



Our Lady of Peace

Prepare **THE WAY OF THE LORD**



Matthew 3:1-12

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

2401 West 38th Street, Erie, PA 16506

Parish Office Phone

814-833-7701

Website

www.olp.org

E-mail

olp@olp.org

Faith Formation Office

814-838-9983

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

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

School Principal

Mrs. Emily Fluegel

School Phone

814-838-3548

School Website

www.ericcatholic.org

Parish Pastoral Team

Pastor

Rev. Rich Toohey

(fr.rich@olp.org)

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Luke Daghir

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

Youth Ministry

Miss Sarah Beaver

Mr. Chandler Villanueva

Outreach Coordinator

Mr. Andrew Heinlein

Coordinator of Adult Formation

Sister Kathleen Dietz, FSO

Maintenance

Mr. Michael Przepierski

Pastoral Council President

Dr. Herb Morrow

Finance Council Chairman

Ms. Rami Sorge

Parish Leadership Team

Fr. Rich Toohey, Gina Adams,

Warren Beaver,

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:

9AM-3PM Edie 814-651-5952

3PM-9PM Barb 814-392-8348



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 2025

7th	Coffee / Tea / Juice
14th	Shelf Stable Milk / Rice
21st	Canned: Chicken/Beef/Tuna/Salmon
28th	Nut Butters / Jelly, Jam

Pantry is OPEN December 9th & 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 who are unable to attend the 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 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 people of Sion, behold, / the Lord will come to save the nations, / and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard / in the joy of your heart.

First Reading - He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD (Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalm - Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading - Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel - Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

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: Our Need to Change

This is the one (John the Baptist) of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." (Matthew 3:3)

Adults: What do you need to change so that others can learn from watching you that Christ walks among us?

Kids: What could you do so that others will see in you what it means to follow Jesus?

THE LONG-AWAITED ONE

As the Sundays of Advent unfold the scriptures shift focus from the final coming of the Lord to his historical birth. Today's scriptures blend the two. Isaiah's disillusionment with the kings of his own day led him to envision an ideal king who would rule with divine approval and be led by divine wisdom. For centuries the Jewish people anticipated the arrival of that Messiah, who would usher in a blessed age when the whole world would finally dwell in justice and peace.

After centuries of such growing expectation, the preaching of John the Baptist about the imminent arrival of the Messiah could not help but provoke intense interest. The Baptist's message about preparation for "the one who is coming" (Matthew 3:11) makes clear that Jesus is, in fact, the long-awaited one who is ushering in the new age foretold by Isaiah and all the prophets.

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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

- 7:00AM Henry Truchanowicz - Wife
 12:10PM Joseph Morettini - Son
 2:00PM **School Mass** - Attilio & Anna Ciccozzi -
 Ehrman Family
 5:30PM Anthony Gumino - Daughters

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

- 7:00AM Andrew Baran - Family
 12:10PM Carmelina Fatica - Pirrello Family
 2:00PM **Mass at LECOM Nursing & Rehab,**
 (4114 Schaper Ave.): Deceased Relatives &
 Friends

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

- 7:00AM Tom Vojtek - Paul Vojtek Family
 12:10PM Allison Bosner - Mother, Sylvia

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

- 7:00AM Alberta Bigwood - Sadly Missed by
 Paul, Michelle & Melissa
 12:10PM Jimmy & Del Arduini - Daughter, Gloria

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2025

- 7:00AM Mary Lou Wagner - Daughter, Corkey
 12:10PM Special Intention - Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

- 8:00AM Patricia Anne (Kopkowski) Long -
 Blinda Mozdy & Joseph Mozdy
 5:00PM Msgr. Robert Schrieffer - John & Betsy Truran

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:30AM Joseph Kuhar - Wingenbach Family
 9:00AM Mary Dobek - Maureen Wells
 11:00AM Marilyn & Leo Schlecht -
 Alexander & Groner Families
 4:30PM Living & Deceased Members of OLP

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
 Sundays after all Masses during Advent
 or by appointment - call the Church Office

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory
 of Joe Pettinato - Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of
 John Alward - Family.

