

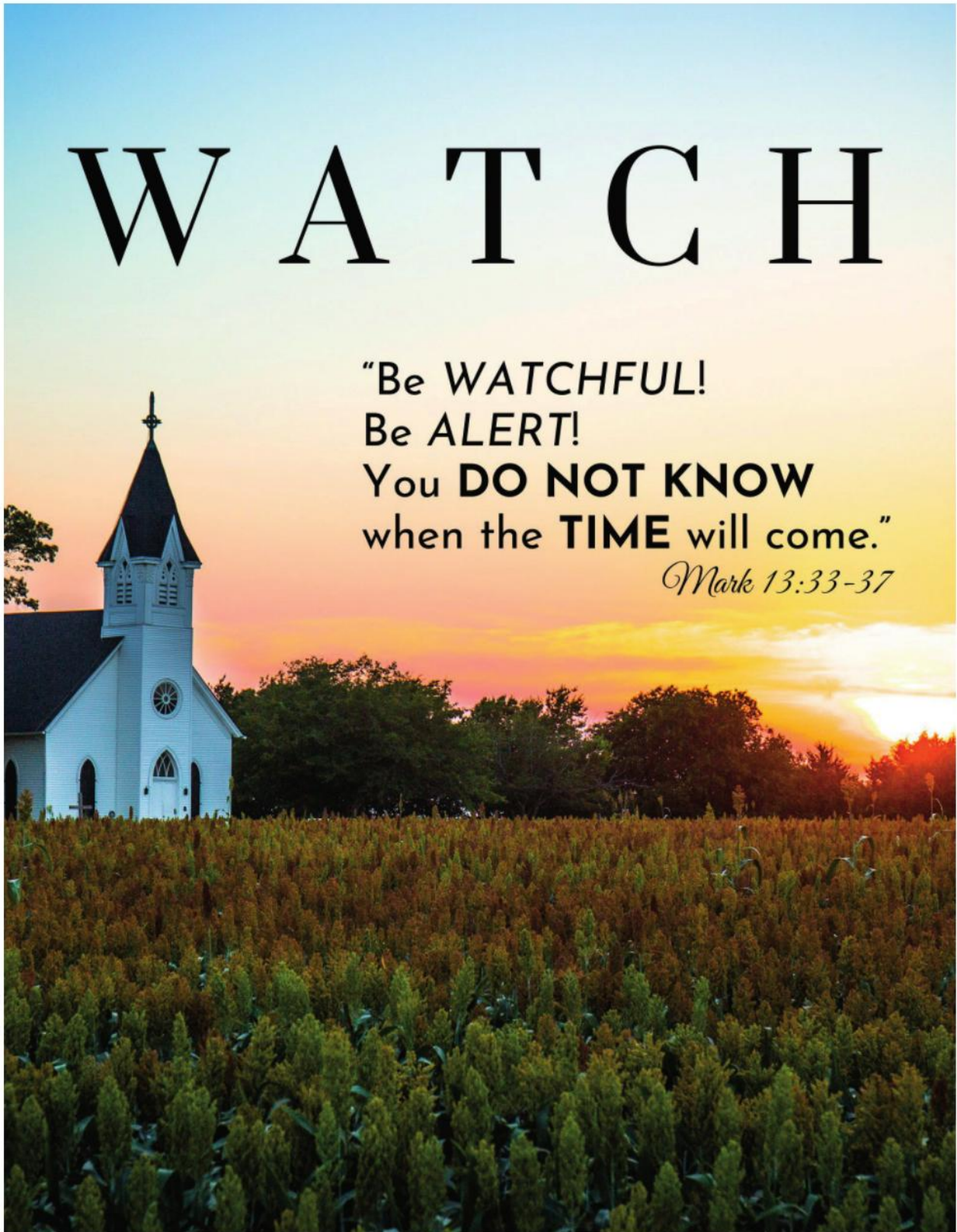


Our Lady of Peace

WATCH

**"Be WATCHFUL!
Be ALERT!
You DO NOT KNOW
when the TIME will come."**

Mark 13:33-37



December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

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
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. Daniel Hoffman
Priest in Residence

Rev. Shane Mathew

Permanent Deacons

Rev. Mr. John Mang

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

Ms. Rami Sorge

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 2023



- 3rd Applesauce (also, single serve)
- 10th Granola Bars / Crackers
- 17th Soup / Stew / Chili
- 24th Meals in a Box / Rice (Boil-in-Bag)
- 31st Canned Fruit / Raisins

Pantry is OPEN December 12 & 19 (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 are 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 info, contact: Deacon John Mang at deacon.john@olp.org or Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Office, at 814-838-9983 or tammie.mang@olp.org.

