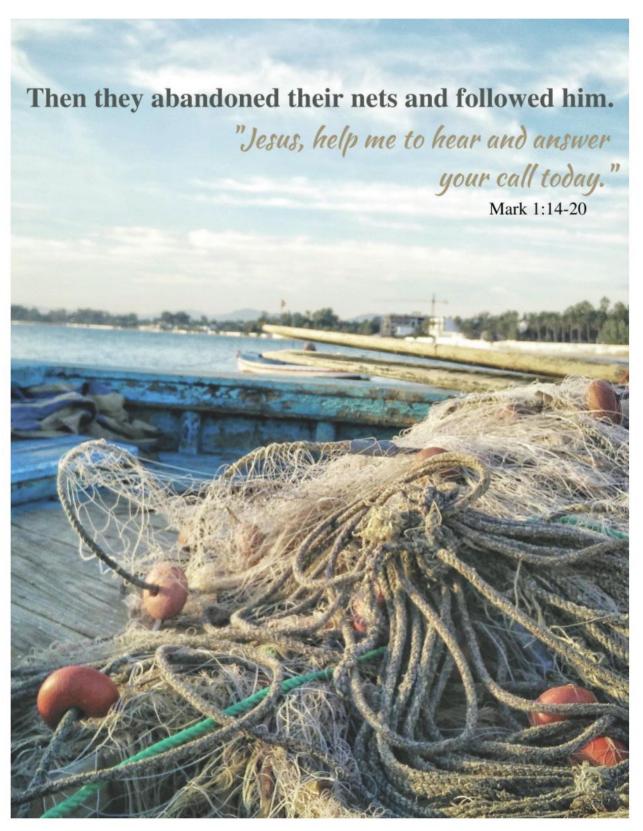


Our Lady of Peace



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

Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Rich Toohey, Fr. Dan Hoffman, Gina Adams, Warren Beaver, Justin Miles, Mary Beth Whitman

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

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.

January 2024

21st Soup / Stew / Chili 28th Meals in a Box / Rice

Pantry is OPEN January 23rd

(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 - O sing a new song to the Lord; / sing to the Lord, all the earth. / In his presence are majesty and splendor, / strength and honor in his holy place.

First Reading - The people of Nineveh believed God and turned from their evil ways (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).

Psalm - Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading - The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

Gospel - This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:14-20).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Family Discussion of the Week: Repent and Believe

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." (Mark 1:14-15)

Adults: What part of your life is Jesus calling you to change right now? *Kids:* In what way do you think you can be a better follower of Jesus?

THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today we encounter readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus cries out "Repent!" before he calls his new followers. "Come after me," Jesus says, but if we are to truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we must first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully. Today's Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested, imprisoned, and martyred. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation.

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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

Eucharistic Adoration from 7:30AM to 6:30PM

7:00AM Jay Ferraro - Joe & Cathie Leone

12:10PM Melanie Pulice-Malyuk - Margie Verlato

6:30PM Holy Hour for Unborn Life

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

7:00AM Chloe Randolph - Loretta & Craig Schaal

12:10PM Marian Yochim - Joe & Dianne 1:30PM School Mass - Jay "Saby" Danniel -

Ehrman Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024

7:00AM Greg Bosner - Fr. David Renne

11:15-Noon Confessions

12:10PM Catherine Kenwood - Daughter, Joan

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

7:00AM Art Martinucci - 7AM Mass Group **12:10PM** Judy Irigoin - Denise & Michael Gaines

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

7:00AM Bob Parker - Paul Vojtek Family 12:10PM Fred Fiedler - Kathy, Fred & Steve

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024

8:00AM Special Intention for David Stucke -Chris Poorman

8:30-9:00AM Confessions

3:45-5:45PM Confessions

5:00PM Andrew Novak - Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30AM Elaine (Wingenbach) Korn - Wingenbach Family

9:00AM Living & Deceased Members of OLP

11:00AM Joanne Amann - Gaines & Finazzo Families

4:30PM Norbert & Josephine Schroeck -

Charlie & Charlene Schroeck

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

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED - Please pray for Nikolaus Haefner; and for Jackie Keister. May their families find hope and consolation through their faith in the resurrected Lord.