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.



Readings for the Week of December 7th

- Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;
 Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
 Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
 Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;
 Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10;
 Mt 11:2-11

Watch Our Lady of Peace Mass On Our YouTube Channel

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



Go to www.ulp.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.

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. 7: Margaret K.
 Dec. 8: Peggy C., Tim G., Pat H., Catilda M., Patricia P.,
 Diane & Bill S., Jean V., Ann S.
 Dec. 9: Elaine S., Jane D.
 Dec. 10: Ann T., Pat M., Mary S.
 Dec. 11: Dave D.
 Dec. 12: Rose B., Chris P.
 Dec. 13: Sylvia B., Joanie M., Charlie R., Sarah F.
 Dec. 14: Mary Fran P., Peggy R., Alice S.

*If you would like to join the OLP 31 Club, please call Dave or
 Kathy Wayman at 814-397-6443. 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...

I have always seen the window of December 8th to 12th (Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe) as a special opportunity to ensure that Mary is part of our Advent preparations. In 2019, Pope Francis added the feast of Our Lady of Loreto on December 10th to the universal calendar of the church; so now we even have more opportunity to honor Mary in this stretch coming up this week. Our Lady of Loreto is the main Marian devotion in Italy and the shrine holds the Holy House of Nazareth (where we visited during our Eucharistic Miracles of Italy Pilgrimage in May). There is also a Litany of Loreto to Mary which is the only Litany to Mary officially approved by the Catholic Church and which includes many of the Marian Titles for Mary acknowledged in our Catholic Tradition over the years.

So I encourage you to do something extra this week to honor our Blessed Mother. Consider praying the rosary, or a novena to Mary, or the Litany of Loreto (which is included on the next page), or refamiliarize yourself with our stain glass windows in the chapel that are dedicated to Mary (and are explained in the hallway outside the sacristy. As a Marian Parish, we can never honor Mary enough. Recall the words of St. Maximilian Kolbe who had a great devotion to Mary... "Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did."

May God bless us in this special Marian window and our second 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 so much** to all those who were able to donate to Our Lady of Peace Parish for #iGiveCatholic 2025! Results will be in next weeks bulletin.

****Please support the Boy Scout Christmas Garage Sale that is happening this weekend (December 6-7) and the Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa that is this Sunday, December 7th from 8am-12:30pm.** Both groups are extremely supportive of our parish and its mission so let us show them our gratitude.

****Monday, December 8th- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Holy Day of Obligation.** Masses are 7am, 12:10pm, 2pm (School) & 5:30pm.

****Advent Tuesdays remaining...**

1. **Tues., Dec. 9th-** Advent with St. John Henry Newman, New Doctor of the Church, with Fr. Nick Rouch and others- 6:30-7:30pm in the church.
2. **Tues., Dec. 16th- 5:30pm-7:30pm-** Community Advent Experience- 6pm Prayer and Dinner followed by activities (Crafts, Cookie Frosting, Blanket Making, Food Pantry Bag Packing).

****Thank you to our 2026 Calendar Sponsors:** Beer and Pop Warehouse, E.C.C.A Payroll and Tax Service, First National Bank, Robin Keisel, Manager and Vice President, Knights of Columbus OLP Council 11454, Maleno Real Estate and Scott Enterprises.

****Masses this Week** *Monday, Dec. 8th-* Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; *Tuesday, Dec. 9th-* St. Juan Diego (16th century peasant to whom Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in 1531 in Mexico); *Wednesday, Dec. 10th-* Our Lady of Loreto (leading Marian devotion in Italy where the Holy House of Nazareth is venerated and after whom the main authorized litany to Mary is named); *Thursday, Dec. 11th-* St. Damasus, Pope (4th Century Pope best known for growth of the cult of the saints); *Friday, Dec. 12th-* Our Lady of Guadalupe; *Saturday, Dec. 13th-* St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr (3rd century martyr under Emperor Diocletian in 304 AD).