Sunday's Readings:

Entrance Antiphon - To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. / In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. / Nor let my enemies exult over me; / and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading - We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

Psalm - Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

Second Reading - God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

Gospel - Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. (Mark 13:33-37).

Family Discussion of the Week: God's Faithfulness

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Corinthians 1:9)

Adults: How do you know when you're following Christ and living his teachings faithfully?

Kids: What good thing might God be asking you to do right now?

MARK'S JESUS

Mark's Gospel is the shortest and tersest of all four. The discourses of Jesus tend to be terser as well. Mark's portrayal of Jesus has none of the poetry of the Sermon on the Mount or the Sermon on the Plain as in Matthew or Luke, nor the extensive, reflective "I Am" discourses as in John. Mark's Jesus "cuts to the chase," we would say today. This is reflected quite well in today's passage.

It is no accident that the dialogue of Jesus at this point in the Gospel according to Mark—the concluding words about the end of the world—immediately before his passion, is riddled with exclamation points and an overall sense of urgency.

We would do well to re-tool our own way of living this Advent, for we live in a world urgently in need of hearing the message of Jesus proclaimed. It's time for us to "wake up!" and get out into the world to do it.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

7:00AM Patsy Frankiewicz - Sally Barrett
 12:10PM Christopher Cuzzola - Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

7:00AM Ann Marie Amann - Family
 12:10PM Amelia Pozzutti Patsy -
 Son & Daughter-in-Law

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023

7:00AM Caroline DiPlacido - Frank & Suzanne
 11:15-Noon Confessions
 12:10PM Joseph Kostolansky - Daughter, Joan

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

7:00AM Jim Feronti - Feronti Family
 12:10PM John Yochim - Joe & Dianne

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil - Holy Day of Obligation
 5:30PM Alice DiSanto - Marge DeLuca

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00AM Joseph Morettini - Son
 12:10PM Bob Boorum - Michael Martin Family
 1:30PM School Mass - Henry Truchanowicz -
 Gin Torrelli

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

8:00AM Penny Bizzarro -
 Joe, Denise, Ryan, Nick, Antonio Bizzarro
 8:30-9:00AM Confessions
 3:45-5:45PM Confessions
 5:00PM Mary Lou Wagner - Corky Young

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

7:30AM Thomas Vojtek - Paul Vojtek Family
 9:00AM JoAnne Starr - Family
 11:00AM Joe Pettinato - Family
 4:30PM Living & Deceased Members of OLP

Confessions available after the Sunday Masses

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

Confessions available:

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

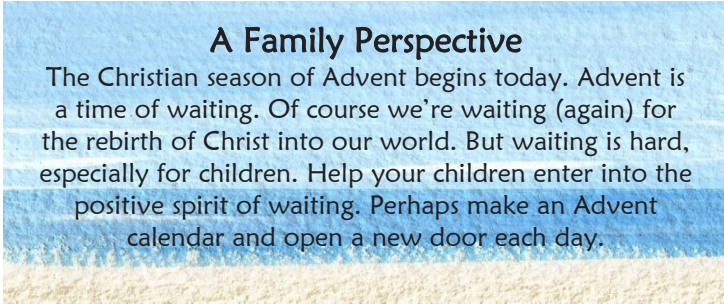
Daily at 11:40AM

The Rosary of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary is
 prayed daily prior to the 12:10 Mass. Mary invites
 all her children to pray her Rosary. Also, the
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed following the
 12:10 Mass in the Chapel. **All are welcome!**



Readings for the Week of December 3rd

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
 Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17;
 Lk 10:21-24
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
 Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1; 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6;
 Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
 Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14;
 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



A Family Perspective

The Christian season of Advent begins today. Advent is
 a time of waiting. Of course we're waiting (again) for
 the rebirth of Christ into our world. But waiting is hard,
 especially for children. Help your children enter into the
 positive spirit of waiting. Perhaps make an Advent
 calendar and open a new door each day.

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in
 memory of Chuck Rohrbach - Corky Young.
CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of
 Stanley Mackowski - Wife & Family.

