



Our Lady of Peace

WHEN THE **TRUTH SPEAKS**

JOHN 18:33B-37



November 24, 2024

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2401 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16506

Parish Office Phone

814-833-7701

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814-833-7702

Website

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E-mail

olp@olp.org

Faith Formation Office

814-838-9983

Office Hours: 8:00AM - 8:00PM**Business Hours:** 8:00AM - 4:00PM**Interim School Principal**

Mrs. Lisa Panighetti

School Phone

814-838-3548

School Website

www.eriecatholic.org

Parish Pastoral Team**Pastor**

Rev. Rich Toohey

(fr.rich@olp.org)

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Nicholas Fratus

Priest in Residence

Rev. Shane Mathew

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Ralph DeCecco

Deacon 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

Outreach Coordinator

Mr. Andrew Heinlein

Coordinator of Adult Formation

Sister Kathleen Dietz, FSO

Maintenance Supervisor

Mr. Michael Przepierski

Pastoral Council President

Mr. Justin Miles

Finance Council Chairman

Ms. Rami Sorge

Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Rich Toohey, Gina Adams,

Warren Beaver, Justin Miles,

Mary Beth Whitman

The Sacrament of Baptism is

celebrated each month on the 1st Sunday at 11AM Mass & 3rd Sunday at 12:30PM. A mandatory prep class for parents is available.

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.

OCIA (Order 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:

Call the office: 814-833-7701 x0

**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.

November 2024

24th Meals in a Box / Mac & Cheese

Pantry is OPEN

(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 - How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, / to receive power and divinity, / and wisdom and strength and honor. / To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

First Reading - One like a Son of man received dominion, glory, and kingship (Daniel 7:13-14).

Psalm - The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty (Psalm 93).

Second Reading - Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead (Revelation 1:5-8).

Gospel - For this I came into the world, to testify to the truth (John 18:33b-37).

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: Given the Kingdom

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Rev 1:5b-6)

Adults: In what ways is Jesus the ruler of your life?

Kids: How can you show that you honor Jesus as the king of your life?

CHRIST IS KING

On the final Sunday of the liturgical year we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. It's easy to understand today's scriptures as events that happened long ago and far away, or predictions that will come true somewhere, some day. But they invite us to claim Christ as our King here and now. Jesus' words to Pilate in the Gospel remind us that his kingdom transcends time and place. And the prophecies from Daniel and Revelation give us reason to be faithful to Christ our King right here and right now.

By concluding the year with this feast we are proclaiming our faith that Jesus Christ is the one and only King over all seasons, all peoples, and all of creation. No matter what nation we belong to or what language we speak, he "has made us into a kingdom" (Revelation 1:6)-one people united in love and peace for all eternity.

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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024

7:00AM Linda Platz - Family
12:10PM Tom Petrus - Friend, Joan

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024

7:00AM Helen Molder - Family
12:10PM Ann Cuzzola - Family

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024

7:00AM Patricia Miklos - Family
12:10PM Carmelita Morabito - Family

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2024

Thanksgiving Day

9:00AM Jean Yurkovic - Cindy Hartman
Please bring your food and monetary donations for the Millcreek Food Pantry to Mass.



Church Offices are closed Thursday, November 28th through Monday, December 2nd and will reopen on Tuesday, December 3rd.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2024

7:00AM Patty Ann Miklos - Family
12:10PM Matt Johnson - Carroll Family

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2024

8:00AM Andrew Polakowski - Family
5:00PM Robert Lapinsky - Darrell & Nancy Meyers

For weekend Masses: please bring your food and monetary donations for the Millcreek Food Pantry to Mass.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

7:30AM Living & Deceased Members of OLP
9:00AM Marilyn Schlecht - Mary Ann McLaughlin
11:00AM William Krasnesky - Kathy & Bob Szczesny
4:30PM Christina Langer - Parents

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 All are welcome!

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.



SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Peggy & John Pulice - Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Andrew Polakowski - Family.

Readings for the Week of November 24th

Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19; Ps 96:10-13; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4; Ps 98:1-3ab, 7-9; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Sir 50:22-24; Ps 113:1-8; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Rm 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Sunday: Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 - 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED - Please pray for Kathy DiNicola. May her family find hope and consolation through their faith in the resurrected Lord.



