



# *Our Lady of Peace*



We Three Kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain  
Following yonder star  
O Star of Wonder...

*January 3, 2021*

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

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

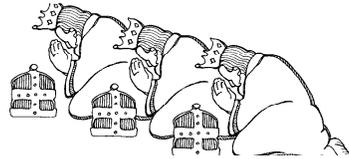
**New Parishioners** Welcome! Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or online.

**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 Epiphany of the Lord**  
**January 3, 2021**

All kings shall pay him homage,  
 all nations shall serve him.

— Psalm 72:11

**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 always needed.

**January 2021**



3rd Toilet Tissue / Bar Soap

10th Pasta Sauce / Pasta

17th Mac & Cheese / Cereal

24th Peanut Butter / Nut Butters

31st Canned Vegetables / Canned Fruit

**Pantry is OPEN January 12th & 26th**  
**(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.**

Thank you for supporting the West Millcreek

# Food Pantry

Your donations have made a real difference in the lives of our neighbors.

**Sunday's Readings:**

**First Reading** - Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalm** - Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** - The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** - Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

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: Overcoming Jealousy**

Then Herod sent the (magi) to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." (Matthew 2:8)

**Adults:** When have you been jealous or fearful of another person? When are such feelings harmful?

**Kids:** When have you been jealous because something good happened to another person instead of you? What is the problem with feeling that way?

# MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021**

7:00AM Mary Ann Toohey - Family  
 12:10PM Joann Jackson - 12:10 Mass Group

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021**

7:00AM Tony Rusnak - Jean Verdecchia  
 12:10PM James Fried - Fred & Evelyn  
 1:30PM School Mass - William Trohoske - Family

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021**

7:00AM Don DiPlacido - Jack Prassack  
 11:30-Noon Confessions  
 12:10PM Andrew Polakowski - Family

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021**

7:00AM Helen Hamilton - 7AM Mass Group  
 12:10PM James Yadeski - M/M Michael Gaines

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021**

7:00AM Willard Passauer -  
 Deacon John & Tammie Mang  
 12:10PM Joann Jackson - Joe & Diane Yochim

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021**

8:00AM Shirley Zacherl - Family  
 8:30-9AM Confessions  
 3:45-4:45PM Confessions  
 5:00PM Anthony DiVincenzo - Ed & Rina Hoffman

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021**

**The Baptism of the Lord**

7:30AM Parishioners  
 9:00AM Arlene Glance - Family  
 Confirmation Rite of Enrollment  
 11:00AM Barbara Esper - Denise & Michael Gaines  
 4:30PM Don DiPlacido - Marilyn Stadtmiller  
 5:15PM Adoration  
 6:00PM Evening Prayer/Benediction

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

*Readings for the Week of January 3rd*

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72: 1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30  
 Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

## 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:**

- Jan. 3: Sister Peggy, Linda D., Virginia S.
- Jan. 4: Arlene B.
- Jan. 5: Ed B., Joyce K., Chuck & Linda R.
- Jan. 6: Maxine B., Denise & Michael G., Susan F.
- Jan. 7: Margaret K.
- Jan. 8: Peggy C., Tim G., Pat H., Catilda M., Patricia P., Diane & Bill S., Jean V., Ann S.
- Jan. 9: Ellie A., Elaine S., Jane D., Bill C.

*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:**

○ 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

**SANCTUARY LAMP** - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Andrew Polakowski - Family.  
**CHAPEL LAMP** - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Dan Parry - Parry Family.

**PROMISE FULFILLED**

Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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From the Pastor's Desk...

A blessed Epiphany to you! Once again we will bless and distribute the House Blessing Cards this 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 three magi, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, as well as the first letters of the Latin phrase "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which translates to "Christ bless this home/dwelling." There is a prayer that you are encouraged to say on the back of the card as you place them over the main door to your house on the inside. It says- "May all who come to our home rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve Christ in everyone we meet. Amen." What a great year we will have if we can allow God to accomplish that prayer in us in our homes as well as our parish family here at Our Lady of Peace.

May God bless all families and our final week of the Christmas Season 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...**

**\*\*Next Sunday** is the final day of the Christmas Season and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We will have **adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 4:30pm Mass (around 5:15pm) until 6pm when we will have Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction.** This is the final liturgical prayer of the Christmas Season.

**\*\*65th Anniversary Acts of Kindness and Formation** As of this writing we are at 7,016 Acts of kindness and formation. You can still log in any acts that were performed between October 1<sup>st</sup>, and January 1<sup>st</sup> and the deadline to turn in your form is Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and at that time we will finalize our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge.

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

**\*\*Special Masses This Week** Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious (19<sup>th</sup> Century, first American born saint, founder of Catholic Schools in the USA); Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. St. John Neumann, Bishop (19<sup>th</sup> century missionary from Czech Republic and bishop of Philadelphia); Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. St. Andre Bissette, Religious (20<sup>th</sup> Century, Montreal, Holy Cross Brother); Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest (13<sup>th</sup> century Dominican; patron of Canon and Civil Lawyers); Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Christmas Weekdays.

