



Our Lady of Peace

**SHE WILL BEAR A SON
AND YOU ARE TO NAME HIM**

JESUS

**BECAUSE HE WILL SAVE HIS
PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS.**

Matthew 1:18-24

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
Ms. Shivani Suri
School Phone
814-838-3548
School Website
www.eriecatholic.org/olp

Parish Pastoral Team

Pastor

Rev. Rich Toohey
(fr.rich@olp.org)

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Dave Whiteford
Priest in Residence

Rev. Shane Mathew

Permanent Deacons

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
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Miss Sarah Beaver

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Michael Przepierski

Pastoral Council President

Mr. Justin Miles

Finance Council Chairman

Mr. Paul Wojtek

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 12:30PM. A mandatory preparation class for parents is available. *Call the office for info.*

Sacrament of Matrimony An appointment with a parish priest six months prior to the wedding date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wednesdays 11:15AM-12:00PM
Saturdays 8:30-9AM; 3:45-4:45PM
or by appointment.

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.

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.

December 2022

18th Rice / Oatmeal

25th Pasta Sauce / Pasta



Pantry is OPEN December 20th (due to Christmas) (every 2nd & 4th Tuesday) 9-11AM for those living in Millcreek & for OLP Parishioners, at

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
- Pet Food
- Laundry Supplies
- Toilet Tissue/Kleenex
- Paper Towels/Napkins
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Reusable Grocery Bags

Thank you!

The OLP Prayer Ministry

This is a ministry for those individuals who are unable to attend usual parish functions perhaps due to an impairment, lack of transportation or illness. This active ministry can be done from home, a nursing home, the hospital, etc. Those who participate will be asked to voluntarily pray for a specific group, ministry or function as the meeting, ministry or function is occurring.

Prayer is vital to our lives and keeps us connected as members of the Body of Christ.

For more information, contact: Deacon John at deacon.john@olp.org or Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Office at 814-838-9983.

Sunday's Readings:

Entrance Antiphon - Drop down dew from above, you heavens, / and let the clouds rain down the Just One; / let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

First Reading - You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalms - The king of glory shall come in (Psalm 24).

Second Reading - God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel - The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

Family Discussion of the Week: Welcoming Light

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took Mary as his wife. (Matthew 1:24)

Adults: Whom do you find it difficult to welcome in your life? What can you do to overcome that?

Kids: What could you do this week to make someone feel welcome, as Joseph welcomed Mary?

GOD WANTS TO BE ONE WITH US

What great lengths God will go to in loving and saving us! Think of the most outlandish circumstance you might conceive. That seems to be what the Lord is saying to Ahaz in today's first reading. "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Not only is the idea of a virgin conceiving beyond comprehension in Ahaz's time, so would the concept of God wanting to be with us be, as the name Emmanuel indicates. And yet, this is what we celebrate in the Incarnation—God wants so completely to be one with us that God came to be with us in a son born to a virgin, the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is more to this story than even these amazing and outlandish occurrences, however. God wants to be one with us so deeply that God partners with us to make God's presence known.

Readings for the Week of December 18th

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;
Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14;
Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29;
Lk 1:67-79

Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29;
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14;
Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7;
Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6;
Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Please see page 7 for the Christmas Mass Schedule

“Christmas isn’t just a
temporal celebration
or the memory of a
beautiful (event);
Christmas is more...
Christmas is an
encounter!”
~Pope Francis

The church will remain open for private prayer
Monday through Thursday from 7:00AM - 8:00PM and
Friday 7:00AM - 4:00PM

Confessions available (in the Chapel):

Wednesdays 11:15-Noon
Saturday 8:30-9:00AM and 3:45-4:45PM
or by appointment - call the Church Office

A Family Perspective

The question put to Jesus in today’s gospel is also
put to us today: “Are you the one?” Are you the
one who will give guidance to the children in
your life or must they look to TV sitcoms, Facebook,
videos or music lyrics for direction? Are you the one?
Will you be the one?

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in
memory of Christine Langer - Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory
of Ed Tomczak - Wife.

BANN II
Brian Bartone / Jenn Malue



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. 18: Frank G, Carlee Y., Rachel O.
Dec. 19: Amber D, Chris L.
Dec. 20: Debi C., Kim D., James T., Roseann G., Donna G.
Dec. 21: George O., Maureen T., Rami S.
Dec. 22: John G., Sally R., Dianne Y., Gloria M.
Dec. 23: Heidi A.
Dec. 24: Mary Ann A., Magherita H., Audrey & Robert H.
Dec. 25: Christine O.

*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

From the Pastor's Desk...