Our Lady of Peace...

Pray for us

A Family Perspective

When we are young, our parents "tell us about Jesus" and we believe what our parents believe. At some point we must leave our parents faith and ask Pilate's question: "Are you the King?" Pilate is just asking these questions of our behalf.

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:

Nov. 24: Mary Ann A., Magherita H., Audrey & Robert H.
Nov. 25: Christine O.
Nov. 26: Cynthia B., Dave W., Joe S., Deb T., Corky Y.
Nov. 27: Ann R.
Nov. 28: Ann F., Michael M., Mary Margaret M.
Nov. 29: Linda M., Janet A.
Nov. 30: Bethann D., Linda D., Julie M., James S.
Dec. 1: Maxine R., Mark S., Evelyn V., Pat B.

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 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe! This is the last Sunday of our church year and another opportunity to proclaim to each other and the world that Jesus Christ is our King and the King of the Universe! Our Incense and chants at Mass are small but significant ways that we honor our Lord and King, Jesus Christ at Mass this weekend. The crown over the tabernacle in Our Lady of Peace Church is a reminder of this great title we give to Jesus who is always present to us at every Mass and remains substantially present in the tabernacle 24/7.

This is also the day that we complete our Parish Eucharistic Consecration at our evening prayer service tonight (Sunday, November 24th) at 6pm. I am very excited for this moment for our parish and the graces that God continues to desire to shower upon us as we have participated in this consecration over the past 33 days. And I want to encourage you to be part of the service this Sunday even if you have not done the consecration. As far as the service is concerned, I have miscommunicated the plan over the last few weeks; so I want to clarify the final plan.

- From **5:30-6pm** there will be **silent adoration** as the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at the end of the 4:30pm Mass.
- At **6pm** we will pray **Solemn Evening Prayer** that is part of the Liturgy of the Hours.
- At **6:30pm** we will have some music and silence that will lead to our **Prayer of Eucharistic Consecration and Benediction**.
- Then at **7pm** or so we will have some time for **fellowship and refreshments**.

This prayer service is our **Evening of Renewal for liturgical ministers**, so it is my hope that all liturgical ministers will make every effort to be there even if you were not able to be a part of the consecration.

On a different Eucharistic note, we have begun to periodically include a section in the bulletin called "Our Catholic Faith" which explains parts of the Mass and other parts of our Catholic Tradition that involve liturgy and worship. We planned this as part of the ongoing Eucharistic Revival that is still happening in the National Catholic Church (this is the 3rd of three years); and as a follow up to the "The One Hour to Peace . . . from Mass to Mission" Formation we experienced as a parish last Fall (2023) which gave an overview of the Mass. So keep your eyes open for those sections over the next 8-10 months and let's keep diving deeper in Eucharistic Amazement here at OLP!

May God bless Our Lady of Peace Parish through our Eucharistic Consecration... and our thanksgiving week 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...

****Thanksgiving Mass is at 9am on Thursday, November 28th.**

There is no greater prayer of Thanksgiving than the Mass, so I hope you will consider joining your spiritual family to offer this prayer to our God together. We will begin collecting non-perishable food and donations for the food pantry on Thanksgiving.

****Thanksgiving Giving Opportunities** Thanksgiving is always a good time of year to remember that one way we show our gratitude to God for all that He has blessed us with is to be generous in giving to others in need. From Thanksgiving day thru Sunday, December 1st you can bring non-perishable food donations to any of the Masses (daily and weekend) and bring them forward during the presentation of the gifts, OR you can bring cash or check donations to those Masses and present them in the basket in the sanctuary at the presentation of the gifts as well (labeled Food Pantry).

****Tinseltown Advent Opportunities:**

1. "Drummer Boy Christmas Concert Live" by For King and Country will be shown December 5-9, 2024. I will be going on December 8th at 6:30pm. Contact me or call the Parish Office by December 6th if you would like to join me.

2. "I Am the Immaculate Conception" is a Catholic Documentary Movie showing December 12, 14 and 17. I will be attending on December 12th (the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe!) at 7pm so contact me or call the parish office by December 10th if you would like to join me.