Watch Our Lady of Peace Mass On Our YouTube Channel

7:00AM Weekdays 8:00AM Saturdays 9:00AM Sundays



Go to www.olp.org, scroll down to 'Find Us on Social Media,' click on YouTube and you will be connected to our Channel. Once there you can watch previous Masses and also Subscribe by clicking the red Subscribe button.

Readings for the Week of January 21st

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Monday:

Mk 3:22-30, or any of a number of readings

for the Day of Prayer

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Tuesday:

Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20 Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2: Thursday:

Mk 16:15-18

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Friday:

Mk 4:26-34

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Saturday:

Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Sunday:

Mk 1:21-28

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Don & Rinda Pulice - Tom & Pam Swanson & Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Mary Louise Maracci - Judy Miculandra.

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!



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

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

Jan. 23: Heidi A.

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

Jan. 25: Christine O.

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

Jan. 27: Ann R.

Jan. 28: Ann F., Michael M., Mary Margaret 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 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 Word of God Sunday to You! I share the letter sent this week to all parishioners in case you did not receive it or get a chance to read it.

"Happy New Year from the Rectory! At the encouragement of our Parish Finance Council, we are conducting an Increased Offertory Program called "Celebrating Today Planning for Tomorrow." While we have much to celebrate in our parish, we can not deny our need to plan for tomorrow. Our Lady of Peace is the place where we serve one another; where together we accomplish amazing things. Through our many ministries and outreach programs we bring the love of God to our community and neighbors, putting our faith into action.

On behalf of our parish leadership, I invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your weekly (or monthly) offertory donation to allow us to grow our ministries and formation efforts as well as help us save for the capital needs of our aging property. It has been a decade since the last increased offertory campaign, and we need a more sustainable solution for our future. As parish funds became tighter over the last few years due to rising costs and lower or flat offertory, we balanced our budget by pushing capital projects out further, adding the OLP Raffle, and using donations from #iGiveCatholic to stabilize our finances. The goal of "Celebrating Today Planning for Tomorrow" is to increase our Sunday offertory contribution to create a sound operating plan and foundation for the future; therefore, I ask you to consider a 5-10% increase in your current offertory. Ultimately, it is up to you. Your generosity determines the budget, how well we maintain our facilities, what funds are available for programs and services for parishioners of all ages, and what we can (or cannot) do to serve others. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration and continued support.

The use of Electronic Giving (EFT) is a convenient way to plan your giving for the year. Forms are available in the office and on the website. You can choose from weekly or monthly offertory as well as all the other envelopes throughout the year and your donation amounts can be changed at any time by calling the office. It is an easy and flexible process; and we are happy to help you get started.

Recognizing that throughout the year there are several times we ask for your support; the following schedule can help you develop a giving plan.

| <u>Month</u> | Campaign/Program | Purpose |
|--------------|--------------------------------|---|
| February | Catholic Services Appeal (CSA) | Diocesan Church and Parish Capital Project (2024 -Mortar Pointing East End of Church) |
| February | Parish Increased Offertory | Grow Ministries/Formation/Fund Tomorrow |
| May-Sept | OLP Raffle | Fundraiser for Parish Operations |
| August | Erie Gives | Project Identified by Leadership |
| November | iGiveCatholic | Parish Ministry Support |

Take a moment to reflect and pray about how you can respond to this request to increase your weekly giving and consider what you plan to give OLP this year. As you contemplate your commitment to OLP, let us draw inspiration from the Gospel of Luke (21:1-4), where Jesus praised the widow for giving from her need rather than from her surplus. True generosity is not about giving what I can easily spare, it is about giving what I can easily do without. As Catholics, we embrace "Sacrificial Giving" in the spirit of stewardship. It should feel like a sacrifice for us because it is part of our spiritual sacrifice at Mass, where we give the first fruits of our labor back to the One who has blessed us abundantly. What sacrifice is God inviting you to make for the mission of the church here at Our Lady of Peace?

