



Our Lady of Peace



FORGIVENTM

THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION PRESENTS:

Forgiven

EXPLORE THE GRACE AND HEALING OF
CONFESSION. THE SACRAMENT OF
GOD'S BOUNTIFUL MERCY AND LOVE.

MONDAYS IN LENT
FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 22
6:30 - 8:00PM IN THE CHURCH

Participate in person or from the comfort of your home. The video series is available on FORMED. Visit www.olp.org to join in not already registered. Group discussion will take immediately following the video and will be livestreamed on our Facebook page,

February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

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

Faith Formation Office

814-838-9983

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

School Principal

Mrs. Lisa Panighetti

School Phone

814-838-3548

School Website

www.eriecatholic.org/olp

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.

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

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):

2021: 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.

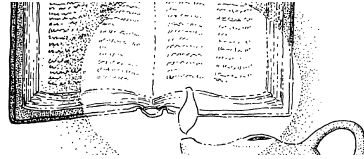
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) Anyone seeking information on becoming Catholic or completing one's initiation into the Catholic faith should call the Parish Office.

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.



**First Sunday of Lent
February 21, 2021**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths.

— Psalm 25:4

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.

February 2021

21st Toiletries / Peanut Butter

28th Cereal / Oatmeal



Pantry is OPEN February 23rd
(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:

Entrance Antiphon - When he calls on me, I will answer him; / I will deliver him and give him glory, / I will grant him length of days.

First Reading - I will set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm - Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

Second Reading - The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel - Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him (Mark 1:12-15)

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: A Change of Heart

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. (1 Peter 3:18)

Adults: When or how could you step away from your daily responsibilities to renew yourself, so that you can do a better job of following in the footsteps of Jesus?

Kids: What good habit could you work on during Lent so you could grow closer to God?

REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

MASS INTENTIONS

Readings for the Week of February 21st

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021

7:00AM Edward Chimenti, III - EJ & Judy Johns

12:10PM Bernadine Zdunski -
Mary Lou & Bob Maracci

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021

7:00AM Shirley Wilczewski - Friends

12:10PM Robert Evans - Donna, Laura & Sally

1:30PM School Mass - Jay Jurgens - Carroll Family

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

7:00AM Rev. Stephen Anderson - Friends

11:30-Noon Confessions

12:10PM Stanley Krawczyk - Jack Prassack

5:00-7:00PM *The Light is On for You*

An opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

7:00AM Patrick Donohue - EJ & Judy Johns

12:10PM David Krasnesky - Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021

7:00AM Charles Fischer -

Diocese of Erie Catholic Schools Office

12:10PM Special Intention for Patty & Dennis Buto -
Denise & Michael Gaines

6:00 PM Confessions

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021

8:00AM Don DiPlacido - Chris & George Opron

8:30-9AM Confessions

3:45-4:45PM Confessions

5:00PM John Hardner - Patricia

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

7:30AM Fr. R. David Ehrman - Ehrman Family

9:00AM Helen Zelina - Joan Santangelo

11:00AM Terrance McQuown - Nora & Mark Olds

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

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;

Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;

Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10,
15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

Special Masses This Week:

Monday, February 22nd - The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Tuesday, February 23rd - St. Polycarp, bishop and martyr (2nd century, from Smyrna (present day Turkey) and disciple of St. John

Wednesday, February 24th - Lenten Weekday

Thursday, February 25th - Lenten Weekday

Friday, February 26th - Lenten Weekday

Saturday, February 27th - Lenten Weekday

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:

Feb. 21: George O., Maureen T., Rami S.

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

Feb. 23: Heidi A.

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

Feb. 25: Christine O.

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

Feb. 27: Ann R.

Feb. 28: Ann F., Michael M.

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

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Robert Majewski - Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Eileen Fulton - Friends.

From the Pastor's Desk...

This Sunday, February 21st we will celebrate the Rite of Election with our RCIA candidates at the 11am Mass. This rite is typically held at St. Peter Cathedral with Bishop Persico to reinforce the bigger church community into which our candidates are preparing to be initiated as well as a chance to pray with the spiritually leader of that community.

