

# Our Lady of Peace

### **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 consider joining us.

#### 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 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/MarchforLifeBusTrip

#### **OLP Casserole Club benefiting Maria House Project**

Following the death of Jeopardy's TV host, Alex Trebek, his wife Jean spread some wisdom and said, "Time is too precious to be spent on anything other than kindness. Many blessings of beauty and joy to you and all you hold dear." These are indeed powerful words of wisdom. Everyone who is part of Maria House Project appreciates the "kindness" Our Lady of Peace and parishioners spend preparing the **casseroles** you donate each month. The residents, volunteers, guests and board thank you for your support for over ten years. We wish everyone a blessed, and healthy New Year!



The January casseroles, benefiting Maria House Project, can be delivered to the Our Lady of Peace church social room (basement) on Saturday, January 16th, between 3:30 and 4:30pm. If you prefer another way, you can deliver it to our house by calling Skip or Dottie Glover at 814-440-3496 or email us at <a href="mailto:scottiedippy@gmail.com">scottiedippy@gmail.com</a>. If you bring the casserole to OLP all COVID procedures must be followed: face mask covering nose and mouth, and six foot distancing. The area will be sanitized before and after the event. You may also leave the casserole with the student in the office during the drop-off time.



#### 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.

January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord

**Parish Office Phone** 

814-833-7701 Fax 814-833-7702

Website

www.olp.org **E-mail** 

olp@olp.org School

School 814-838-3548

**Faith Formation Office** 

814-838-9983

Office Hours:  $8:00\mathrm{AM}$  -  $8:00\mathrm{PM}$  Business Hours:  $8:00\mathrm{AM}$  -  $4:00\mathrm{PM}$ 

#### 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

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

Youth Minister

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 <u>New Parishioners</u> Welcome! Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or online. <u>RCIA</u> (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 Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

— Isaiah 55:1

#### **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



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 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** - Behold my servant with whom I am pleased; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or Isaiah* 55:1-11.

**Psalm** - The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) or Isaiah 12:2-6. **Second Reading** - God anointed him with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:34-38) or 1 John 5:1-

**Gospel** - You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased (Mark 1:7-11). 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: **The Baptism of the Lord** "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:11)

**Adults:** Do you ever feel that you are a beloved child of God and God is well-pleased with you?

Kids: When do you feel most loved?

#### THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this "knits" the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he "knit" himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary's womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

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## **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021**

7:00AM Sharon Bruno - Bill & Jean Parry **12:10PM** John Pulice - Santangelo/Evans Family

#### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021**

7:00AM George Zavasky - Family

12:10PM Chile Schaefer - Barrett Family

1:30PM School Mass - Chuck Harrity - Nancy Dougan

#### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021**

7:00AM Paul Ragan - Paul Vojtek Family

11:30-Noon **Confessions** 

12:10PM Betty Zehner - Why Catholic Group

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

7:00AM Yvonne Strasser - Paul Vojtek Family

12:10PM Timothy Grisier - Sally Barrett

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

7:00AM Gene Zarnick - Wife

12:10PM Edward & Roberta Johns - EJ & Judy Johns

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021

8:00AM Stanley Mackowski -

Deacon John & Tammie Mang

#### 8:30-9AM Confessions

3:45-4:45PM Confessions

**5:00PM** Dorothy Karpinski - Jackie, Dan & Family

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021

#### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30AM Susan Ambro - Family

9:00AM Donald B. McDade - Fred & Evelyn Fried

11:00AM Vinnie LoPiccolo - Gaines & Finazzo Families

**4:30PM** Parishioners

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

#### PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED - Please pray for: Stanley Mackowski; for Charles Fischer; for Frank Sims; and for Marie Tavani. May their families find hope and consolation through their faith in the resurrected Lord.

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Ralph & Eva Dangelo - Sargent Family.

**CHAPEL LAMP** - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Priscilla Passarelli - Daughter, Darlene.

Readings for the Week of January 10th

Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1, 2b, 6, 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20 Monday: Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45 Thursday:

Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12 Friday: Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

#### 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

Qualifies for **Time:** 9:00AM to 1:30PM service hours! Where: 11th & French St.