Happy Late Advent! During these last days of Advent, the Church shifts its liturgical focus from preparation for the 2nd Coming of Christ at the end of time (we do not know the day or hour) to preparing to celebrate his 1st Coming on that first Christmas Day. Recall the O' Antiphons are one way the church prepares liturgically so I call to your attention the information on the "great O's" below. A few other notes about our preparation.

1. Since we are trying something new with the nativity scene we will be bringing the pieces up early in the week (Monday night) so work can be done on our new setup in the back of church. I am normally a stickler for not having Christmas decorations up in the church until December 25; but I hope you understand if the nativity is in the church a little early (and it also gives us a few more days with it since we have the shortest Christmas Season this year, two weeks and one day).
2. Because Christmas falls on a Sunday this year we will have two Masses Christmas Day (Sunday, December 25th) at 8am and 10am as well as the Christmas Eve Masses on Saturday, December 24th at 5pm, 7:30pm and 12 Midnight.
3. I want to take this opportunity to let you know that I am making a change to our Christmas music ministry. In recognizing that the 5:00PM and Midnight Masses on Christmas Eve are the most popular Masses and that it can be difficult for ministers to participate in the Midnight Mass; I have decided to rotate the music ministry at the 5:00PM Mass between our two choirs (Voice of Peace Choir and Selah Praise Band). I have decided to move Voice of Peace Choir (normally ministering at Midnight Mass) to the 5:00PM Christmas Eve Mass for this year. As a result, Selah Praise Band (normally ministering at the 5:00PM Mass) will not be able to minister on Christmas Eve this year since the group is only able to participate together at the 5:00PM Mass. To serve the Midnight Mass a mix of available members of OLP music ministry will join Brian Kuzmin in a vocal ensemble. I know the Holy Spirit will provide the grace we need to celebrate the truth of Christmas with great joy and devotion. I thank all our music ministers at Our Lady of Peace who are so committed to this important ministry and make many sacrifices to enhance our liturgy! If you have any questions or concerns on this, do not hesitate to contact me.

May God bless our 4th Week of Late Advent 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...

****Thank you to everyone who participated in or supported our Advent activities at OLP over the last few weeks.**

1. Thank you to the Rosary Society for donating the cost of framing the picture of the Our Lady of Peace Relief from the School building that was blessed & hung in Church on December 7th. I also thank Fr. Mark Hoffman for his work in getting the photo and having it framed.
2. Thank you to the Catholic Foundation of NWPa which awarded OLP a grant for the Comfort and Joy Concert on Dec 9th/Youth Retreat on Dec 10th. We also received an anonymous donation to help defray the costs for the concert. Thank you to our concert volunteers as well.
3. I thank all those who donated household supplies for our Advent Community Experience as well as those who helped organize that event or pack that night. We helped provide supplies for 125 families through the West Millcreek Food Pantry.
4. Thank you to those who donated gift cards for the St. Martin Center Shining Stars Program.

****New Evangelization Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with music by Selah on Monday, December 19th -7pm.**

****Hopefully you have seen the 2023 Parish Calendars that are at the doors of the church.** I thank our sponsors for making them possible to all of us: Scott Enterprises, ECCA, Inc., First National Bank West 8th branch, Beer and Pop Discount Warehouse, OLP Knights of Columbus and Cynthia Berarducci, Howard Hanna. I am grateful for their support.

****Masses this Week** Monday, Dec. 19th, Tuesday, Dec. 20th, Thursday, Dec. 22nd and Saturday, Dec. 24th- Late Advent Weekdays; Wednesday, Dec. 21st- St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church; Friday, Dec. 23rd St. John Kanty, Priest.

****The 2023 Holy Land Pilgrimage is full. There is now a wait list.** I apologize but once those discerning heard it was filling up there was a big push of registrations. We have 56 pilgrims, I encourage you to get on the wait list if you are interested in going. If the number grows large enough we will consider a second bus.

****Advent Penance Service/Confessions** OLP will have a Penance Service on **Sunday, December 18th at 6:00pm.** We will also have individual confessions available after every Sunday Mass in Advent; as well as our practice of individual confessions on **Wednesdays from 11:15am-12 Noon and Saturdays after the 8am Mass and from 3:45-4:45pm.** As always Fr. Dave and I are happy to set up an appointment with you for Confession if these other opportunities do not fit your schedule. I cannot encourage you enough to take advantage of this great Sacrament this Advent.