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. 3: Sister Peggy, Linda D., Virginia S.
- Dec. 4: Arlene B., Catherine C., Denny D.
- Dec. 5: Joyce K.
- Dec. 6: Maxine B., Denise & Michael G., Susan F.
- Dec. 7: Margaret K.
- Dec. 8: Peggy C., Tim G., Pat H., Catilda M., Patricia P.,
 Diane & Bill S., Jean V., Ann S.
- Dec. 9: Ellie A., Elaine S., Jane D., Bill C.
- Dec. 10: Ann T., Pat C., Pat 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

From the Pastor's Desk...

A blessed Advent to you! This year we have a short Advent Season since Christmas falls on a Monday which makes the 4th week in Advent only one day. Recall that, like Lent, Advent is a preparatory and penitential season and so we are encouraged to renew our commitments in the basic areas of Christian discipleship- prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Here are some opportunities to do that...

Prayer:

Tuesday, December 5th- Advent Lessons and Carols with music by Selah Praise Band starting at 6:30pm in the church with time for small group sharing.

Friday, December 8th- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses will be Thursday, December 7th at 5:30pm and Friday, December 8th at 7am, 12:10pm, and 1:30pm (School).

Tuesday, December 12th- Holy Hour for the Church in the Americas for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Eucharistic Adoration will take place from 6:30-7:30pm as we also seek Mary's intercession for the church in the Americas for which she is the patroness.

"O Antiphons" during Late Advent (December 17-24) will be prayed at 12:05pm in the church and on Facebook.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

~Confessions after all Sunday Masses

~Normal weekly opportunities- Wednesdays from 11:15am-Noon; Saturdays from 8:30-9am and 3:45-4:45pm

~**"The Light Is On For You"**- Thursday, December 14th from 5-7pm. All participating Erie churches are open for confessions during this time.

~**Advent Penance Service- Sunday, December 17th at 5:40pm.** All are invited to join our Faith Formation students.

~Extra Confession Times in Late Advent

Thursday, December 21st from 6-7pm.

Friday, December 22nd from 11:15am-12Noon.

Almsgiving:

In addition to the great things we have already done (including the West Millcreek Food Pantry Essentials Bags that we collected and packed last week)

~St. Martin Center Shining Stars-Gift cards to be given to needing families. Please drop off in the office by December 8th.

~The students at Our Lady of Peace School are also conducting Advent Service Projects for Kid's Café, Safe Net, The Caring Place, Erie Dawn, SSJ neighborhood Network, Mercy Center for Women and St. Patrick's Haven. Call the school office at 814-838-3548 to get involved.

I hope to see you at one of these Advent opportunities to connect with God and your parish family. May God bless our first week of 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 supported OLP for**

#iGiveCatholic! Your support allows us to grow our outreach ministry both within and outside of our parish. You continue to inspire and amaze me with your generosity; may God bless you!

****Wish List** We are purchasing four wood carvings of the Evangelists to cover the electrical panels in the vestibule. The cost is \$325 each. Let me know if you would like to donate one of them in honor or memory of someone.

****Special Masses this Week** *Monday, Dec. 4th- St. John Damascene, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (8th Century opponent of Iconoclasm); Tuesday, Dec. 5th- Advent Weekday; Wednesday, Dec. 6th- St. Nicholas, Bishop (4th Century bishop in Myra in Asia Minor and popularized as Santa Claus); Thursday, Dec. 7th- St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (4th Century Bishop of Milan and baptized St. Augustine); Friday, Dec. 8th- the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Saturday, Dec. 9th- St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin (16th Century peasant visionary of Our Lady of Guadalupe).*

****Medical Emergency Volunteers Designated Seating** There is a specially designated seat (last row on left of center aisle) for our medical emergency volunteer at the weekend Masses. It is indicated by a small plaque and first aid stickers. Please allow our volunteers to sit there. They will have a special lanyard that identifies them as such.

****Safety Committee/Active Shooter Training** Our parish safety committee is organizing an Active Shooter Training that will be held on Saturday, December 9th from 9-11am in the school cafeteria. Ushers, Liturgical Ministers of Hospitality and parish medical emergency volunteers are asked to attend but the training is also open to the entire parish. The training is relevant for dealing with active shooters in any environment and not just at the church or school. Please contact the parish office to register if you do plan to attend.