**\*\*House Blessings** The Christmas Season, and more specifically the Epiphany, is the traditional time of year for house blessings. Fr. Mark and I are willing to come to your homes once COVID restrictions are lifted and bless them with you. Feel free to call one of us and schedule a date.

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

**\*\*Christmas Gift "I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit" by Matthew Kelly** If you were not at OLP for Christmas, you are encouraged to take a copy of this book located in the main vestibule for your household as a small gift from your parish. Matthew Kelly is a world renown author in our Catholic faith and tradition. I thank Warren and Christine Beaver and Mike and Mary Beth Whitman who generously covered the financial cost of the books.

**\*\*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 with a "Shrine Thru" experience that we will host right here at OLP on **Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to help financially support the event or volunteer to help, please call the parish office.

**\*\*Epiphany Proclamation** This weekend is the traditional time for the Epiphany Proclamation. See below for the actual proclamation. Please mark the dates on your personal calendar and set aside those most important days of our liturgical year (Holy Week and Easter) for prayer and celebration with your parish family. Do not let those days be an after-thought, but make them a priority around which to plan vacations, events, and other things that can keep us from worshipping.

Epiphany Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts (for the year 2021)

Know, dear brothers and sisters,

that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ,

so by leave of God's mercy

we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day,

the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ,

to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.olp.org)

For more info please contact Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Director, at 838-9983 or [Tammie.mang@olp.org](mailto:Tammie.mang@olp.org)

## Special Masses This Week:

**Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>** - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious (19<sup>th</sup> Century, first American born saint, founder of Catholic Schools in the USA)

**Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>** - St. John Neumann, Bishop (19<sup>th</sup> century missionary from Czech Republic and bishop of Philadelphia)

**Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** - St. Andre Bissette, Religious (20<sup>th</sup> Century, Montreal, Holy Cross Brother)

**Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** - St. Raymond of Penafort, Priest (13<sup>th</sup> century Dominican; patron of Canon and Civil Lawyers)

**Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Weekday

**Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Weekday

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

### 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](http://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.

### A Family Perspective

The Magi in today's gospel were led to Jesus by a star. Who are the stars your children follow? Don't let it be the tabloid stars. Resolve in this New Year to be the guiding star in the life of your children.



Our Lady of Peace...

Pray for us.



### 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.*

## 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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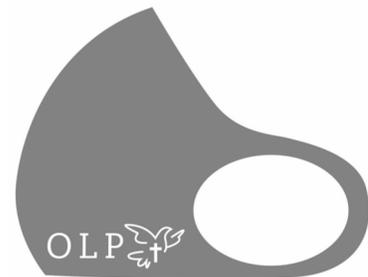
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# Liturgy of the Hours

## The daily prayer of the Church

The Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office or the Work of God (*Opus Dei*), is the daily prayer of the Church, marking the hours of each day and sanctifying the day with prayer. The Hours are a meditative dialogue on the mystery of Christ, using scripture and prayer. At times the dialogue is between the Church or individual soul and God; at times it is a dialogue among the members of the Church; and at times it is even between the Church and the world. The Divine Office "is truly the voice of the Bride herself addressed to her Bridegroom. It is the very prayer which Christ himself together with his Body addresses to the Father." (SC 84) The dialogue is always held, however, in the presence of God and using the words and wisdom of God. Each of the five canonical Hours includes selections from the Psalms that culminate in a scriptural proclamation. The two most important or hinge Hours are Morning and Evening Prayer. These each include a Gospel canticle: the Canticle of Zechariah from Luke 1:68-79 for Morning Prayer (known as the *Benedictus*), and the Canticle of Mary from Luke 1:46-55 for Evening Prayer (known as the *Magnificat*). The Gospel canticle acts as a kind of meditative extension of the scriptural proclamation in light of the Christ event. Morning and Evening Prayer also include intercessions that flow from the scriptural proclamation just as the Psalms prepare for it. In the Hours, the royal priesthood of the baptized is exercised, and this sacrifice of praise is thus connected to the sacrifice of the Eucharist, both preparing for and flowing from the Mass.

"The hymns and litanies of the Liturgy of the Hours integrate the prayer of the psalms into the age of the Church, expressing the symbolism of the time of day, the liturgical season, or the feast being celebrated. Moreover, the reading from the Word of God at each Hour (with the subsequent responses or *troparia*) and readings from the Fathers and spiritual masters at certain Hours, reveal more deeply the meaning of the mystery being celebrated, assist in understanding the psalms, and prepare for silent prayer." (CCC 1177)

### The five Hours of the Divine Office are:

**Office of Readings** "The office of readings seeks to provide God's people, and in particular those consecrated to God in a special way, with a wider selection of passages from sacred Scripture for meditation, together with the finest excerpts from spiritual writers. Even though the cycle of scriptural readings at daily Mass is now richer, the treasures of revelation and tradition to be found in the office of readings will also contribute greatly to the spiritual life" (*General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours* [GILH], no. 55).