****Advent Confessions** As Advent is a season of new beginnings, it is a great time to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation which is THE Sacrament of new beginnings. There is no more appropriate and effective way to prepare for the gift of Christ and Christmas than to experience Reconciliation. Here are the opportunities for the great Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent:

- a. Confessions after all Sunday Masses
- b. Normal weekly opportunities- Wednesdays from 11:15am-Noon; Saturdays from 8:30-9am and 3:45-4:45pm
- c. **"The Light Is on For You"- Wednesday, December 17th from 5-7pm.** All participating Erie churches are open for confessions during this time, OLP will have 3 confessors.
- d. Extra Confession Times in Late Advent
 - i. Friday, Dec. 19th from 11:15am-12Noon.
 - ii. Monday, Dec. 22nd from 6-7pm.

****Sunday, November 16, 2025, was the World Day of the Poor, a day established by Pope Francis in 2017 for Catholics to "reflect on how poverty is at the very heart of the Gospel."**

I remind you of the ways we have and will serve the poor in this season of Fall and Winter.

1. Donations of Gift Cards for the Shining Star Project for St. Martin Center Christmas Gift Distribution from November 23rd to December 8th.
2. Donations of toiletries and cleaning supplies for the West Millcreek Food Pantry families that are packed at our Advent Community Gathering on Tuesday, December 16th. Donations taken through December 14th.
3. Opportunities to volunteer at Emmaus Soup Kitchen and Erie City Mission at the regular OLP monthly commitments.
4. Volunteer for the Our Neighbors Place Overflow Shelter for OLP's designated week of January 14-20 (signup to volunteer on December 20-21).
5. Keep an eye on the parish bulletin and weekly email for other opportunities to serve the poor of our community.



Our Lady of Peace...
Pray for us

Litany of Loreto

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy, Christ hear us.
Christ graciously hear us.

God, the Father of heaven, **Have mercy on us.**
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **Have mercy on us.**
God the Holy Spirit, **Have mercy on us.**
Holy Trinity, one God, **Have mercy on us..**


Holy Mary, **Pray for us.**
Holy Mother of God, **Pray for us.**
Holy Virgin of virgins, **Pray for us.**
Mother of Christ, **Pray for us.**
Mother of the Church, **Pray for us.**
Mother of Mercy, **Pray for us.**
Mother of Divine Grace, **Pray for us.**
Mother of Hope, **Pray for us.**
Mother most pure, **Pray for us.**
Mother most chaste, **Pray for us.**
Mother inviolate, **Pray for us.**
Mother undefiled, **Pray for us.**
Mother most amiable, **Pray for us.**
Mother admirable, **Pray for us.**
Mother of good counsel, **Pray for us.**
Mother of our Creator, **Pray for us.**
Mother of our Savior, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most prudent, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most venerable, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most renowned, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most powerful, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most merciful, **Pray for us.**
Virgin most faithful, **Pray for us.**
Mirror of justice, **Pray for us.**
Seat of wisdom, **Pray for us.**
Cause of our joy, **Pray for us.**
Spiritual vessel, **Pray for us.**

Vessel of honour, **Pray for us.**
Singular vessel of devotion, **Pray for us.**
Mystical rose, **Pray for us.**
Tower of David, **Pray for us.**
Tower of ivory, **Pray for us.**
House of gold, **Pray for us.**
Ark of the covenant, **Pray for us.**
Gate of heaven, **Pray for us.**
Morning star, **Pray for us.**
Health of the sick, **Pray for us.**
Refuge of sinners, **Pray for us.**
Solace of migrants, **Pray for us.**
Comfort of the afflicted, **Pray for us.**
Help of Christians, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Angels, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Patriarchs, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Prophets, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Apostles, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Martyrs, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Confessors, **Pray for us.**
Queen of Virgins, **Pray for us.**
Queen of all Saints, **Pray for us.**
Queen conceived without original sin, **Pray for us.**
Queen assumed into Heaven, **Pray for us.**
Queen of the most Holy Rosary, **Pray for us.**
Queen of families, **Pray for us.**
Queen of peace. **Pray for us.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **Spare us, O Lord.**
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **Graciously hear us, O Lord.**
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **Have mercy on us.**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**
Let us pray.
Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that we, your servants,
may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body;
and by the glorious intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin,
may be delivered from present sorrow,
and obtain eternal joy. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.