****Quotes from the USCCB's Pastoral Letter "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" NOV 2021**

Paragraph 28- "The obligation to attend Mass each Sunday, the Lord's Day, on which we commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus, and on other holy days of obligation, is therefore a vital expression of our unity as members of the Body of Christ, the Church. It is also a manifestation of the truth that we are utterly dependent upon God and his grace. A third-century instruction on the life of the Church points out one of the consequences of willful absence from Mass: "Let no one deprive the Church by staying away; if they do, they deprive the Body of Christ of one of its members!" St. John Paul II, writing of Sunday as "a day which is at the very heart of the Christian life," further asserts, "Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human." We have been reborn in Baptism and nourished by the Eucharist so that we may live in communion with God and one another, not only today but also in the fullness of the heavenly Kingdom. To worship God on Sundays, then, is not the mere observance of a rule but the fulfillment of our identity, of who we are as members of the Body of Christ. Participation in the Mass is an act of love."

****Quotes from the Saints on the Mass/ Eucharist**

St. Padre Pio "Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace."

St. Faustina, Divine Mercy in My Soul Diary "Every morning during meditation, I prepare myself for the whole day's struggle. Holy Communion assures me that I will win the victory; and so it is. I fear the day when I do not receive Holy Communion. This bread of the Strong gives me all the strength I need to carry on my mission and the courage to do whatever the Lord asks of me. The courage and strength that are in me are not of me, but of Him who lives in me – it is the Eucharist." (91)

****Our Lady of Peace Communal Feedback to Proposed Plan for Erie County Restructuring** Here is the letter to Bishop Persico that our parish leadership provided in response to the Proposal for the next phase of restructuring of Catholic Churches in Erie County.

"Dear Bishop Persico, Greetings from Our Lady of Peace Parish! I write to you on behalf of our leadership at OLP to offer our institutional feedback regarding the preliminary plan for Erie County that was proposed in late August 2023. I first want to mention that our parish was very grateful for the opportunity to give feedback both individually and as a parish. We appreciate your willingness to hear our input and to allow it to be a factor in your final decisions. I specifically asked for input from our community leadership (Parish Leadership Team, Parish Staff, and Pastoral Council) in three areas and so will provide the feedback according to those areas.

The Process: 1. We believe that the plan did not incorporate enough spiritual prayer and support as part of the process leading up to the proposal. We acknowledge that a prayer was written back in 2014 for overall pastoral planning in the Diocese of Erie and that prayer has been encouraged throughout, but we believe we could have been more intentional in creating a prayer plan so that along every step we ensure that we are all seeking the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to guide this process (MY Addition now... Since the initial proposed plan the diocese did initiate a weekend of prayer for the pastoral planning process which occurred on November 11-12, 2023).

2. We believe it would have been helpful to identify who was on the committee for creating this recent proposal either before the August meeting or at the meeting. From 2014-2017 there was a very clear communication of the committee and process, the more recent steps seemed to lose some of that clarity about who was involved.

The Plan: 1. We believe the information sent out as criteria 2 days after the meeting should have been shared during the meeting. But we also believe that the criteria was too vague and so a quick summary of why each decision was made would have been helpful at the meeting to allow the leaders at the meeting to try to help understand/defend the proposal. Without understanding the criteria and why decisions were made, that defense is harder.

2. We believe the plan needs a greater vision for where all this is going. If we knew where we wanted to be in 25 years, we could make better informed decisions based on that final vision. The impression presently is that we are making short-term decisions that do not have future vision in mind.

3. We believe the plan should have gone further. To continue to restructure every five to ten years in small steps creates a constant environment of anxiety and concern about what is next and is hard to build continuity and momentum. Another consideration in going further could be to ensure that every parish in Erie County is affected in this plan so that there is a sense that we are all in this together.

4. We have some concern about abandoning the poor in the inner city if churches like St. Joseph, St. Paul, St. Stephen. etc. are not going to be as active in that regard moving forward.

5. We believe that St. Julia Parish should not be a stand alone parish and should be merged with St. Jude Parish. And if there is to be a parish that is set aside for Diocesan Administrators to serve, there should be an explanation of why St. Julia is being selected versus other parish options.

Our Lady of Peace Parish Future: In regard to the concern about the inner-city connections remaining and consideration of this next step of restructuring in Erie County going further than the preliminary plan, we at Our Lady of Peace Parish are proposing that each of the big three suburban west deanery Millcreek parishes line up with a coinciding urban parish who they could give more direct support to regarding ministry to the needy.