****iGiveOLP/#iGiveCatholic** A huge thank you to all who donated to the #iGiveCatholic Campaign! We met both of our parish goals with 160 donations and \$45,340! This was number one in both categories throughout the Diocese of Erie and 37th in donations and 71st in donations received nationally! OLP was also awarded a \$1,000 prize for the most donors at a parish. This is a major help to overcome our budget deficit for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

****Nativity Scene at Our Lady of Peace Parish:** We are blessed to have a beautiful nativity set at Our Lady of Peace which was purchased in 2012 through the generous donations of many parishioners under the leadership of Fr. Jason Feigh while he was Parochial Vicar (2011-2013). I am very grateful to all those who were part of that effort! I know our manger scene is a significant part of our Christmas decorations every year, and that it certainly helps us meditate on the Christmas truth of the Son of God becoming flesh as a baby in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago.

Shortly after my arrival at OLP, I established a Renovation Committee that was looking at the possibility of building a gathering space for the church. As part of that process, the group studied "Built of Living Stone," the guidelines for liturgical space created by the U.S. Catholic Bishops (USCCB). This process led the Liturgy Committee to prayerfully discern our parish approach with our nativity set. The study indicates the bishops desire to not have any "decorations" in the sanctuary that may take away from the focus of Christ's presence in His Word and Sacrament in the Mass.

In this time of Eucharistic Revival in the church, we are called to go deeper in our understanding of, appreciation for, and experience of the Eucharist and Christ's presence in the Mass. The Liturgy Committee and I would like to move the nativity scene out of the sanctuary this Christmas season and into the area of the Sacred Heart Shrine in the back of church. This move will also allow the entire nativity scene to be seen together, all in one place. On behalf of our Liturgy Committee, we appreciate your openness to this decision. After the Christmas season the Liturgy Committee will evaluate this move and welcome your input!

Below I list some of the documentation that the committee discussed as part of this discernment.

Built of Living Stones - § 124 § "Plans for seasonal decorations should include other areas besides the sanctuary. Decorations are intended to draw people to the true nature of the mystery being celebrated rather than being ends in themselves. Natural flowers, plants, wreaths and fabric hangings, and other seasonal objects can be arranged to enhance the primary liturgical points of focus. The altar should remain clear and free-standing, not walled in by massive floral displays or the Christmas crib, and pathways in the narthex, nave, and sanctuary should remain clear."

Book of Blessings- Blessing of a Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene:

1541 In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to Saint Francis of Assisi who made the Christmas creche or manger for Christmas eve of 1223. However, as early as the fourth century representations of the nativity of the Lord were painted as wall decorations depicting not only the infancy narrative accounts of Christ's birth, but also

the words of the prophets Isaiah and Habakkuk taken to mean that the Messiah would be born in the midst of animals in a manger."

1544 "If the manger is set up in the church, it must not be placed in the presbyterium (sanctuary). A place should be chosen that is suitable for prayer and devotion and is easily accessible by the faithful."

****O Antiphons** Part of the build up in anticipation during this last week of Advent in the liturgy of the church are the great "O Antiphons" of Advent. They are introduced at Evening Prayer on December 17th, and they are seven jewels of liturgical song, one for each day until Christmas Eve (which I see as a kind of Holy Week for Christmas and are traditionally called the days of "Late" Advent). They seem to sum up all our Advent longing for the Savior. The "O Antiphons" are intoned with special solemnity in monasteries at Vespers, before and after the Magnificat, Mary's prayer of praise and thanksgiving from the Gospel of Luke (2:42-55), which is sung or said every evening as the climax of this Hour of the Divine Office.

A vestige of the "Great O's" can be seen in verses of the familiar Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". Each antiphon is a name of Christ, one of his attributes mentioned in Scripture. The "O Antiphons" (Latin in parenthesis) appear below in English translation, with scriptural sources and suggested symbols. The first letters of the titles in Latin taken backwards form an acrostic of "Ero Cras" which translates to "I will be tomorrow", mirroring the theme of the antiphons.

The "O Antiphons"

- December 17:** (*O Sapientia*) O WISDOM, who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: Come, and teach us the way of prudence.
Sirach 24:2; Wisdom 8:1. Symbols: oil lamp, open book.
- December 18:** (*O Adonai*) O LORD AND RULER of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come, and redeem us with outstretched arm.
Exodus 3:2, 20:1. Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets.
- December 19:** (*O Radix Jesse*) O ROOT OF JESSE, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not.
Isaiah 11:1-3. Symbol: vine or plant with flower (especially a rose).
- December 20:** (*O Clavis David*) O KEY OF DAVID, and Scepter of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: Come, and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.
Isaiah 22:22. Symbols: key; broken chains.
- December 21:** (*O Oriens*) O DAWN OF THE EAST, brightness of the light eternal, and Sun of Justice: Come, and enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.
Psalm 19:6-7. Symbol: rising sun.
- December 22:** (*O Rex Gentium*) O KING OF THE GENTILES and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one: Come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth.
Psalm 2:7-8, Ephesians 2:14-20. Symbols, Crown, scepter.
- December 23:** (*O Emmanuel*) O EMMANUEL, God with us, our King and Lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior: Come to save us, O Lord our God.
Isaiah 7:14; 33:22. Symbols: tablets of stone, Chalice and Host.