Advent Vigils

With the Benedictine Sisters of Erie

Join us the Saturdays of Advent for silence, chant, meditation, and reflection in our Advent Vigil prayer services in the monastery chapel.


November 29, December 6, 13, and 20 at 7:00 PM



Tour the Monastery

6101 East Lake Road

On Dec. 6, come at 4:00 pm for a guided tour of the monastery, followed by supper with the sisters before the evening Advent Vigil. RSVP through the QR code or call Michelle (814) 899-0614 ext. 2507



Benedictine Sisters of Erie



12 "Knights" of Christmas

RAFFLE

84 Prizes

There will be 12 winners chosen and each will get to choose 7 prizes from the list on the back of the ticket.

Winners will be drawn on Saturday, December 13th

On Saturday, December 20th each winner will choose a prize and then continue in rotation until all prizes are gone.

Tickets: \$10 for 1 or \$20 for 3

Tickets are available in the church office






OLP COOKS

PROVIDING MEALS FOR PARISHIONERS IN NEED

We have assembled our cooking team and are ready to begin providing meals for OLP Parishioners in need. If you need a meal or know of a parishioner who needs this ministry, please contact **Maria Prier**.

YOU are the eyes and ears of the parish. If you know of someone who is having surgery, will be giving birth to a child, experiencing serious illness, or other special circumstances, contact our OLP Cooks Meal Coordinator, Maria Prier. Thank you and let's start cooking!

Maria Prier, OLP Cooks Meal Coordinator
priermaria@gmail.com
 334-614-3042




ADVENT EVENING

WITH ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Doctor of the Church

Join OLP and Fr. Nicholas Rouch, Vicar General of the Diocese of Erie for an evening of prayer and reflection guided by the wisdom of St. John Henry Newman.

Let us pause amid the busyness of the season to seek silence, light and hope.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
6:30-7:30PM
IN THE CHURCH



"Year passes after year silently; Christ's coming is ever nearer than it was. O that, as He comes nearer earth, we may approach nearer heaven!"

OUR LADY OF PEACE
 2401 W. 38TH ST.



December 1, 2025

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 13th and 14th. This event has significant benefits for the retired Sisters in our diocese, as well as the over 20,000 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 \$138,840.00 to help defray the costs of medication, nursing care, medical equipment, transportation, physical and occupational therapy and other necessary needs. Your generous gift provides help for their ongoing health care supporting them as they age safely, with dignity, and comfort.

Senior Religious are our 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 minister continue to support all that is being done through their ministry of prayer. They also remember the generous people who assist them through the aging process.

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. Ministries started by Sisters have had a tremendous influence in this diocese, and they stand as a legacy to those generous women who dedicated their lives in service to the reign of God and continue to find ways to minister to others. I join you in praising God for their faithful and generous service to the Church in the past and in the days and years to come.

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

Scan to give



The Light is ON for You

Celebrate the
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Blessed Sacrament
Holy Cross, Fairview
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
*5:00-6:30 pm
Our Lady of Peace
Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro
St. Boniface

St. Francis Xavier, McKean
St. George
St. John the Evangelist, Girard
St. Joseph/Bread of Life Community
St. Jude the Apostle
St. Julia
St. Peter Cathedral



Wednesday, December 17, 2025
5:00-7:00 pm

COMMUNITY PRAYER SERVICE JUBILEE OF PRISONERS

WHAT? Join us as we pray for:

- Prisoners
- Families affected by incarceration
- Those harmed by crime and violence
- A justice system rooted in restoration



WHERE? St. James RC Church 2635 Buffalo Road, Erie 16510

WHEN? Friday December 12, 6:30 p.m.