What: Prepare/Serve the Lunch Meal Time: Any parishioner 15 yrs or older Contact: Scott Barnes, 881-8889

#### 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. 10: Ann T., Veronica W., Pat C., Pat M.

Jan. 11: Dave D., Paul M., Connie S.

Jan. 12: Rose B., Madeline H., Chris P.

Jan. 13: Sylvia B., Phyllis D., Joanie M., Charlie R., Sarah F., Glenn B., Donna R.

Jan. 14: Nancy A., Mary Fran P., Peggy R., Alice S.

Jan. 15: Jean H., Mary Alice W., Loretta B.

Jan. 16: Dee Dee B., Kathi K., Laura D., Kevin D.

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 \* follow laborers with Christ to spend and consume 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...

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's third manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist (recall that the other 2 epiphanies/manifestations were to the shepherds on that first Christmas night and to the Magi). Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget children of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes ((Father=voice from heaven, Son=Jesus, Holy Spirit=dove).

The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparation for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world." And although he did not need the baptism of John, his reception of it also shows his support for the ministry of St. John.

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons and daughters of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

May God bless all the baptized and those preparing for Baptism... and our First Week of Ordinary Time 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...

\*\*This 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. Join us in person or on YouTube.

\*\*65th Anniversary Acts of Kindness and Formation
Parishioners logged 8,553 acts of kindness and formation for our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. With that total we

completed two rosaries and 20% of a third one (they were 3,900 acts per rosary at 65 acts per bead). Well done and thank you to all who participated! You can still log in any acts that were performed between October 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021. The deadline to turn in your completed acts is Monday, January  $18^{th}$ ; at that time we will finalize our anniversary challenge.

- \*\*Special Masses This Week Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>- weekday masses in Ordinary Time; Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>- St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (4<sup>th</sup> Century, Poitiers, France); Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>- Mass In Time of Pandemic; Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>- Mass for Mary, Image and Mother of the Church.
- \*\*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; but until then please know how grateful I am to all of you.
- \*\*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. With the increased COVID restrictions we will wait until things open up to schedule the blessings but feel free to still call and let us know you want to set it up in the future.
- \*\*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 combined 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.
- \*\*Fr. Kyle Update I continue to get questions about Fr. Kyle and so I take this opportunity to tell you that he is 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.

#### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

<u>x</u>

Classes have be students. If you catechist or Core Tammie Mang.

Jan. 9 & 10, 20 students at the Classes have begun for all Religious Education students. If you have not heard form your child's catechist or Confirmation facilitator please contact

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

Jan. 18, 2021 - Confirmation Retreat. Morning session 4:00pm. All retreat paperwork and payments of \$10 are

with their choice ASAP.

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 a due no later than Jan. 10.

All forms can be found on our website under the Fair Formation tab at <a href="https://www.olp.org">www.olp.org</a>
For more info please contact Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Director, at 838-9983 or <a href="mailto:Tammie.mang@olp.org">Tammie.mang@olp.org</a> All forms can be found on our website under the Faith

\*\*Epiphany Proclamation Make sure you 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 worshiping.

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

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

the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

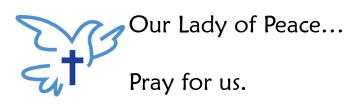
On the 13th day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord

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 28th 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.



#### Special Masses This Week:

Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> - Weekday Mass in Ordinary Time

Tuesday, January 12th - Weekday Mass in Ordinary Time

Wednesday, January 13th - St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (4<sup>th</sup> Century, Poitiers, France)

Thursday, January 14th - Weekday Mass in Ordinary Time

Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> - Purple Mass In Time of Pandemic

Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> - Mass for Mary, Image and Mother of the Church

#### A Family Perspective

The gospel today points to Jesus' humanity; like us He needed RECOGNITION ("You are my Son"), AFFECTION ("My Beloved Son") and AFFIRMATION ("With you I am well pleased"). In our families, it is easy to focus on irritating behaviors and take for granted all the positives. This New Year take a lesson from God the Father, be an AFFIRMER and not a BLAMER.