****#iGiveCatholic now through December 3rd** This year our goal for #iGiveCatholic is \$45,000 and 175 donors. Advanced giving is available from November 18-December 2. This year we have chosen a parish ministry to benefit from your sacrifice, the Adult Faith Formation program. #iGiveCatholic donations will be used to fund our new staff position, Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation, held by Sr. Kathleen Dietz, FSO. It will also be used for parish subscriptions to media resources such as FORMED and Hallow available to all parishioners; for a Parish Mission in the spring of 2026 (we hope to bring in a nationally-known speaker); and for other supplies and hospitality at new formation events. **Donations will be accepted until midnight on Tuesday, December 3rd which is the National day of Giving, #iGiveCatholic.** Go to www.olp.org for more information or call the parish office.

****Masses this Week** Monday, Nov. 25th- St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr (4th Century learned woman who converted the empress and army leader and thus martyred); Tuesday, Nov. 26th and Friday, Nov. 29th- Weekdays in Ordinary Time; Wednesday, Nov. 27th- Mass for Persecuted Christians; Thursday, Nov. 28th- for Thanksgiving Day; Saturday, Nov. 30th- St. Andrew, Apostle and Martyr (last Mass of the liturgical year).

****OLP Cursillo... Strive for '25** We are trying something new next year as a parish in collaboration with the Cursillo Retreat Movement in our Diocese. We are attempting to have a parish focused Curillo Retreat where OLP parishioners are the team members and we try to have mostly OLP members make the retreat. **So, on for February 21-23, 2025, we will have the OLP Men's Cursillo at Our Lady of Mercy Church in**

Harborcreek. I will be one of the spiritual directors, along with Deacon Ralph, and Mike McLaughlin will be the lay leader. A Women's Cursillo is planned for March 21-23, 2025 also at Our Lady of Mercy Church with many OLP members as part of the team. Here's a little more about Erie Cursillo from their website... "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." Please contact Steve Patterson 814-746-8859 or Debbie Patterson 814-504-8400 if you have questions. Sign up is easy, stop by the office or register online at www.ericursillo.org.

****Catholic Church Guidelines for Funerals and Burial** As we continue through the month of November, I remind you that our Catholic Tradition encourages us to pray for our beloved dead and visit their places of rest at the cemeteries during this month. This is also a good chance to encourage all of you, no matter what age you are, to make your own arrangements for your funeral (at the funeral home AND the church) so that you can ensure that your funeral is done the way you want it to be. It is always a regrettable situation when one of our parishioners who made Mass a priority in their life does not end up with a funeral mass because those who are planning their funeral do not have that same prioritization. Selecting your Funeral Mass readings and music can also allow you to reinforce the message you want your loved ones to hear at the funeral. If you would like to work on that, please stop the parish office and we can get you the resources to help you with that. I also take this opportunity to review a few of the Catholic Church's expectations on funerals and burials in general that I often see misunderstood or not known.... ONE- It is permissible for Catholics to be cremated so long as it is not done in rejection of our belief in the resurrection of the body at the second coming of Jesus Christ. TWO- we are expected to bury our deceased loved ones in blessed ground (Catholic cemetery OR a grave in a public cemetery that is blessed at the Committal Service after the Funeral). It is not therefore acceptable to leave cremated remains in an urn in our homes or have them scattered somewhere outside of a cemetery. THREE- please always consult with your pastor or the priest who will be presiding over the Rite of Christian Burial with you BEFORE making any final plans or traveling arrangements. Some days and times may not work for the priest's or church's schedule and it can be difficult if people have already purchased flight tickets, etc (the flexibility of the family is appreciated). Please do not arrange the funeral date and time with the mentality that the funeral home will find me a priest. Fr. Nick and I want to pray with you and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the conversation to find a time that works for everyone. FOUR- our Rite of Christian Burial includes 3 parts- first, the Vigil Service at the Funeral Home. The church encourages an opportunity for visitation, viewing and prayer at a funeral home or other site. This is because it allows for closure in seeing our loved one laid out as well as an opportunity for our family and friends to offer