DID YOU KNOW?

In America, 1 in 2 adults has a loved one who has spent time in prison.
In Pennsylvania 81,000 children have a parent currently in prison.

SAVE THE DATE SAINT ANDREW CHURCH

Presents:

GETTING IN THE

**CHRISTMAS
SPIRIT**

FREE PUBLIC CONCERT SUPPORTING
COMMUNITY OF CARING

**DAVE VANAMBURG'S
THE V BAND**

**SAINT ANDREW CHURCH
1116 WEST 7TH STREET - ERIE, PA**

DONATIONS APPRECIATED. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
COMMUNITY OF CARING

**DEC 7 SUN
1 P.M.**



Symphonic Singers of Erie Christmas Concerts



Sunday, December 14, 2025, 3:00 PM

Wayside Presbyterian Church

1208 Asbury Rd
Erie PA

And

Monday, December 15, 2025, 7:30 PM

Our Lady of Peace Church

2401 West 38th St
Erie PA

**Let us help you get in the
Holiday spirit!**

Director, Jean Verdecchia

Accompanist, Jennifer Davis



Are you cleaning out closets or spare rooms; found any *cotton, flannel or fleece material*? Please consider donating it to the **Sew What?** group. *Yarn, thread and batting is also needed.*

thread and batting is also needed.

The group sews pillowcases, quilts, blankets, winter hoods, scarves, stuffed animals and other items for veterans, refugees and our Erie neighbors in need. Over the years **Sew What?** has delivered thousands of homemade items to community service agencies, relying solely on donations. **Please contact:**

Mary E., 814-866-2854 or Joni B., 814-881-8324.

Pickup available.

Office for the Protection of Children/Youth

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments - Bullying:

Bullying is defined as any unwanted aggressive behavior by another youth or group of youths that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. 20% of youth ages 12-18 experience bullying. When adults respond quickly to bullying behavior, they send the message that bullying is not acceptable. There are ways parents can make a positive difference. Parents can educate themselves on the signs that a child is being bullied or is a bully. Parents should keep the lines of communication open with their child and model for their child how to treat others. Encourage your child to be inclusive by welcoming others to join their activities and groups. For more information on how to prevent bullying in your community visit www.stopbullying.org. for additional resources visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection.

The Second Week of Advent: December 7, 2025

1 [Light the first and second purple candles](#)

2 Read from Scripture: "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:4-7) (Isaiah 9:2)

3 Pray the Advent Wreath Prayer for Week 2: "Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen."

4 Reflect: What are your top three priorities as you prepare for Christmas?



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Grades 1-8: Classes meet in the school & church basement.

Dec. 7 Classes 9:15-10:45AM
Dec. 14 No Religious Ed. Classes
Dec. 14 Edge Youth Group Night 5:30-7:00PM
Dec. 21 Class 9:15-10:45AM, Grade 3 Parent Day, Church Activity form due for Grades 1-5, Mass Day
Dec. 28 No Religious Ed. Classes

Grade 9 Confirmation class: Classes meets from 5:30-7:00PM in the Church Social Room.

Dec. 7 Class 5:30-7:00PM
Dec. 14 No Confirmation Class
Dec. 14 Confirmation Youth Group Night 6:30-8:30PM
Dec. 21 Class 5:30-7:00PM, Bishop letter part 2 and Sponsor form due
Dec. 28 No Confirmation Class

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



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 16th. We will be making care packages for the families of the Millcreek Food Pantry.

The following items are needed:

laundry detergent	fabric softener	tissues
cleaning products	dish detergent	toilet paper
deodorant (men/women)	shampoo	paper towels
soap/bodywash	toothbrush/paste	
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, McDonalds or Little Caesars are needed by Tuesday, December 9th. The parish is sponsoring 175 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



OLP PRAYER LINE

The OLP Prayer Line is ready to pray for you! Prayer intentions for yourself, someone else or a special intention can be sent in by phone or email.