Enclosed is a commitment card. Please use it to indicate your planned offertory to Our Lady of Peace and bring it with you on Sunday, February 10^{th} - 11^{th} , Commitment Sunday, including it along with your CSA Pledge. Thank you for your prayerful consideration. God bless!"

Included in this bulletin is information on current levels of giving by households at Our Lady of Peace for offertory (this does not include special collections, holy days or the CSA). Part of the challenge of this increased offertory campaign is for you to consider "moving up" to the next level as part of your planned commitment to the parish. If many of us can move up a level in our giving, we can ensure our parish moves up a level in its ministry, outreach and moves up a level in securing our campus capital and security for the future.

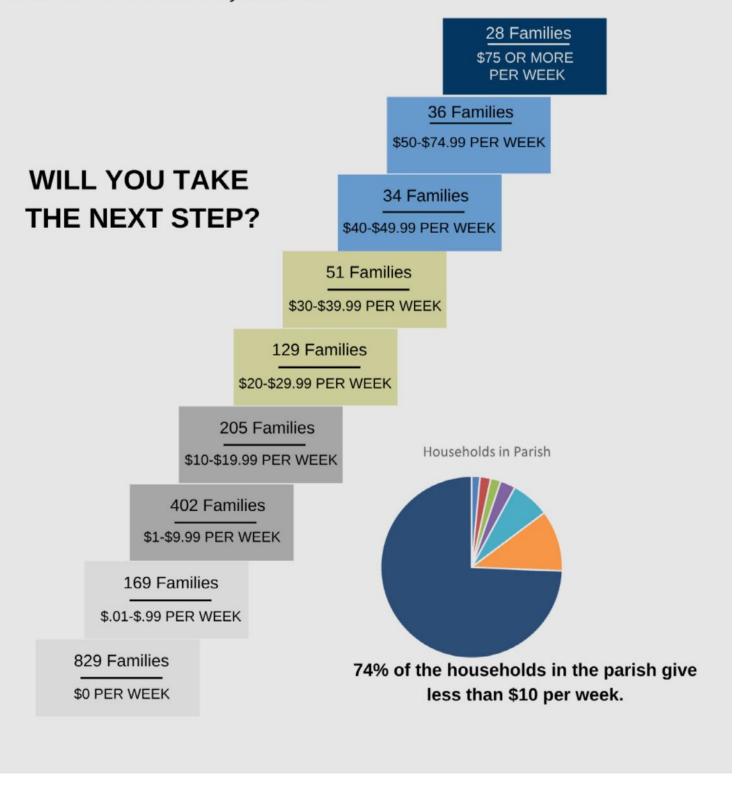
Thank you again for your consideration and we look forward to Commitment Sunday on February 10-11!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Rich

Celebrating Today, Planning for Tomorrow

Each family is asked to prayerfully consider how they can share the blessings of the Lord with the parish in gratitude and celebration for the good work happening in and through the parish now; and in planning for how WE will continue the mission to share the Good News for years to come.



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...

- **I have been asked to be a celebrity judge for St. Martin Center's biggest fundraiser called "Erie's Best Coffee" which will be held on Sunday, February 25th from I I am-2pm at the Bayfront Convention Center. Each judge is asked to raise \$1,000 for the good works that St. Martin Center (a ministry of Catholic Charities) does for the poor of our community. So please consider making a donation to St. Martin Center in my name by visiting www.stmartincenter.org/eriesbestcoffee.html or scanning the QR code on the bulletin board flyer.
- **Hallow App Over the last year I have often referred to my experience of the Hallow App and recommended it to those who are looking for something to support and grow their prayer life as it has for me. In November we decided to engage in an offer Hallow made to parishes to allow their parishioners to pay \$1 for a subscription for Advent through Lent (the normal subscription is \$9.99 for a month or \$69.99 for a year).