their support. To skip this step is to short-change the grieving process and makes it more difficult for our friends and family to reach out to us. The second part of the Rite is the funeral Mass at the Church. There is no greater prayer that we can offer for our loved one than the Catholic Mass and so the best thing we can do for the soul of our loved one who has died (and for all of us who remain) is to celebrate a Funeral Mass. To choose to have a funeral service at the funeral home suggests a lack of understanding and appreciation for the significance of the Mass. Even if someone is not Catholic or has been a way from the church, it could still be appropriate to have a Mass so please investigate this with the priest involved before you make your own assumptions. The third part of the Rite is the Committal Service at the cemetery. This brings prayerful closure and helps us make a connection to their final place of rest. Even if the Committal is done at a later date (the body needed to be cremated or some other reason), it is still appropriate to ask a priest or deacon to lead you in that prayer (and Fr. Nick and I are happy to do that for and with you!).

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.

December

OLP Youth Ministry Schedule

- 3rd-Holy Hour at 6:30pm w/ fellowship to follow
- 4th-Ripple Effect 6-9pm
- 10th-Advent Community Gathering-5:30pm dinner, 6pm prayer, 6:15pm activities
- 11th-HS YG 6:30-8:30pm (6pm optional silent Adoration)
- 14th-4th/5th Gr Retreat, 11am-3pm @OLP
- 15th-HS YG 5:30-7:30pm
- 17th-MS YG 6:30-8:30pm (6pm optional silent Adoration)
- 18th-HS @12th St Chick-Fil-A 6:30-8:30pm
- 19th-St. Francis Adoration in McKean 8pm w/ fellowship to follow
- 31st-11pm Holy Hour of Peace into the new year!

Questions email Sarah.beaver@olp.org



Happy New Liturgical Year

Happy New Year!

Yes, happy new year to all Catholics – not in 5 weeks but now!

With the first Sunday of Advent, the Church begins its new year – a new liturgical year, that is. Just as the earth has its seasons through which it cycles year after year, so the Church has seasons through which it cycles following the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of Our Lord, year in and year out.

The liturgical year consists of a seasonal (also known as temporal) cycle and a sanctoral cycle. As Vatican II's document on the liturgy tells us, in the seasonal cycle, known as the Proper of Seasons, the Church once again lives the whole "mystery of Christ, from the incarnation and birth until the ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of blessed hope and of the coming of the Lord" (Sacrosanctum Concilium #102). In the sanctoral cycle, known as the Proper of Saints, the Church celebrates and holds up as examples the martyrs and saints already with Christ in Heaven, giving special place of honor to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Our Lord.

The liturgical year is made up of six seasons:

- **Advent** - four weeks of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth · Christmas - recalling the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the peoples of the world ·
- **Lent** - a six-week period of penance in preparation for the celebration of the Easter Triduum ·
- **Sacred Paschal Triduum** - the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year, where the Christian people recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus ·
- **Easter** - 50 days of joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead and his sending forth of the Holy Spirit ·
- **Ordinary Time** - divided into two sections (one span of 4-8 weeks after Christmas Time and another lasting about six months after Easter Time), wherein the faithful consider the fullness of Jesus' teachings and works among his people ·

The liturgical year is also reflected in the readings at Mass. The Sunday readings follow a three-year cycle, Year A, Year B and Year C. Year A uses readings from the Gospel of Matthew, Year B from the Gospel of Mark and Year C from the Gospel of Luke, with readings from the Gospel of John on certain Feast Days and for certain particular times, such as on Good Friday. The weekday readings follow a two-year cycle, years 1 and 2.

The mystery of Christ unfolds through the cycle of the liturgical year and calls us to live his mystery in our own lives. This call is best illustrated in the lives of Mary and the other saints, celebrated by the Church throughout the year. The celebration of the saints does not take away from the mystery of Christ, rather both form a marvelous harmony. The **Blessed Virgin Mary** is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son, and the feasts of all the **saints** proclaim the wonderful works of Christ in his servants and offer the faithful fitting examples for their imitation .

Advent 2024



First Week of Advent - December 1-7

What is Advent? The word Advent is from the Latin *adventus* for “coming” and is associated with the four weeks of preparation of our hearts for Christmas. It is a time for reflection, prayer and action.