**Morning Prayer** "As is clear from many of the elements that make it up, morning prayer is intended and arranged to sanctify the morning. St. Basil the Great gives an excellent description of this character in these words: "It is said in the morning in order that the first stirrings of our mind and will may be consecrated to God and that we may take nothing in hand until we have been gladdened by the thought of God, as it is written: 'I was mindful of God and was glad' (Ps 77:4 [Jerome's translation from Hebrew]), or set our bodies to any task before we do what has been said: 'I will pray to you, Lord, you will hear my voice in the morning; I will stand before you in the morning and gaze on you' (Ps 5:4-5)." "Celebrated as it is as the light of a new day is dawning, this hour also recalls the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, the true light enlightening all people (see Jn 1:9) and "the sun of justice" (Mal 4:2), "rising from on high" (Lk 1:78). Hence, we can well understand the advice of St. Cyprian: "There should be prayer in the morning so that the resurrection of the Lord may thus be celebrated" (GILH, no. 38).

**Daytime Prayer** (can be prayed at Midmorning, Midday, or Midafternoon)

"Following a very ancient tradition Christians have made a practice of praying out of private devotion at various times of the day, even in the course of their work, in imitation of the Church in apostolic times. In different ways with the passage of time this tradition has taken the form of a liturgical celebration.

"Liturgical custom in both East and West has retained midmorning, midday, and midafternoon prayer, mainly because these hours were linked to a commemoration of the events of the Lord's passion and of the first preaching of the Gospel" (GILH, no. 74-75).

**Evening Prayer** "When evening approaches and the day is already far spent, evening prayer is celebrated in order that 'we may give thanks for what has been given us, or what we have done well, during the day.' We also recall the redemption through the prayer we send up 'like incense in the Lord's sight,' and in which 'the raising up of our hands' becomes 'an evening sacrifice' (see Ps 141:2). This sacrifice 'may also be interpreted more spiritually as the true evening sacrifice that our Savior the Lord entrusted to the apostles at supper on the evening when he instituted the sacred mysteries of the Church or of the evening sacrifice of the next day, the sacrifice, that is, which, raising his hands, he offered to the Father at the end of the ages for the salvation of the whole world.' Again, in order to fix our hope on the light that knows no setting, 'we pray and make petition for the light to come down on us anew; we implore the coming of Christ who will bring the grace of eternal light.' Finally, at this hour we join with the Churches of the East in calling upon the 'joy-giving light of that holy glory, born of the immortal, heavenly Father, the holy and blessed Jesus Christ; now that we have come to the setting of the sun and have seen the evening star, we sing in praise of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit..." (GILH, no. 39).

**Night Prayer** "Night prayer is the last prayer of the day, said before retiring, even if that is after midnight" (GILH, no. 84). The Psalms that are chosen for Night Prayer are full of confidence in the Lord.

Taken from USCCB (<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgy-of-the-hours>)

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## **FEAST OF FAITH**    **The Liturgy of Emmanuel**

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy's entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ's presence in our assembly; he will act *in persona Christi*, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. The songs we sing range from ancient chants to contemporary hymns, but they have the same purpose, to foster our unity and turn our thoughts to the mysteries we gather to celebrate. We may feel that we can't sing well, but "Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice" (USCCB, *Sing to the Lord*, 14).

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

### **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

### **Office for the Protection of Children/Youth**

**Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments - January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month:** Who are the perpetrators? Traffickers can be anyone who profits from the selling of a child for sex to a buyer, including family members, foster parents, friends, gangs, trusted adults, or "boyfriends." Much of the trafficking of children has moved from street corners and truck stops to the internet where children are sold for sex. Online classified sites allow traffickers and buyers anonymity and accessibility when exploiting children. In some cases, there is no identified trafficker, and it is the person buying sex from the child who is exploiting the child's vulnerabilities. A child cannot consent to being bought and sold for sex, and anyone purchasing sex from a child is committing a serious crime. If you suspect a case of Child Sex Trafficking you can call 1-800-THE-LOST or make a report at [www.CyberTipline.org](http://www.CyberTipline.org).

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



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

Visit the

**Families Always**

**Matter** website,

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



### **People for Life, Inc.**

- **Erie March for Life**  
Saturday, January 23, 2021 11AM  
The March will take place in downtown Erie at the pavilion in Perry Square.  
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](http://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](mailto:office@peopleforlife.org)

Visit: [www.Facebook.com/MaarchforLifeBusTrip](https://www.facebook.com/MaarchforLifeBusTrip)

### **Holy Hour**

There is no better way to spend time than in front of the Blessed Sacrament.



You and your family are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:15PM.**

The Holy Hour includes Evening Prayer and Benediction.

We hope you will prayerfully