Just as we were ready to promote this offer I found out that the voice actor that they were using for the Advent Challenge was Liam Neeson who it turns out was a vocal activist for legalizing abortion in Ireland about 6-7 years ago (which unfortunately did happen). After consulting with the Parish Leadership Team (PLT) at OLP, we decided not to promote the Advent offer and I reached out to the president of Hallow to discuss my concerns. I had a great conversation with the cofounder who gave a very thorough and thoughtful response which included the following: one, acknowledgment that Hallow did not handle this situation well and that there were things they could have done differently; two- a thorough moral analysis which had the support of several of their content theologians and included references to St. Thomas Aguinas among other doctors of the church which showed me that this was not something they took lightly; three- a humble recognition and regret that they put pastors in a difficult situation since in parishes it's not just individual consumers who can decide on their own but pastors and parish leaders who have a responsibility to oversee and protect their flock. I will not get into more details of the conversation here, but after bringing this back to our PLT and considering the response from Hallow (who was willing to reimburse OLP the \$500 we paid for the deal if we were not satisfied with their response), we decided to continue our agreement with them which allows for the \$1 signup but to not promote the Advent Challenge and wait until January to promote Hallow's Prolife content as well as the upcoming Lent opportunities. If you want to discuss this further with me or anyone on our PLT (or want to see a copy of Hallow's response), please contact me or the office. As a reminder, members of the PLT are myself, Fr. Dan Hoffman, Mary Beth Whitman, Gina Adams, Warren Beaver and Justin

- **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated January 22nd as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn (the anniversary of the date of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court Decision that had legalized abortion in the entire United States of America). We will have Eucharistic Adoration from 7:30am (after 7am Mass) until 6:30pm. At 6:30pm we will have a Holy Hour for Unborn Life. Even though Roe was overturned in the summer of 2022, we need to keep praying and fasting that abortion will be made illegal in Pennsylvania and in all other states.
- **Masses this Week Monday, Jan. 22nd- Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice (Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn); Tuesday, Jan. 23rd- St. Marianne Cope, Virgin (19th Century Franciscan Nun born in Utica, NY who worked in Syracuse before going to Hawaii to minister to lepers with St. Damien); Wednesday, Jan. 24th- St. Vincent de Paul, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (17th Century Bishop of Geneva and a late part of the Catholic Counter Reformation); Thursday, Jan. 25th- Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle; Friday, Jan. 26th- Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops (1st Century followers of St. Paul); Saturday, Jan. 27th- Mass for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pillar of Faith.
- **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity We continue the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25th). Ecumenism is the name we give to the movement and effort to seek greater unity among all Christians (efforts at unity among people of all religions is called "Interfaith"). Part of that effort is to initiate ways we can pray, serve and stand for justice together with Christians from other denominations. We have seen this in action over the past few years as Bishop Persico united with other Christian leaders in Erie to pray for racial justice in our community and country. But it also involves engaging in dialogue and study with other Christians in the effort to find ways to overcome that which still divides us. The Holy Spirit that gave birth to the church, is the key to bringing greater Christian unity. So, we pray for the Holy Spirit to inspire us and our leaders to be instruments of this unity that God desires. We will pray for this intention in a special way at the Masses on Thursday, January 25th (7am and 12:10pm) which is the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.
- **Vatican Declaration on Blessing of Persons there was a bulletin insert that was a Statement from the Office of the Bishop to the Clergy and People of the Diocese of Erie Regarding the Declaration Fiducia Supplicans on December 22, 2023 (which addresses informal blessings of persons in same sex unions). If you missed it, you can find copies at the doors of the church or on the OLP website. It is a very thorough and clear summary of the Vatican's declaration. I remind you that the English word "Blessing" is not the same as the informal prayer we are being permitted to offer with those in same sex unions. Many people use the word "blessing" when wanting to get their marriages outside of the church recognized or "convalidated" as it is called in church language. It happens when couples who were married outside of the church for different reasons are now wanting and able to have their marriage sacramentally recognized in the

