Mailing Address: PO Box 1126, Erie, PA 16512
office@peopleforlife.org
Visit: [www.Facebook.com/MaarchforLifeBusTrip](https://www.facebook.com/MaarchforLifeBusTrip)



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Pictured left to right: Rev. Richard Toohey, Pastor of Our Lady of Peace; Dr. Denise Finazzo Gaines, Board Chair; Michael Gaines; David González, MS, CEO; Cynthia Berarducci; Rev. Mark Hoffman; Scott Barnes, Board Member



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

Families Always Matter website,

<http://www.ErieRCD.org/fam.htm>