9:00am - 3:00pm Edie Testa
 at 814-651-5952 or ejt1125@gmail.com

3:00pm - 9:00pm Barb Turner
 at 814-392-8348 or dylewski49@hotmail.com

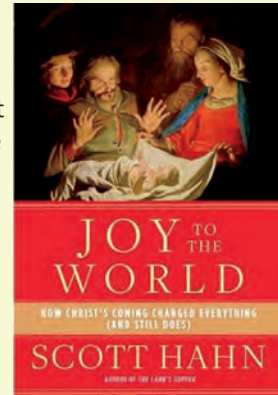
If you would like to become a member of the prayer team for this important ministry and pray for your fellow parishioners, contact:

Andrew Heinlein - Outreach Coordinator
 814-833-7701 x 206 or andrew.heinlein@olp.org

Advent book for sale at the OLP Catholic Resource Kiosk

Cost: - \$5

In Joy to the World. Dr. Scott Hahn brings the first Noel to new light through his thought-provoking combination of exciting story-telling and penetrating biblical insight.



Christmas, as it appears in the New Testament, is the story of a father, a mother, and a child, their relationships, their interactions, their principles, their individual lives, and their life in common. To see the lives of this "earthly trinity" is to catch a first glimpse of heaven. Dr. Hahn shows Christmas to be the story of a family.

Yard Signs Available:

These yard signs, with the metal stake, are available in the church office.



NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025

RISEN & ROOTED RCYM SCHEDULE

Nov 20-23rd-NCYC, National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis, IN

Nov 25th-MS YG CANCELED

Nov 26th-HS YG at 12th St Chick-Fil-A (bring a signed permission form-found at www.olp.org/faith-formation/youth-ministry-2)

Dec 2nd-MS YG at OLP

Dec 3rd-Parish Celebration at SFX for HSYG time tbd (around 6-8:30pm)

Dec 4th-4th/5th Gr YG at OLP 4-5:30pm (more details below in red)

Dec 9th-MSYG at OLP

Dec 10th-HS YG at OLP

Dec 12th-YG Bingo Fundraiser and Kid's Night Out

Dec 16th-OLP's Community Advent Experience 6-8:30pm in Cafeteria open to all ages

Dec 17th-HS YG at OLP

Dec 19th-HS Movie Night at OLP 6:30-9:30pm

Dec 31st-11pm Holy hour for Peace at OLP, ring in the New Year with Jesus open to all!

MS/HS YG starts with optional silent Adoration 6-6:30pm, and includes dinner. 4th/5th Gr YG includes snacks-if an OLP student, they can meet at 3pm in the school lobby. Every Thursday 8-9pm there is Eucharistic Adoration with praise & worship at SFX, open to all ages!

CONTACT US AT: Sarah: sarah.beaver@olp.org
Chandler: youth@stfrancisxaviermckean.org



Congratulations

Knights of Columbus Council 11454 on your outstanding achievement in earning the Star Council Award for 2025. OLP is one of 8 Councils in the Diocese of Erie to earn this designation.



Pictured: Dr. Ken Grugel, Gary Carver, Lew Nodin and Doug Fleming



Erie Winters are long and cold; but you can help "warm the hearts of the homeless."

OUR LADY OF PEACE AT "OUR NEIGHBOR'S PLACE"

"For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me." - Matthew 25:35

GOD INVITES EACH OF US TO SERVE WITH LOVE, FOR IN EVERY FACE WE MEET, CHRIST IS PRESENT. GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WHAT: OLP will coordinate the overflow shelter needs for one week in January 2026. **Details coming soon.**

WHEN: Wednesday, January 14th- Tuesday, January 20th

- Pray for a successful week
- Consider volunteering for one of the evening (6:30-11pm) or morning (5:30-7am) shifts
- Thank you to the ministries who have already pledged their support for 2026: Families Together, Knights of Columbus, Rosary Society, High School Youth Group, Sunday Suppers & the Women's Faith Sharing Group

Andy Heinlein, Outreach Coordinator

814-833-7701 x 206 andrew.heinlein@olp.org

Answer the Call

Lessons and Carols in Concert

December 6, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

December 7, 2025 @ 2:00 PM

St. Joseph Church
(147 W. 24th St. Erie, PA)

Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, the Magi, the Shepherds and the Angels were all there... and they answered God's call.