church. This brings the marriage to the level of a sacrament. I have celebrated many such convalidations with couples over my 22 years of priestly ministry. I am concerned that the everyday Catholic who uses "blessing" for such convalidations, will hear this new declaration from the Vatican and be mislead that the informal blessings being discussed are the same as convalidations. This informal prayer is the same type of prayer we would have with people in any need (including same sex attractions or unions). For this reason, I encourage you to read and understand the Bishop's statement and the Vatican declaration and make the distinction. If you have any questions or concerns on this, please contact myself or Fr. Dan to discuss it further.

**Divine Mercy Encounter (DME) Retreat February 9-11, 2024

"DME (Divine Mercy Encounter) is a three-day retreat
program. Each day has a different focus: Friday is the Day of
Invitation, focusing on how God is inviting us into relationship.
Saturday is the Day of Encounter, where we encounter God
through the sacraments, Adoration, and others. Sunday is the Day
of Commission, where we as a community are empowered to
evangelize and share our faith. The weekend includes talks,
exposure to different types of prayer, Mass, community, and much
more. The weekend runs from 10am on Friday to 5pm on
Sunday, and retreat participants stay onsite for the weekend." See
www.divinemercyencounter.com for more information. The other
DME retreats in 2024 will be in April, July and November in Erie

**Cursillo Retreats "Cursillo (kur-SEE-yo) literally means "little course" and is an intense three-day spiritual retreat, the purpose of which is a deep personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Those who experience the Cursillo Movement know it is more than just three days of religious instruction. It is an effort to change the spiritual environment, to bring Jesus Christ into the world." See www.eriecursillo.org for more information. The upcoming retreats are Women's Cursillo, April 5-7, 2024, at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek, PA; Men's Cursillo, Elk County, June 22-23, 2024; Women Cursillo, Crawford County, August 2024; Mens Cursillo, October 18-20 at OLOM.

and August 11-13 in St. Marys, PA.

**House Blessing Cards for 2024 You are encouraged to take the card home and say the prayer with those in your household and then hang them over the main door of your home. Recall that the letters stand for the names of the Magi, Caspar, Balthasaar and Melchior, but also stands for the Latin phrase-"Christus Benedicat Mansionem" which means "Christ bless this dwelling place." Fr. Dan and I are available to come to your home and bless them with you. Feel free to call either one of us and set up a time to do so.

**Christmas Thank Yous As the Christmas Season has ended, I would like to again thank everyone who helped make our Christmas season a beautiful celebration. I specifically thank our staff members who put in overtime, all of our liturgical ministers, our music ministry and our environment committee led by Brian Kuzmin and Chris Ehrman and his crew from Allburn Florist who did a wonderful job in decorating the church and getting us in the Christmas Spirit. I received many compliments on how beautiful the church looked! Thank you to the Boy Scouts leaders who helped move the nativity in and out of the church. Lastly, on behalf of Fr. Dan, Fr. Shane and myself, I want to thank all

of you who gave us personal Christmas cards and gifts. We were overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and generosity, and we continue to thank God for you, our OLP Parish family! **Quotes from the USCCB's Pastoral Letter "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" NOV 2021 Paragraph 38 & 39- "Pope Francis has warned us that in our "throwaway culture" we need to fight the tendency to view people as "disposable": Some parts of our human family, it appears, can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence. Ultimately, "persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected, especially when they are poor and disabled, 'not yet useful'—like the unborn, or 'no longer needed'—like the elderly." As Christians, we bear the responsibility to promote the life and dignity of the human person, and to love and to protect the most vulnerable in our midst: the unborn, migrants and refugees, victims of racial injustice, the sick and the elderly.