St. George with St. Joseph Bread of Life, Sacred Heart and St. Paul

St. Jude with St. Andrew and St. Julia

Our Lady of Peace with Blessed Sacrament and St. Stephen of Hungary

We also feel that a plan for the use of potentially unused buildings in the future should be considered regarding city-wide ministry. Could we open a center for evangelization, a center for social ministry, a center for formation, a center for spirituality (including retreats), a center for youth ministry, etc for use not only by Erie County Catholics but the entire diocese. These type of ideas however cannot be determined by one parish or cluster but would require a collaborative group to propose and figure out.

Thank you again for this opportunity and may God bless you with charity, strength, peace and perseverance as you shepherd our Diocesan Church."



**Volunteers
needed:**

Advent Wreath Lighting

The Advent Wreath serves as a powerful visual reminder of the holiness of the season. The light of the candles invites us to quiet ourselves during this busy time and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas as we welcome the Light of Christ into our lives.

We offer all parishioners the opportunity to assist with the wreath lighting during the weekend Masses throughout the Sundays of Advent.

We invite you to prayerfully consider volunteering.

Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule.

**A Stewardship of Sharing October 2023
Fiscal Year July 2023 - June 2024**

	Monthly	YTD
Weekly Envelope	\$ 83,211	\$288,865
Loose	5,027	18,520
Holy Days	121	2,774
Monthly School Support	1,522	5,188
Christmas/Easter/Flowers	60	80
<hr/>		
Total Offertory	\$89,941	\$315,427
Budgeted Offertory	\$82,417	\$329,667
(Deficit) Surplus	\$7,524	(\$14,240)
Diocesan Designated Fund	\$ 3,202	\$ 13,951

Ways to Support Our Parish

- Electronic Giving (for more information, contact Mary Beth Whitman at marybeth.whitman@olp.org or 814-833-7701 x 202).
- Online at www.olp.org
- Via Paypal app or www.paypal.com and send to olp@olp.org.
- By mail (Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th St, Erie PA 16506).
- Drop your envelope in the collection basket at Mass or at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support.

**2023 CSA
February 2023 to January 2024**

Goal	\$ 212,000
Pledge Payments Received to Date.....	\$ 203,695
Total Pledges	\$ 232,689
474 Families - Goal is 500 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 2023-2024 Diocesan assessment is \$137,152.

PRAY'N . PACK'N . PLAY'N

Community
ADVENT EXPERIENCE

**THIS YEAR
ADVENT CAN LOOK AND FEEL DIFFERENT**

- December 5th - Lessons and Carols with Music by Selah and faith sharing, 6:30pm
- December 12th - Holy Hour, 6:30pm



Don't get so caught up in preparing for Christ's coming that you forget to prepare yourself to participate in it.



**The Knights of Columbus Council
of Our Lady of Peace**

**Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, December 3rd**

OLP Cafeteria from 8:00AM to 12:30PM

Menu:

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs,
Hash Browns/Sausage/Juice/Coffee/Tea

Now Accepting Credit Cards

Adults \$10 Child \$6 (6-15) 5 & Under Free
Join us for the "Best Breakfast Deal" in town,
and support your KofC organization.



Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/kofc11454/

**Special Guest: Santa Claus
All kids visiting Santa have
a chance to win prizes!**



Bulletin Deadlines for Christmas and New Years

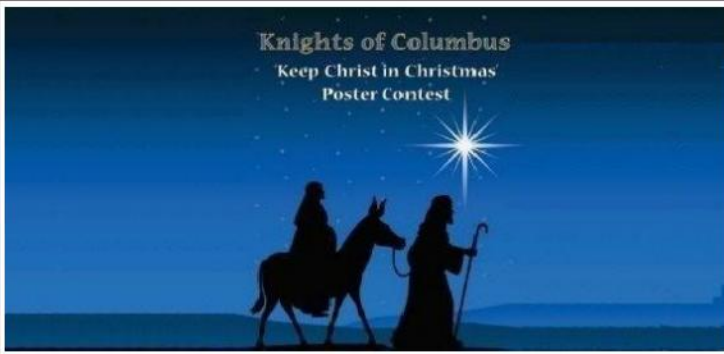
Advent is upon us and with it comes some early deadlines for the bulletin. They are as follows:

- For Sunday, December 17, 2023, articles are due by December 8, 2023
- For Sunday, December 24, 2023, articles are due by December 12, 2023
- For Sunday, December 31, 2023, articles are due by December 15, 2023
- For Sunday, January 7, 2024, articles are due December 18, 2023
- For Sunday, January 14, 2024, articles are due January 5, 2023

**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.





OLP Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest

Who: Anyone from age 5 to 14

What: Poster Contest topic “Keep Christ in Christmas.” People will have a deeper understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, and your artwork will bring others to remember Christ in Christmas.