Unfortunately that has to be adjusted due to COVID; and the Rite will take place at OLP. This rite marks the beginning of the Period of Enlightenment which is the catechumens (those preparing for Baptism) and candidates (those preparing for Eucharist and Confirmation) final period of preparation for entering full communion with us in the Catholic faith (which takes place at the Easter Vigil- April 4th). The following are the catechumens and candidates here at OLP: Abigail Luzier, sponsor Matthew Luzier; Sue Jean Chang, sponsor Bryan Schwartz; and Brian Tenney, sponsor Annemarie Harrington-Tenney. Please keep them in your prayers.

Initially Lent was a time just for the catechumens of the church to prepare for their initiation but the church quickly realized that this was a great opportunity for all Catholics to be renewed through recommitment to Christian disciplines. So it evolved into the annual "retreat" and basic training that we now experience it to be. Take advantage of it and unite with your brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world in making more room for Jesus in your life and in your heart.

May God bless our RCIA catechumens and candidates and those throughout our Diocese and Universal Church, as well as our week and our Lent 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...

****Lenten Adult Faith Formation Series** On the Mondays of Lent (February 22-March 22) from 6:30-8:00pm we will use the video series from FORMED called "Forgiven." The video will be shown first with discussion to follow around 7:20pm. Those who are participating from home should watch the video on FORMED and then join Facebook Live for the discussion.

****"The Light is On for You"** Confessions will be heard at all participating local parishes including OLP from **5-7pm on Wednesday, February 24th**. See elsewhere for list of participating parishes.

****Stations of the Cross and Confessions** During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7pm with Confessions offered every Friday of Lent as well from 6-7pm in the Chapel.

****Special Masses This Week** Monday, February 22nd- The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Tuesday, February 23rd- St. Polycarp, Bishop and martyr (2nd century, from Smyrna (present day Turkey) and disciple of St. John); Wednesday, February 24th- 27th- Lenten Weekdays.

****OLP School Open House** There will be an open house for all 6 schools of the Erie Catholic School System on Sundays, February 21st and 28th from 12-2pm. Please consider Catholic education for your children's formation and know that there is some financial aid for those that the tuition is prohibitive. Please see the back cover of this bulletin for more information on how to register.

****Year of St. Joseph and his Statue at OLP** Back in December, Pope Francis invited all Catholics to celebrate a "Year of St. Joseph" from December 2020 to December 2021. This is a way to celebrate the 150th anniversary of when he was declared the universal patron of the Catholic Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. Our focus on this as a parish will begin in March (the month of his feast day, March 19th) but in the meantime we have moved our parish statue of St. Joseph into the front of the church to remind us of this special year in his honor.

**** "24 Hours for the Lord"** An initiative of Pope Francis, this is a focused time of Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. **It will be held at St. Peter Cathedral on March 12th and 13th from 5pm-5pm.**

****Men's Conference** The Annual Diocesan Men's Conference will be held on **Saturday, February 27th from 9am-1pm**. Several parishes (including OLP) will host smaller groups of men who will participate virtually together and have an opportunity for Confession and Adoration as well. More information on registration and details can be found on page 7 in this bulletin and registration forms are available on the bulletin boards.

****Women's Conference** OLP will host the Annual Women's Conference on **Saturday, March 20th**. There is limited seating so make sure to make your reservation now to ensure a seat. See page 7 in this bulletin for more details. Registration forms are available on the bulletin boards.

****Lenten Opportunities for Prayer and Almsgiving**

DAILY MASS (it has been a powerful Catholic tradition to commit to daily Mass more regularly during Lent); Daily Rosary is said at 11:35am in the main church from Monday through Friday; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, March 5th from 7:30am-7pm and March 30th to March 31st (Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week) from 1pm to 12 Noon (23 hours straight); Operation Rice Bowl (given to all children in school and available in the church) to support Catholic Relief Services.

****Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) 2021** The theme is "Forward Together." The work of our church takes more than the efforts of any one parish, school or ministry. Each diocesan office and ministry, serves our sprawling diocese. Some of these offices oversee Catholic schools, faith formation, charitable agencies, and, quite importantly, the Office for the

Protection of Children and Youth. I strongly encourage you to read the Faith Magazine that you recently received which outlines all that the Diocese does and how our money is used. Please be assured that funding from the annual CSA is strictly designated for spending on the ministries and services coordinated through diocesan offices. No funds donated to the CSA have been or will be used to defray expenses related to the sexual abuse scandal.