The Second Vatican Council stresses the importance of reverence toward the human person. "Everyone must consider his every neighbor without exception as another self, taking into account first of all his life and the means necessary to living it with dignity, so as not to imitate the rich man who had no concern for the poor man Lazarus." The Council goes on to say that whatever is opposed to life itself, such as any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia or willful selfdestruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than those who suffer from the injury.""

**Quotes on the Mass/ Eucharist

St. Maximilian Kolbe: "The culmination of the Mass is not the consecration, but Communion."

J R R Tolkien: "Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament ... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves upon earth."



Our Lady of Peace Church

DAY OF PRAYER

For the Legal Protection of the Unborn

Adoration for Life - January 22nd from 7:30am to 6:30pm Come and spend some time in prayer with faithful from across the nation that all unborn children may be protected in law and welcomed in love.

Holy Hour for Life - January 22nd at 6:30pm





January 8, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

At the end of January, we celebrate both the memorial of St. Francis DeSales and the feast of the conversion of St. Paul. Each of these men is considered a patron of communications — saints we need to turn to for guidance today more than ever. St. Francis was a journalist and author while St. Paul is a patron of publishers and writers.

Even though they did not have the same technology we use, we all are charged with the same mission: to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. In a changing media landscape, today the Diocese of Erie offers insightful, vetted news and information as well as stories and insights in a variety of formats.

Faith magazine remains our flagship publication with in-depth features and interviews from every corner of the diocese, as well as news and information. It's mailed — free of charge — to each household registered in a parish on a quarterly basis. Have you subscribed to the Diocese of EriE-News yet? This resource shows up in your inbox every Wednesday morning with local, national and international news of interest to Catholics. It also promotes events offered by parishes and ministries and includes reminders about holy days as well as links to timely resources for deepening your faith. Sign up for free at www.nwpaCatholic.com. We include much of this information through social media as well, and now create videos, available on the diocesan YouTube channel, to let those we cover share their stories in their own words.

I am grateful for your generous support of the annual *Help Spread the Faith* communications collection and I encourage you to take advantage of all that is offered. Please help us continue this essential outreach by participating the 2024 *Help Spread the Faith* collection scheduled for the weekend of January 27/28.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico Bishop of Erie





A CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE UNLIKE ANY OTHER

We know what happens when two or more are gathered in the Lord's name, so what happens with 80,000?! Join your Catholic brothers and sisters at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress. This historic 5-day gathering of missionary disciples will be a new Pentecost, a powerful annointing and personal commission to invite others to know Christ. Your life - and our Church - will never be the same.

Tour Inclusions

- NEC Congress Pass (5 Days)
- Four (4) nights' accommodations in Indianapolis
- · Continental Breakfast (pending final hotel assignment)
- Roundtrip transportation from Erie PA/Warren PA/West Middle to Indianapolis, IN via deluxe motorcoach
- Daily transportation to the Indianapolis Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium for the Congress
- · Gratuities payable to motorcoach drivers



Tour Does Not Include

Meals and beverages not specifically identified
 Items not specifically mentioned above

3 Step Registration Process

- 1. Scan the QR Code on the cover of the flyer or click H<u>ERE to</u> access our online registration site.
- 2. Follow the prompts to enter your personal information, select your rooming configuration, enter payment information, and acknowledge our terms and conditions.
- 3. Upon completion, you will receive a confirmation email with your Diocesan code and a video tutorial providing instructions for finalizing your registration on the official National Eucharistic Congress' website.



Payment Schedule:

Deposit: \$250 per person due upon registration Second Deposit: \$500 additional due January 15, 2024

Final Payment: Balance due on or before 90 days prior to departure (April 17, 2024)



All payments are non-refundable. By registering for this tour, you understand and agree to CTS Terms and Conditions and accept our CTS Liability Release. All cancellations must be received in writing.



866.468.1420 | NEC@CTSCENTRAL.NET



Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Winners



Contest Winner, Grades K-2:
Ruby Mountford

Contest Winner, Grades 3-5: Griffith Calloway

Congratulations!