Get out your Advent Wreath ahead this year and make it part of your preparations for Christmas to pray daily. Our waiting has begun. As we light the first candle, it creates a dim light against a world that often seems foreboding and dark. Why do we light a candle? We light it because we are a people of hope.

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all. O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first (purple) candle of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

Actions for the first week of Advent:

Perform an act of kindness for someone you do not know.

Send a card to a friend or loved one who has lost a family member during this year and let them know you are praying for them and thinking of them.

Make a gift of your time or money to a charitable organization that helps the poor.

Find an opportunity to be the hands of God. Say a kind word and listen with compassion to someone who is suffering.

Second Week

December 8 - 14

Advent is the “trifecta” of celebrations: (1) Celebrating the birth of Christ.

(2) Waiting for Christ’s return to Earth again. (3) Waiting for Christ to come into our hearts.

In a culture where we are so used to instant gratification, we have most certainly lost the art of waiting. We’ve lost the wonder and contemplation needed to appreciate the beauty and mystery of Advent. How can we find Christ at Christmas if we aren’t watching and waiting for Him.

Advent gives us a chance to really commit our minds where it matters most, on the next life. How do I do that?

Quit being “too busy” to be faithful. It’s a busy time, we get it. You have to do the thing with the thing before the thing and then you have to rush off to another thing, and there’s just not enough time in the day. If you wait for the time, it’ll never come. So make room in your life, in your heart. Turn off your phone. Set aside the to-do list. Light a candle. Say a prayer. Sit in the chapel with Jesus. Use your advent wreath each day.

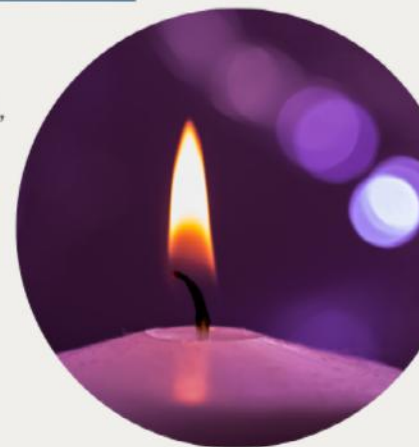
Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light two (purple) candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ’s promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay.

We ask this in His holy name. Amen.



Actions for the Second Week of Advent:

Send a get-well card for someone in the hospital.

Send a Christmas card to a young person you know. Remind them that you are praying for them, and remind them of the faith significance of the upcoming holiday.

Let God’s mercy and love operate in your own life. Make up with a friend or family member you have been fighting with.

Renew your commitment to a special time of Advent prayer each day throughout the season. Say a prayer sometime today for our country. Learn about Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego.

Pray for St. Lucy’s intercession that we not be blinded by our personal goals, but always seek what God wants us to do.

Third Week

December 15 - 21

The third Sunday of Advent is known as **Gaudete Sunday**. **Gaudete** means “rejoice” and reminds us to Rejoice in the Lord always. It expresses our joy and anticipation of the birth of Christ.

Pope Francis reminds us that “We must be awake, alert, vigilant. Jesus warns us: there is the danger of not realizing His coming and being unprepared for His visit. I have recalled on other occasions what Saint Augustine said: ‘I fear the Lord who passes by’...that is, I fear that He will pass by and I will not recognize Him!” Advent is the time we can be shaken out of our lethargy and awakened “from our slumber” to be vigilant always. God conceals Himself in the most ordinary of situations. We should not be waiting for extraordinary events. Make time to look for God’s presence in daily situations. He reminds us that if we are unaware of this reality today, we will be unprepared when He arrives at the end of time.

This week you are challenged to sacrifice all those things that keep you “too busy.” Then, substitute them with Jesus. Give up some part of your daily routine to fit in 20-30 minutes just for Jesus.

- Pray on your afternoon walk or run.
- Dedicate a decade of the Rosary to someone you don’t know who needs prayer.
- Listen to Scripture or a faith-based book/podcast on your work commute.
- Grab your bible and pick out a psalm. Choose a sentence and make it your daily meditation.
- Use your Advent Wreath as part of your daily prayer and rejoice!



Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light two (purple) candles and the third (pink) candle of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ’s promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay.

We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

Actions for the Third Week of Advent:

Make something (bake a cake, draw a picture) to cheer someone up or as a means of sharing the spirit of the season.

Examine your conscience. Are you continually turning towards God?

Give one of your possessions away to the poor or donate to a charity.

Put up your creche (nativity set) or some other symbol to remind you of the coming feast.

Write a letter or send a card telling someone how much you care for them and how much they are loved by God.

Fourth Week

December 22 - 25

What does it mean to “wait well?” First we need to know what it is we are waiting for. Are you “waiting” for Jesus to come into the world? Are you waiting for, longing for Jesus to come into certain areas of your life, your world and your heart? That is what we are waiting for in Advent. So, this week ask yourself where do you want Jesus to enter into your life? Where are you, deep down in your heart, hoping for Him to come into your life?

Ven. Fulton Sheen says “There are two births of Christ, one unto the world in Bethlehem; the other in the soul, when it is spiritually reborn.” “It was the second birth that Saint Paul insisted on when he wrote from prison asking that Christ may dwell in their hearts by faith and that they be rooted and grounded in love. This is the second Bethlehem, or the personal relationship of the individual heart to the Lord Christ.”

Give, give, give. . .

You don’t always have to give money. Give your time, talent, and friendship. Be kind to someone who is difficult. Pay someone a compliment who doesn’t deserve it. Hold open a door for a stranger. Offer to help someone carry their groceries. Write an inspirational quote on cards and randomly place them on car windshields or neighbors doors. Remember that the smallest act of kindness is still a huge act of love.

Get to Confession. If we believe Advent is the time to celebrate the Second Coming, we should be ready at all times. No one wants to greet Jesus with a dirty soul.

Let’s finish Advent humbled and filled with everlasting love for each other so we can show the world what true Christianity is all about. Let’s find the peace by allowing Christ to enter our hearts so that one day we can kneel in reverence, bow our heads and know that we have served our purpose in this life: serving and loving.

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people.

He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all.

O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light all candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ’s promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

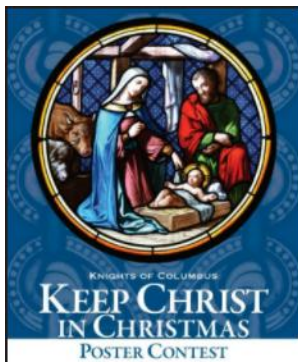
Action for the Fourth Week of Advent:

Look around you for a sign of God’s presence. When you find it, share it with someone.

Gather your family and read the story of the birth of Christ, Luke 2:1-20.

Let Jesus reign in your heart and let love be born anew, like that little Babe on that first Christmas morning 2,000 years ago.





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 13, 2024

Contact: Bob Koshinski, 814-449-1779 or rkoshinski@roadrunner.com

Entry Forms available in the Church Office.

OLP Boy Scout Troop 59 Christmas Decorations Sale

Time to clean out your old Christmas decorations and shop for new ones.

Troop 59 will be accepting all your new/used Christmas decorations.

Drop off your decorations:

OLP Scout House:

Monday, November 25th 6:00 – 8:00PM

Monday, December 2nd 6:00 – 8:00PM

Christmas Decoration Sale:

OLP School Cafeteria:

Saturday, December 7th

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

Sunday, December 8th

8:00AM – Noon



Donations benefits:

OLP/West Lake FD Troop 59 activities.

Questions? Contact: Alyson Dana, 814-490-3493
alysondana81@gmail.com



Bulletin Early Deadlines

The Holidays are fast approaching and with it comes some early deadlines for the bulletin. They are as follows:

For Sunday, December 15, 2024, articles are due by November 26

For Sunday, December 22, 2024, articles are due by December 6

For Sunday, December 29, 2024, articles are due by December 9

For Sunday, January 5, 2025, articles are due December 13

For Sunday, January 12, 2025, articles are due December 13

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.



The Knights of Columbus Council
of Our Lady of Peace

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, December 8th

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

Menu:

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

Credit Cards Accepted

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**



Inter-Church Ministries Coats for Kids



Thank you to all who donated items for the “Coats for Kids” collection held during the month of October.