#### A Stewardship of Sharing Month of November 2020 Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021

Weekly Envelope	\$ 57,543
Loose	
Monthly School Support	
Total Monthly OffertoryBudgeted Monthly Offertory	
Monthly Deficit	\$ 7,613
Diocesan Designated Fund Support	\$ 1,210

#### 2020 CSA February 2020 to January 2021

Pledge Payments Received to Date\$ 171,73  Total Pledges\$ 194,80  490 Families - Goal is 700 Families	0 1
Pledge Payments Received to Date\$ 171,73	07
	38
Goal\$ 200,00	00

Every dollar raised supports important Diocesan services and every dollar raised over our assessment will be kept in the parish for parish improvements. Our 2020 -2021 Diocesan assessment is \$151,719.

0	our Lady of Peace Parish Membership Form	CHECK ONE:
NameAddress	Phone	<ul><li>□ New Registration</li><li>□ Change of Address</li><li>□ Moving out of Parish</li></ul>
City	Zip	Want envelopes
Please dro	pp Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to rectory.	

# 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.

# FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND.

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It's FREE and EASY to Register!

-Go to olp.formed.org (this is the code to use if necessary: 8GQD8J)
-Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!



# OLP Items for Sale: Water Bottles and Face Masks \$5.00 each



# 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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Email: cherarducci@howardhanna.com

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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).

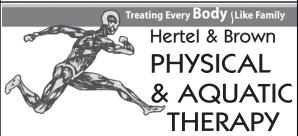
**Evening Prayer**"When evening approaches and the day is already far spent, evening prayer is celebrated in order that 'we may give thanks for what has been given us, or what we have done well, during the day.' We also recall the redemption through the prayer we send up 'like incense in the Lord's sight,' 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.

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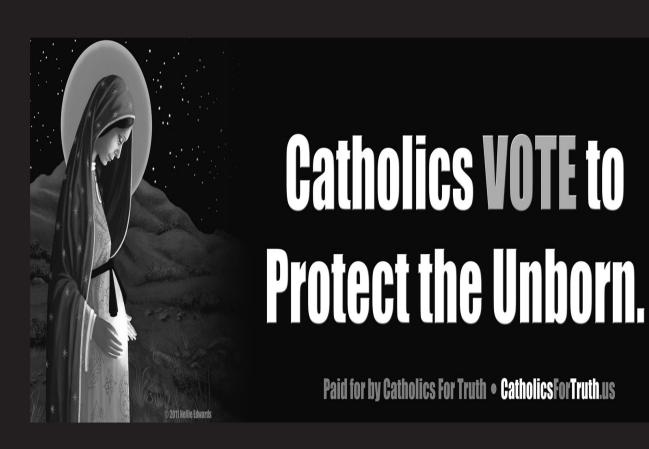
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#### **FEAST OF FAITH** The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say "in the names," but "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our Amen, is our *yes* to all this, our first profession of faith. -Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

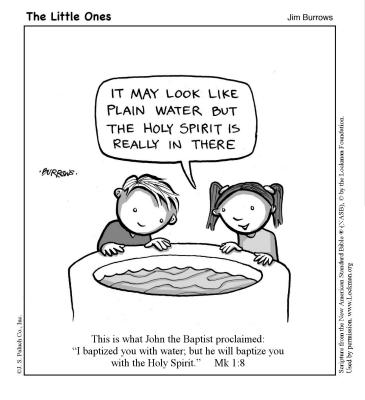


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Congratulation to the following students who have achieved the Honor Roll at Mercyhurst Preparatory School:



Table Blessings

#### **First Honors:**

Anna Buckel (9) Jaiden Howland (9) Kylie Troutman (10) Nicholas Momeyer (9) Vincent DeBernardo (11) Annie Beuchel (12) Jeffrey Giannelli (12) Brooke Moffatt (12)

#### **Second Honors:**

Maddox Brzuz (9) Connor Soety (9) Emma Argaez (10) Lilly Pruchnicki (10) Taylor Friello (11) Kaitlyn Troutman (11) Kaden Bluey (12) Ava Catrabone (12)

#### **Honorable Mention:**

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