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FUNDRAISER

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CHILD IN THE
SAME FAMILY

JAN 27TH; MAR 3RD; MAY 5TH
5:30-9pm

Dinner, snacks, crafts, games, & prayer included.
Must RSVP, no walk in's. Limited spots.



RSVP to sarah.beaver@olp.org by the Wednesday before!

Bulletin Deadlines for Christmas and New Years

Advent is upon us and with it comes some early deadlines for the bulletin. They are as follows:

For Sunday, January 1, 2023, articles are due December 19, 2022

For Sunday, January 8, 2023, articles are due December 21, 2022

You may e-mail the info to: cynthia.berarducci@olp.org
or drop it off at the church office.

**Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation with these early deadlines.*



MONDAY, December 19, 2022

7:00AM Carrie DiPlacido -
Sr. Claudia Dombrowski
12:10PM John Wojtek, Sr. -
Paul Wojtek Family
7:00PM *Holy Hour for the New Evangelization*
with music by SELAH

WEDNESDAY, December 21, 2022

7:00AM Ruth Young - OLP Rosary Society
12:10PM Greg Galdon - Family

FRIDAY, December 23, 2022

7:00AM Mary Donovan - OLP Rosary Society
12:10PM Dennis Drake - Wife, Linda

TUESDAY, December 20, 2022

7:00AM Special Intention for Mary Barrett -
Gallagher Family
12:10PM Genevieve Krasnesky - Family
1:30PM School Mass - Vera Barna - Friends

THURSDAY, December 22, 2022

7:00AM Donald Tatar - Gallagher Family
12:10PM Debra Szymanowski-McIntosh - Mom



Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 24, 2022

8:00AM Henry Truchanowicz - Gin Torrelli

Christmas Eve

5:00PM John & Peggy Pulice - Family

7:30PM Michael & Marianne Fetzer -
Tom & June Carr

Midnight 12:00AM Parishioners



SUNDAY, December 25, 2022

The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas

8:00AM Amelia Pozzutti Patsy -
Son & Daughter-in-Law

10:00AM Carolyn Brabender - Family

MONDAY, December 26, 2022

7:00AM Gert Milkowski - Daughter, Nancy
12:10PM Edward Karpinski -
Jackie, Dan & Family

WEDNESDAY, December 28, 2022

7:00AM Walter Schreiber, Jr. - Family
12:10PM Larry & Patricia Smith - Family

FRIDAY, December 30, 2022

7:00AM Norma Kalie - Husband, Jim
12:10PM Josephine Marie Przybycin - Fred & Evelyn Fried
4:00PM Wedding - Brian Bartone / Jenn Malue

TUESDAY, December 27, 2022

7:00AM John Wojtkielewicz - Family
12:10PM Ann Cuzzola - Family

THURSDAY, December 29, 2022

7:00AM Bruno Caserta - Olds Family
12:10PM Marcy Lubin - Family



New Year's Mass Schedule

SATURDAY, December 31, 2022

8:00AM Marie Kengersky -
Sylvia & Greg Bosner

Vigil: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

5:00PM James Hoffman - Ed & Rina

11PM-Midnight *Holy Hour for Peace*



SUNDAY, January 1, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

7:30AM Living & Deceased Members of OLP

9:00AM Jim & Lee Vencenyo - Shirley Irish

11:00AM Jack Dann -

Keith & Cynthia Berarducci

4:30PM Tim Nagle - John Prassack

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:

Some of our communications are by Email; please make sure the office has your current email address.

In addition to the weekly emails, which contain updates and resources you can use to strengthen your Spiritual life, you may also visit our website: **www.olp.org**.

Downloaded the **MyParishApp** as we use the App as well.

To the right are directions for the App and how to log into **FORMED**, both are great resources.



**OLP Items for Sale:
Water Bottles / Face Masks
\$5.00 each**



Download Our Parish App!



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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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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:
Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18

Time: 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Where: 11th & French St.

What: Prepare/Serve the Lunch Meal

Time: Any parishioner 15 yrs or older

Contact: Scott Barnes, 881-8889

Qualifies for service hours!