Through your generosity we were provided 355 coats to needy children and adults in Erie County. In addition, we also provided 4 large bags of hats and gloves and 10 large bags of clothing items. I would also like to thank Cheryl DiPietro for her help in coordinating the coat drive. Way to go OLP!

Andy Heinlein, Outreach Coordinator, andrew.heinlein@olp.org

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE - 5:00PM, 7:30PM AND MIDNIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY - 10:00AM

**A Stewardship of Sharing October 2024
Fiscal Year July 2024 - June 2025**

	Monthly	YTD
Weekly Envelope	\$ 75,877	\$332,943
Loose	4,603	20,748
Holy Days	164	3,733
Monthly School Support	1,750	6,585
Christmas/Easter/Flowers	15	25
<hr/>		
Total Offertory	\$82,409	\$364,035
Budgeted Offertory	\$89,792	\$359,167
(Deficit) Surplus	(\$7,383)	\$4,868
Diocesan Designated Fund	\$ 4,336	\$ 12,731

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.

**2024 CSA
February 2024 to January 2025**

Goal	\$ 200,000
Pledge Payments Received to Date.....	\$ 181,451
Total Pledges	\$ 202,978
417 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 2024-2025 Diocesan assessment is \$145,333.

IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help our parish and reduce your taxable income.

Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as Our Lady of Peace.

Special Collection: Thank You

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Monies raised will help support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States.

PRAY'N • PACK'N • PLAY'N
Community
ADVENT EXPERIENCE 2024

SAVE THE DATES AND JOIN US

- **Tuesday, December 3rd** - Holy Hour at 6:30pm. Come early and pray with the Eucharistic Miracles display in church.
- **Tuesday, December 10th** - Parish Advent Community Experience with Dinner, packing of our food pantry Service Project items, activities, and cookie decorating. 5:30-7:30pm in the cafeteria.
- **Tuesday, December 17th** - Eucharistic Miracles presentation in the church at 6:30pm.



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

**Prepare the way of
love this Advent**
Parish Advent Service Project:

Millcreek Food Pantry. . . The parish is hosting a Community Advent Experience on Tuesday, December 10th. We will be making care packages for the families of the Millcreek Food Pantry.

The following items are needed:

laundry detergent	fabric softener
cleaning products	dish detergent
deodorant (men/women)	toothbrush/toothpaste
soap/bodywash	shampoo
razor/feminine products	diapers

There are 150 families that regularly rely on the Millcreek Food Pantry for their daily needs.

St. Martin Center Shining Stars. . .

\$25-\$50 Gift cards from Target, Walmart, Kohl's, Five Below, McDonalds or Little Caesars are needed by Tuesday, December 10th. The parish is sponsoring 150 children again this year.

You can make a difference in the life of a child this Christmas.

*Drop off donations in the "Advent Project"
bins in the vestibule*



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 BUT 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.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.



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. 21, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar 15

Time: 9:45AM 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!**

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Grades 1-8: Classes meet from 9:15-10:45AM in the school and church basement.

Nov. 24 Classes 9:15 to 10:45AM; Grade 2 Parent Day, Church Activity Form due for Grades 1-5

Dec. 1 No Religious Ed. Classes

Grade 9, Confirmation class meets from 5:30-7:30PM in the church Social Room.

Nov. 24 Class 5:30-7:00PM, Bishop letter part 1 and Confirmation name form due

Dec. 1 No Confirmation class

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

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OLP Bible Study invites you to join us in the study of three of St. Paul's PRISON LETTERS.

**THE LETTERS OF ST. PAUL TO THE
PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS,
AND PHILEMON**

January 7 - February 26, 2025

WHEN: Tuesday nights: 7:00 to 8:30pm
January 7, 2025 through February 25, 2025

OR

Wednesday mornings: 10:00 to 11:30am
January 8, 2025 through February 26, 2025

WHERE: Our Lady of Peace Church Social Room

This is an 8-week Bible Study
Pre-Registration is required by December 20, 2024.

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: Philippians, Colossians & Philemon

You will be registered upon receipt of payment-due by December 20, 2024

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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Our Lady of Peace Sunday Bulletin

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