Also remember that every dollar raised over our assessment of \$137,524 stays in our parish to fund different projects. This year the project identified by our parish Properties Committee in conjunction with our Finance Council is the upgrading of our interior church lighting to LED. This will not only decrease our lighting expenses and improve our energy efficiency, it will also provide brighter worship space. In order to fund this project our overall parish financial goal for CSA 2021 is \$195,000. And I am glad to report that we have already raised \$16,000 towards this goal through last year's "Erie Gives" effort. This leaves a remainder of 179,000 to reach our overall goal. Below is a summary:

Diocesan Assessment	\$137,524
+Parish Project- Upgrade Church Lights	57,476
PARISH GOAL for CSA 2021	\$195,000
-Erie Gives 2020 money raised	\$16,000
Total needed to meet goal for CSA 2021	\$179,000

Please prayerfully consider your response this year. Pledges can be made as a one time payment, twice a year or over a ten month period. Last weekend was Commitment Sunday and you should have received a pledge envelope with our recent CSA mailing or you can pick up an envelope in the church vestibule. Please return your pledge card whether or not you are making a financial pledge to let me know you received it and are invested in our spiritual family. I truly appreciate all the sacrifices you and your family make for our parish and Diocesan Church.

LENT AND CRS RICE BOWL

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.



Hunger in Our World. Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of these least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger - it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world?

People in Madagascar, El Salvador and Timor-Leste work hard to grow nutritious food so their families can have a well-balanced diet. Name some nutritious foods that you enjoy. **Read this week's story at: crsricebowl.org.**

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

First Communion Parent Meeting is Saturday, March 7, 2021 at 12:15PM in the church. At this meeting parents will choose date (Everyone should get the date of their choosing) and pew for First Communion.

February 28: Final Bishop Letter and Service Hours paper

Remember that forms may be turned in before the due dates and can be dropped off in the church vestibule (in the box provided) or mailed to: Our Lady of Peace Church, Faith Formation Office, 2401 W 38th St., Erie, PA 16506

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

St. Joe's Homeless Shelter Sign Up Info

This year, the St. Joseph/Bread of Life Overflow Shelter will be located on the second floor of the Mental Health Association (MHA), located at 1101 Peach St., Erie, PA 16501. **St. Joe's will be hosting the shelter now thru Wednesday, March 3rd, at 7:00AM.** You can sign up online with the Sign-Up Genius hyperlink below. You can also call, text, or email Shawn Tubbs (number below) with any questions. There are many time slots to be filled. All COVID-19 restrictions and info can be found on the website.

Please note:

- We will provide dinner on Saturday, February 27th. It will be a cold meal (ex. sub sandwiches & chips) and must be bagged or boxed. Volunteers are needed to make the meals and deliver them to the MHA by 7PM. If you are interested please contact Shawn Tubbs.
- The Erie United Methodist Association will be providing paid volunteers for both the evening and early morning shifts. However, we need at least one volunteer for the 7-11PM evening shift, and two volunteers for the 11PM-3AM (late night) & 3-7AM (early morning shifts).
- Due to COVID-19, we are not permitted to have a standard clothing drive. We are accepting cash donations to be used for the meal and for necessities. Please contact Diane in the office if you would be willing to make a cash donation, 452-2982.

Sign-Up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044eacae2fa0fe3-ourneighbors>

or text "Sign-Up" to 823-5520 to receive a Hyperlink to your phone
Shawn Tubbs cell: 814-823-5520 Email: pavecareserv@gmail.com

Journey through Scripture Series St. Paul Center

Register for their free Lenten video series:
PAROUSIA The Bible and the Mass

Journey to the heart of the Mass.

Visit: <https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/>

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

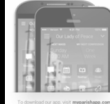
Ways to stay connected during this time:

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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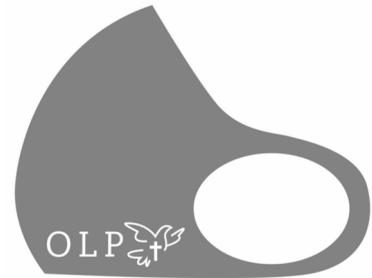
-Go to **olp.formed.org** (this is the code to use if necessary: 8GQD8J)

-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



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Chris Ehrman, Parishioner
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1620 W. 8th St. 456-6211

2021 Men's & Women's Conferences

Both Conference's will offer in-person & Zoom format. Flyers are available on the OLP Bulletin Board

22:32 Men's Conference At a Parish near you Saturday, February 27, 2021 9:00AM to Noon

For more info, please contact Greg Sweigard at greg.sweigard@outlook.com or call 814-323-7841
Visit: www.2232men.com

1:38 Women's Conference Our Lady of Peace Church, Erie Saturday, March 20, 2021 9:00AM to Noon

Visit: www.138women.com for more info and to register

22:32 MEN

Be Not Afraid!