Contest Winner, Grades 6-8:
Joanna Schwartz

The Knights of Columbus of Our Lady of Peace would like to invite everyone to join them in praying the Rosary.

Where: Our Lady of Peace Church, School Room B-5
When: The last Thursday of every month at 6:15PM

| | Our Lady of Peace Parish Membership Form | CHECK ONE: |
|-----------------|---|---|
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NEW TO THE PARISH? WANT TO GET INVOLVED BY NOT SURE HOW?

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- 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
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- 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.
 FORMED*



All Volunteers Welcome Sunday Supper Mission Meal served at First Presbyterian Church

We need your help in preparing, cooking and feeding our brothers and sisters in need.

Planning Meeting: Wednesday Jan. 24, 7PM **Where:** OLP Church Meeting Room

What: Select Menu and volunteer for tasks

Who: Any parishioner 15+ years

Date to Serve: Sunday, Feb. 4th, 4:00-5:30pm **Contact:** Pete Piotrowski, 814-600-5386 or

Debbie Piotrowski, 814-812-0122

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

<u>Grades 1-8:</u> Classes meet from 9:15-10:45am in the school and church basement.

Jan. 21 – Regular classes

Jan. 28 - 1st Reconciliation Parent meeting 12:15 in the

*Church Activity Forms for grades 1-8 are due Jan. 21st

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

Jan 21 - Regular classes- Completed Bishop letter due

.....

Jan. 28 - No Religious Ed. Classes

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

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OLP YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE -SPRING 2024-**FEBRUARY** JANUARY

Kids activities will be available.

13th-MS Retreat-RSVP by Jan. 10th 15th-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel 17th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel 16th-St. Francis in McKean Adoration 8pm

22nd-DLP Adoration for Life 6:30pm

23rd-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel 24th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel

27th-MS/HS Festival of Praise trip to Steubenv

H. Noon-Midnight-RSVP by Jan. 24th Oth-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel let-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, 12th St. Chick-Fil-A

2nd-Men's Conference Sam-Jam 6th-MS/HS Ripple Effect 6-9pm, meet in chapel, pick

10th-HS Retreat Noon-6pm, RSVP by Mar. 6th 12th-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel

13th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel 14th-St. Francis in McKean Adoration 8pm

-Living Stations in OLP Church 7pm -4th/5th Gr. YG 4-5:30pm, meet in chapel

19th St. Joseph Table 6-8pm, OLP Cafeteria 20th HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, 12th St. Chick-Fil-A 25th-Chrism Mass at Cathedral 1pm

MS/HS YG 6:30-8:30pm meet in social room 27th-The Passion Talk by Fr. Larry Richard at St. Joe's

ad of Life Church 7pm 28th-Holy Thursday Church Hopping, meet at OLP at

30th-Holy Saturday Sunrise Hike at Wintergreen Gorge

2nd-Kid's Night Out-RSVP by Jan. 31st 7th-MS/HS Ripple Effect 8-9pm, meet in chapel, pick utside church

th-11th-Divine Mercy Encounter Retreat

13th-Mardi Gras Party-all invited, 6-8pm, Cafeteria 15th-St. Francis in McKean Adoration 8pm

MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel 21st-HS Y6 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel

24th-Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser-all day 26th-4th/5th Gr. YG 4-5:30pm, meet in chapel

28th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, 12th St. Chick-Fil-A

APRIL

3rd-MS/HS Easter Party 6:30-8:30pm, Gym 7th-Divine Mercy Service 3pm, OLP Church 10th-MS/HS Ripple Effect 6-9pm, meet in cf

MAY st-MS/HS Ripple Effect 6-9pm, meet in chapel, pick u

3rd-Kid's Night Out-RSVP by May 1st 7th-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel

th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel Faithful to the Finish 5k. RSVP in Apr

hth-4th/5th Gr. YG 4-5:30pm, meet in chapel 5th & 22nd-HS YG 8:30-8:30pm, meet in chapel (22nd