We are asked to do the same!

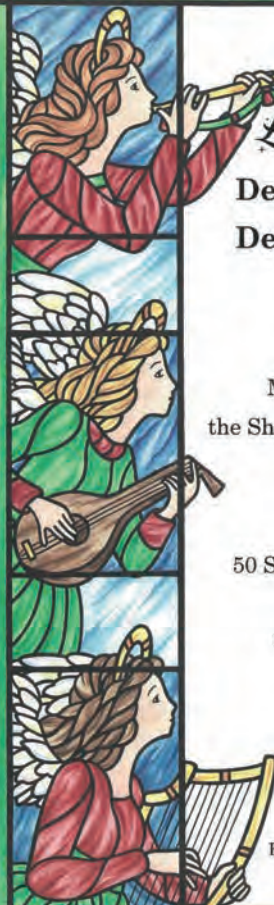
50 Singers, Musicians, and Narrators will present *Answer the Call*

with original music and lyrics

by Michael Malthaner

Concert is free and monetary donations will be collected to support Kinship Ministries of Erie.

For information call 814-490-8707





CHRISTMAS GARAGE SALE

Decorations Sale in the cafeteria:

Saturday, December 6th, 8am-Noon
Sunday, December 7th, 8am-Noon



All proceeds benefit the activities of
OLP Church/West Ridge Fire Dept.
Troop 59.



OLP School Cafeteria: 2401 W. 38th St, Erie

Questions, please contact: Alyson Dana, 814-490-3493



The Knights of Columbus Council
of Our Lady of Peace

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 7th
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




Second Sunday
of Advent

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Bulletin Early Deadlines

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

For Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025, articles are due by Dec. 12

For Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025, articles are due by Dec. 15

For Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026, articles are due Dec. 17

For Sunday, Jan. 11, 2026, articles are due Dec. 17

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.



CASH BINGO

RISEN & ROOTED
REGIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISER
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
AT JPT FOUNDATION, 2319 W. 38TH ST., ERIE
TICKETS \$30/EACH

DOORS OPEN @ 5PM; BINGO @ 6PM
MUST HAVE TICKET TO ENTER-AVAILABLE AT DOOR IF NOT
SOLD OUT. BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & BEVERAGES

BYOB / THEMED BASKETS / 50/50

**NEED BABYSITTING: KID'S NIGHT OUT AVAILABLE IN
OLP SCHOOL CAFETERIA 5:30-9PM FOR GRADES K-5TH**
\$30 PER KID, +\$5 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL IN THE FAMILY
RSVP BY DECEMBER 9TH TO sarah.beaver@olp.org

TO BUY TICKETS EMAIL: sarah.beaver@olp.org OR
youth@stfrancisxaviermckean.org



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www.olp.org

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 NWPAfaith our new parish App at the App Store
- 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.



Our rosary repair ministry will take a winter pause...



Please hold onto your rosaries that need repair until the Spring. There will be an announcement in April when we will resume.

Thank you Dianne for taking on this important ministry.

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. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, Mar. 21

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!

Advertiser of the Week:

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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

PRAY'N PACK'N PLAY'N

Community

ADVENT EXPERIENCE 2025

- **Tuesday, December 2nd** - Holy Hour at 6:30pm. Come and join us in prayer for charitable organizations and those they serve.
- **Tuesday, December 9th** - Advent is a season of hope, waiting and growing closer to Christ. Experience Advent in a deeper way through John Henry Newman's timeless words and the quiet of prayer. 6:30-7:30pm in the church.
- **Tuesday, December 16th** - Parish Advent Community Experience with Dinner, packing of our food pantry Service Project items, activities, and cookie decorating. 6:00-8:00pm in the cafeteria.



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