2021 CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon Event

At a Parish near you

Check our website for a list of parishes

All Faiths are Welcome!

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"BUT I HAVE PRAYED FOR YOU
THAT YOUR FAITH MAY NOT FAIL.
AND WHEN YOU HAVE TURNED BACK,
STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS."
LUKE 22:32



BISHOP LAWRENCE
PERSICO

We have decentralized our conference for this year to mitigate the potential for covid exposure. Our website has a list of parishes where small groups can gather for the conference.

www.2232Men.com
info@2232Men.com
for more details and to register.

\$15/Adult
\$10/Group of 8 or More
\$5/High School Student

The Sixth Annual 1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MARCH 20, 2021



THE HIVE

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH / 2401 W. 38th St., Erie
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM / Cost: Donation only
Adoration, Confession and Mass / Master of Ceremonies: Fr. Larry Richards

THE SPEAKERS



CARALYN COLLAR
Writer and speaker for
BeautyBeyondBones blog



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

THREE WAYS TO BEE WITH US

1. Live in-person at Our Lady of Peace Parish.
2. Virtually at satellite parishes via Zoom. Participating parishes to be announced on the website.
3. Virtually via Zoom at your own home.

Be sure to watch the video on our website for more info about these options and check the website often for updates!

Buzz over here for more details and to register:
www.138women.com or 814/455-7364



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Diocese of Erie Vocation Office

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EXPIRES: June 30, 2020 CODE: CHURCH

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For further information,
please call the Parish Office.

Jim Lyons
Financial
Advisor
CFP, AAMS
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**A Stewardship of Sharing
Month of January 2021
Fiscal Year July 2020 - June 2021**

Weekly Envelope	\$ 64,775
Loose	\$ 836
Monthly School Support.....	\$ 824
Total Monthly Offertory.....	\$ 66,435
Budgeted Monthly Offertory	\$ 77,083
Monthly Deficit	\$10,648
Diocesan Designated Fund Support	\$ 56

**2021 CSA
February 2021 to January 2022**

Goal	\$ 179,000
Pledge Payments Received to Date.....	\$ 54,444
Total Pledges	\$ 93,520
213 Families - Goal is 700 Families	

Every dollar raised supports important Diocesan services and **every dollar raised over our assessment will be kept in the parish for parish improvements. Our 2021 -2022 Diocesan assessment is \$137,524.**

A Family Perspective

Jesus went into the desert to put his life in perspective. This lent, take a fresh look at a difficult relationship in your life. Concentrate on the positive things that person does, not just the negatives. Try to understand why their behaviors 'bug' you. Can you honestly share your feelings with them without attacking them? Make Lent a time to MEND and FORGIVE!

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FEAST OF FAITH

Seasonal Changes for the Liturgies of Lent

Today is the First Sunday of Lent. During this season of preparation for Easter, our churches look stark and simple—no flowers at the altar, no festive banners or decorations. And our liturgies feel different, too. The organ is quiet except to accompany the singing of the assembly. The Gloria, our Sunday song of rejoicing, is not heard except on solemnities, and we will not sing the Alleluia, our joyful acclamation of praise, until the Easter Vigil. "Alleluia cannot always / Be our song while here below," says an eleventh-century hymn. "Alleluia our transgressions / Make us for a while forego; / For the solemn time is coming / When our tears for sins must flow" (*Alleluia dulce carmen*, J. M. Neale, trans.).

These changes in the liturgy will catch our attention, and make us eager for the festive outpouring of joy that will return with Easter. This year, may the stripped-away liturgies of Lent remind us to strip away what is not essential in our lives to make space for the crucified and risen One, and thus to be ready to sing "Alleluia" once again when Easter returns.

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

Kindergarten thru 8th grade

OPEN HOUSE

12 TO 2pm

SUNDAY, FEB 21st & SUNDAY, FEB 28th

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*Blessed Sacrament, St. James,
St. Jude, and St. Luke*

SUN FEB 28TH 12PM-2PM

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school/classroom availability may be limited

Pre-registration is required: www.eriecatholic.org