Advertiser of the Week:

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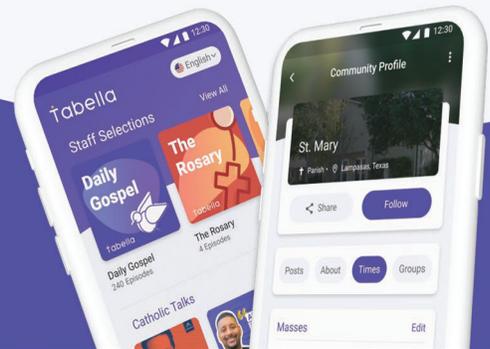
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ERIE AREA YOUTH GROUP

Schedule Fall-Spring 2022-23



December

- Dec. 2nd-HS/MS night
- Dec. 7th-HS YG-off campus-6:30-8:30pm
- Dec. 10th-MS/HS Sarah Hart & Steve Angrisano Event-8:30am-noon
- Dec. 14th-MS YG-OLP Social Room, 6:30-8pm
- Dec. 19th-Holy hour, OLP Church, families welcome, starting at 7pm
- Dec. 21st-HS YG Christmas Party, OLP Social Room 6:30-8:30pm
- Dec. 22nd-MS YG Christmas Party, OLP Social Room 6:30-8:30 pm
- Dec. 31st-11pm Holy hour at OLP

February

- Feb. 1st-HS YG, off campus 6:30-8:30pm
- Feb. 3-5th-DME Opportunity
- Feb. 8th-MS YG, Lib 6:30-8pm
- Feb. 15th-MS/HS Ripple Effect Event 6-8:30pm
- Feb. 20th-Holy hour, OLP Church, families welcome, starting at 7pm, with refreshments to follow
- Feb. 21st-Mardi Gras Party, families welcome, time & location TBD
- Feb. 23rd-MS YG, social room 6:30-8pm
- Feb. 24-26th-HS Winter Retreat

January

- Jan. 4th-HS YG-off campus 6:30-8:30pm
- Jan. 6th-Kid's Night Out
- Jan. 9th-Holy hour, OLP Church, families welcome, starting at 7pm
- Jan. 11th-MS YG, OLP Social Room, 6:30-8pm
- Jan. 17th-HS/MS YG OLP Social Room, 6:30-8:30pm
- Jan. 19th-Holy hour for Life 9:30pm, OLP Church
- Jan. 20th-March for Life Event, info TBD
- Jan. 25th-MS/HS Ripple Effect Event 6-8:30pm

March

- Mar. 3rd-Kid's Night Out
- Mar. 8th-HS YG, off campus 6:30-8:30pm
- Mar. 15th-MS/HS Ripple Effect Event 6-8:30pm
- Mar. 17-19th-MS Winter Retreat
- Mar. 20th-St. Joseph's Table, OLP Cafeteria, time TBD
- Mar. 29th- HS YG, social room 6:30-8:30pm
- Mar. 31-Apr. 2-DME Opportunity



FOOD PANTRY
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
 Must be 18 years of age

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Afternoon: 1-3:30

Friday
Morning: 8:45-12:15
Afternoon: 1-3:30

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Interested? Contact:
Wanda Rodriguez 814-452-6113 x227

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Las Posadas (December 16-24)

Of the many Latin American traditions for the celebration of Advent and Christmas, the tradition of *Las Posadas* seems to be the best known. It originated in the last half of the eighteenth century when the boisterous *Misas de Aguinaldo* were no longer celebrated in Mexico. To replace these Masses, the laity decided to celebrate in their own homes by taking what they had seen dramatized in the churches: the journey of the Galilean immigrants, Joseph and Mary of Nazareth, when they were looking for an inn (*posada*) in Bethlehem of Judea. Like the "O Antiphons" of the official liturgy, these *posadas* were celebrated on nine consecutive nights.

The journey of Joseph and Mary from inn to inn sadly continues every day in the fearful and tired steps taken by so many immigrants in this country. Like the Holy Family, Latin American families look for hospitality with the hope of finding a new life for their sons and daughters. Unfortunately, many citizens of the United States behave like the people of Bethlehem, preferring to close their door in the face of the immigrants rather than welcoming them. Perhaps that is the reason that the tradition of *Las Posadas* has taken on so much importance among the Latinos in the United States. We know firsthand what Joseph and Mary experienced two thousand years ago. We have to ask ourselves: When will the human heart change? When will we open the doors of our heart to our immigrant Lord?

—Friar Gilberto Cavazos-González, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer for Generosity

Lord, teach me to be generous.
 Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
 to give and not to count the cost,
 to fight and not to heed the wounds,
 to toil and not to seek for rest,
 to labor and not to ask for reward,
 save that of knowing that I do your will.

— Saint Ignatius of Loyola