Due: December 11, 2023

Prizes: Cash prizes to winners in each category (Age 5-7: Gr. K-2 / Age 8-10: Gr.3-5 / Age 11-14: Gr.6-8)

Contact: Bob Koshinskie, 814-449-1779 or rkoshinskie@roadrunner.com

Entry Forms available in the Church Office.



December 1, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Another year has passed, and we are again approaching the annual collection for our Retired Religious to be held in parishes on December 9th and 10th. This event has significant benefits for the retired Sisters in our diocese, as well as the over 30,000 retired religious throughout the country.

The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support for those Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who worked for years for little or no stipends. Last year, the people in our diocese contributed \$129,907 to help defray the costs of medication, nursing care, medical equipment, transportation, physical and occupational therapy, and other necessary needs. Your generous gift provides vital support for their ongoing health care.

Senior Religious are a treasure in the Church. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, religious education programs, hospitals, social service agencies and countless other ministries throughout our diocese; many still serve those in need, today. Those who are no longer able to actively serve, support all that is being done through their ministry of prayer.

Some of you may not presently know consecrated men and women, but they have affected your lives through their ministry to your parents and grandparents and through the many organizations now in place due to their foresight and generosity.

I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please continue to pray for an increase of vocations to the consecrated life and for God's blessing on all our women and men religious. Know you remain in their prayers. Please join me in supporting this year's Retirement Fund for Religious.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie



 DIOCESE OF ERIE ♦ P.O. Box 10397 ♦ ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16514-0397
 814.824.1120 ♦ FAX 814.824.1124

OLP Boy Scout Troop 59 Christmas Decorations Sale

Christmas Decoration Sale:

OLP School Cafeteria:

Saturday, December 2nd

8AM-12Noon and 4:00-7:00PM

Sunday, December 3rd

8:00AM – 1:00PM

Donations benefits Troop 59 activities.

**Any questions please contact:
Alyson Dana, 814-490-3493**



Our Lady of Peace Parish Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____

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

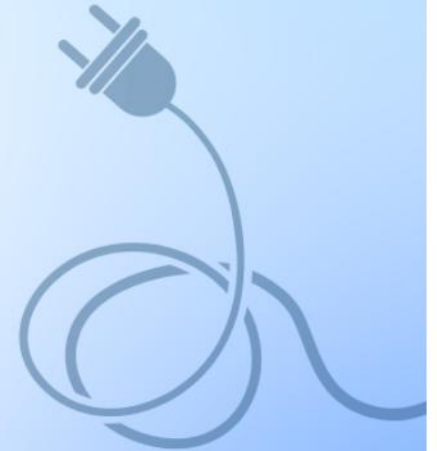
CHECK ONE:

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

Get Connected

NEW TO THE PARISH? WANT TO GET INVOLVED BY NOT SURE HOW?

- Register your family with the parish
- Check out the "events" page on our website, www.olp.org
- Sign up for our weekly newsletter on our website or call the office at 814-833-7701 for help.
- Download myPairsh App by texting APP to 88202. Select Our Lady of Peace, Erie PA 
- Check out the great Catholic content on FORMED. Register through the website www.olp.org by clicking on the FORMED image. Enter your name & email and create a password.



Homebound Ministry

Serve our brothers and sisters by bringing Holy Communion to those in our parish that are unable to join us for Mass.



Can You Help Us?

The Homebound ministry has been blessed with many Eucharistic Ministers volunteering recently.

Why do we need help?

There are many parishioners who can no longer get to Mass to receive our Lord. We are asking for your help to identify those who want to receive Holy Communion at home or in a local Nursing home.

If you know of someone, please call the church office at 814-833-7701 x0.

All Eucharistic Ministers maintain confidentiality when ministering to the Homebound/Nursing Home Bound.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

NO CLASSES grades 1-8 in December. Classes resume on January 7th.