6th-St. Francis in McKean Adoration 8pm th-Pepperoni Ball Sale Pick Up Fundraiser 10-11:30a

Knights of Columbus Free-Throw Championship

Questions, contact Chris Turner at 401-580-1655

Boys & Girls ages 9 - 14

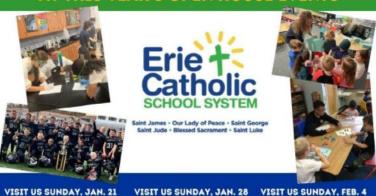
All boys and girls ages 9 through 14 are invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest.

The local competition will be held on Saturday, January 27th at 1:00PM in the OLP gym.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is held annually with winners progressing through local, district, regional, and state competitions. All boys and girls 9 to 14 years of age are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions.

Entry forms will be available at the competition. All participants will shoot 15 Free Throws to determine the winners who will advance to the District competition.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS AT THIS YEAR'S OPEN HOUSE EVENTS



@ BLESSED SACRAMENT, **OUR LADY OF PEACE** 8 ST. LUKE

@ ST. GEORGE 8 ST. JUDE 12 - 2 PM

12 - 2 PM **REGISTRATION APPRECIATED REGISTER @ WWW.ERIECATHOLIC.ORG**

The Knights of Columbus Council of Our Lady of Peace

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, February 4th OLP Cafeteria from 8:00AM to 12:30PM

Menu:

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

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Mark Your Calendar for Area Events

Friday-Saturday, February 9-10, 2024 Pre-Lenten Retreat with Diocese of Erie St. Thomas More House of Prayer 365 Hill City Rd., Cranberry, PA

Step away from busyness and stress to join other single and married adults in a weekend of prayer and community. The Virtue & Integrity Education Office of the Diocese of Erie is sponsoring this retreat, which will include reflections on each person's call to holiness by Fr. Kevin Barrett.

Questions: call or email Cassondra, 814-824-1216, cdragone@eriercd.org. For pricing and/or to register visit website: https://www.eriercd.org/chastity/retreat.html

Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:00AM-3:30PM **Prayer and Finding God In Silence**

Anawim Ministries at Bethany Retreat Center 1031

Germania Rd., Frenchville, PA \$40 per person A retreat on prayer and finding God in the silence. Dr. Jan Satterlee will present prayer as communication with god by unpacking three expressions of prayer: vocal, meditative and contemplative. To learn more about the retreat, visit https://www.wetravel.com/trips/prayer-and-finding-god-inthe-silence-anawim-ministries-frenchville-54384564.

ALSO, Anawim Ministries is looking for volunteers to help make its 2024 events possible. If interested, email bethanyretreatcenter@gmail.com

Saturday, May 4, 2024

47th Annual Erie March for Life Downtown Erie, PA

The 2024 Erie March for Life will be on May 4th, one week in advance of Mother's Day. Please prayerfully consider joining the march and bring others with you.

Saturday, May 11, 2024 8:00AM

OLP's Faithful to the Finish 5K Run/Walk

Presque Isle State Park, Beach 1

Mark your calendar; gather your family and friends and enjoy the morning with a run/walk. Look for sign-ups soon!



St. Martin Center February 25, 2024 11:00am - 2:00pm Ambassador Hotel - 7794 Peach St.

Celebrity Judge Fr. Rich invites you to join him in supporting St. Martin Center

Help Fr. Rich raise the most for St. Martin Center . . click the QR code and donate today, then join Fr. Rich for "Erie's Best Coffee." Try coffee from local shops and vote for YOUR favorite. There will be live music, kids activities and a photo booth. Visit stmartincenter.org/eriesbestcoffee.html to buy your tickets, just \$15.





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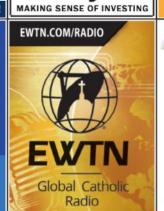
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