Please have your child work on the worksheets that are being sent home each week.

Grades 9-10: Classes meet 5:30-7:30PM

Dec. 19- Regular classes

Dec. 17 -Regular classes. Bishop letter part 1 and Confirmation Name form due.

Questions: Tammie Mang, Faith Formation Director,
814-838-9983 or Tammie.mang@olp.org

Advertiser of the Week:

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**OLP YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE
-FALL 2023-**

DECEMBER

5th-OLP Adoration 6:30pm
6th-MS/HS Ripple Effect 6-9pm, meet in chapel, pick up outside church
8th-Kid's Night Out-RSVP by Dec. 6th
9th-Sinai Sports YG Night-RSVP by Dec. 6th
10th-4th/5th Gr. Retreat Noon-4pm, RSVP by Dec. 6th
12th-MS YG, Packing Party 6:30-8:30pm, location TBD
13th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel
14th-St. Francis in McKean Adoration 8pm
19th-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel
20th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel
31st-Holy Hour for Peace at OLP 11pm

Questions/RSVP
sarah.beaver@olp.org


Pilgrimage

TO THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Indianapolis - July 17-21, 2024

You are invited to participate in this pivotal moment in the church. Join the Diocese by registering today.
<https://ctscentral.rezmagic.com/Booking/Reservation/Start?tripID=5394&CategoryId=52592Visit>

Questions? Contact the Erie Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration Committee at eriedeac@gmail.com

Our Lady of Peace...
Pray for us

**OLP Rosary/CCM
Christmas Lunch**

There are still reservations available for the Rosary/CCM Christmas Lunch at Shriners on December 14th

Call by December 5th:
Marilyn 814-833-4683
or Pat 814-838-7145


Twelve Knights of Christmas
Presented by the OLP Knights of Columbus
Drawing will be on December 20


Each Knight Drawing is a separate set of prizes, they are not cumulative.
\$10.00 - 1 Ticket \$20.00 - 3 Tickets

The prizes for each day's drawings are:

- 1st Knight:** Electric Dart Board, Dinner Cards, plus
- 2nd Knight:** Battery Charger, Foot Warmers, Dinners
- 3rd Knight:** 7 1/2' Christmas Tree, Crock Pot, more
- 4th Knight:** Keurig Coffee, Dirt Devil, Dinner
- 5th Knight:** Electric Heater, Handyman Tools
- 6th Knight:** Wood Bench Leather Covering, Tools
- 7th Knight:** Power Tools, Duster Buster, Dinner
- 8th Knight:** Shop Vac, Space Heater, Dinner, plus
- 9th Knight:** Microwave, High End Comforter, plus
- 10th Knight:** Fire Pit, Chain Saw, 32" TV, Dinner
- 11th Knight:** Sound Bar, 24" Mountain Bike, 42" TV+++
- 12th Knight:** Sound Bar, 26" Mountain Bike, 42" TV+++

Tickets may be purchased in the Church Office






DANIEL

a study of faith under pressure

OLP Bible Study invites you to grow in your love of God
and learn through the lessons from the Book of Daniel.

Our Lady of Peace Church
2401 W. 38th St.



WHEN: Tuesday nights: 7:00 to 8:30pm
January 9, 2024 through March 5, 2024, no class February 13th
OR
Wednesday mornings: 10:00 to 11:30am
January 10, 2024 through March 6, 2024, no class February 14th

WHERE: Our Lady of Peace Church Social Room
This is an 8-week Bible Study
Pre-Registration is required by December 20, 2023.

COST: \$10.00, which includes workbook and materials.

Please drop off or mail check and registration form to:
Our Lady of Peace Church, 2401 W. 38th Street, Erie, PA 16506
Attn: OLP Bible Study

Any questions, please call Mary Beth Whitman at 814-833-7701 x202
No previous experience necessary. All are welcome.

Our Lady of Peace Bible Study: Daniel
You will be registered upon receipt of payment-due by December 20, 2023
Make checks payable to: Our Lady of Peace Church


Name _____
Address _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Parish _____
Email _____

Please specify: Tuesday night session _____
Wednesday morning session _____

_____ Registration \$10.00 includes workbook and materials:
Total enclosed: _____ Cash _____ or Check _____



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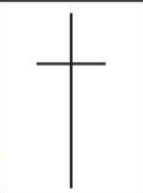
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