



Our Lady of Peace

EXPECTATIONS

MATTHEW 11:2-11

Are you the one?

Blind regain their sight

Lame walk

Lepers are cleansed

Deaf hear

Dead are raised

Good News is proclaimed to the poor



December 14, 2025

Third 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

14th Shelf Stable Milk / Rice

21st Canned: Chicken/Beef/Tuna/Salmon

28th Nut Butters / Jelly, Jam

Pantry is OPEN December 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 - Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. / Indeed, the Lord is near.

First Reading - The barren deserts will rejoice and flower (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalms - Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading - Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel - Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

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: Actions Worthy of Praise

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." (Matthew 11:11)

Adults: How do you prepare yourself to meet Christ in those around you?

Kids: What good thing have you done so far during Advent to be like Jesus?

REASON TO REJOICE

Dark violet is used throughout Advent to express its character as a season of spiritual preparation for Christmas and "the coming of the Lord." But on the Third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as *Gaudete* (Latin for "rejoice") Sunday, rose may be added to the liturgical environment. The entire liturgy is infused with a spirit of rejoicing.

Today's first reading and Gospel proclaim the reality of God's saving work in our midst. Isaiah exuberantly describes the idyllic transformation of all creation as a result of God's presence in the midst of the people. In the Gospel, Jesus connects Isaiah's prophecy with what is happening in his own ministry. In addition to the list of healings from Isaiah (the blind, the lame, lepers, and the deaf), Jesus' presence brings two other reasons for rejoicing: "The dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them" (Matthew 11:5).

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Please see page 6
for the
Christmas
Mass
Schedule



Volunteer Appreciation DINNER

Saturday, January 24th

6:00 PM - SCHOOL CAFETERIA

In gratitude for your time
and service to the mission of OLP

Volunteers Plant
SEEDS
OF
Kindness



RSVP by Wednesday, January 12th
 call the office at 814-833-7701
 or email olp@olp.org

Readings for the Week of December 14th

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
 Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 Thursday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
 Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Stan Mackowski - Wife, Marilyn and Family.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Sarah Harrington - Mom, Dad, Kayleigh, Josh & Daniel.

BANN I & II

Drew Heinlein / Tori Sandstrom



PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED - Please pray for Janice Gangemi, friend of Marcia Brazus; for Bill Cunningham; for Chester Zaleski; and for Richard Bertges. May their family and friends find hope and consolation through their faith in the resurrected Lord.

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. 14: Mary Fran P., Peggy R., Alice S.
 Dec. 15: Mary Alice W., Loretta B., Mandy K.
 Dec. 16: Dee Dee B., Kathi K., Laura D., Kevin D.
 Dec. 17: Len & Cathy K., Nancy D.
 Dec. 18: Rachel O.
 Dec. 19: Amber D., Chris L.
 Dec. 20: Debi C., Kim D., James T., Roseann G.
 Dec. 21: George O., Maureen T., Rami 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...

A blessed Gaudete Sunday to you! Recall the liturgical color of this 3rd Sunday of Advent is Rose and the theme of this week is JOY. This week we also shift into Late Advent from December 17-24 which shifts our spiritual focus from preparation for the 2nd Coming of Christ to celebrating the gift of Jesus' first coming over 2000 years ago. One opportunity that our parish will again provide to help incorporate prayer in the days of Late Advent is praying the "O Antiphons" each day at 12:05pm in the church and on Facebook Live (See the O Antiphons below. Recall that the O Antiphons are part of the build-up in anticipation during this last week of Advent. They are introduced at Evening Prayer on December 17th, and are seven jewels of liturgical song, one for each day until Christmas Eve (which I see as a kind of Holy Week for Christmas and are again traditionally called the days of "Late" Advent). They seem to sum up all our Advent longing for the Savior. The "O Antiphons" are intoned with special solemnity in monasteries at Vespers, before and after the Magnificat, Mary's prayer of praise and thanksgiving from the Gospel of Luke (2:42-55), which is sung or said every evening as the climax of this Hour of the Divine Office.

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

The "O Antiphons"

December 17: (*O Sapientia*) O WISDOM, who came from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: Come, and teach us the way of prudence.

Sirach 24:2; Wisdom 8:1. Symbols: oil lamp, open book.

December 18: (*O Adonai*) O LORD AND RULER of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come, and redeem us with outstretched arm.

Exodus 3:2, 20:1. Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets.

December 19: (*O Radix Jesse*) O ROOT OF JESSE, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not.

Isaiah 11:1-3. Symbol: vine or plant with flower (especially a rose).

December 20: (*O Clavis David*) O KEY OF DAVID, and Scepter of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens: Come, and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Isaiah 22:22. Symbols: key; broken chains.

December 21: (*O Oriens*) O DAWN OF THE EAST, brightness of the light eternal, and Sun of Justice: Come, and enlighten them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Psalms 19:6-7. Symbol: rising sun.

December 22: (*O Rex Gentium*) O KING OF THE GENTILES and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one: Come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth.

Psalms 2:7-8, Ephesians 2:14-20. Symbols, Crown, scepter.

December 23: (*O Emmanuel*) O EMMANUEL, God with us, our King and Lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior: Come to save us, O Lord our God.

Isaiah 7:14; 33:22. Symbols: tablets of stone, Chalice and Host.

May God bless our third 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...

****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 at OLP:

- 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.

**Advent Tuesdays remaining...

1. Tues., Dec. 16th- 6:00pm-8:00pm- Community Advent Experience- 6:00pm Dinner/ 6:30pm Prayer/ 6:45pm Activities (Crafts, Cookie Decorating, Blanket Making, Food Pantry Bag Packing).

****Masses this Week** Monday, Dec. 15th to Saturday, Dec. 20th. Weekdays in Advent (no additional feasts).

****With much gratitude** I share with you that long time OLP parishioners, Pat and Dennis Buto, who have been transporting your weekly food donations from church to the West Millcreek Food Pantry for decades, are "retiring" from this ministry and Scott Barnes is taking the lead in this commitment. I offer a huge thank you to the Buto's on behalf all of us at OLP and add the Lord's affirmation from the Scriptures, "well done, good and faithful servants!"

****Thank you so much to all those who were able to donate to Our Lady of Peace Parish for #iGiveCatholic 2025!** At \$43,622 and 154 donors (as of this writing); OLP had the highest amounts for the Diocese of Erie in both these categories. Well done OLP!

****Our Neighbors Place** Next weekend we will be promoting OLP's participation in "Our Neighbor's Place" Ministry which is the Emergency Overflow Shelter in Erie overseen by different local church communities during the winter months. OLP will be providing volunteers and resources the week of Wednesday, January 14th to Tuesday, January 20th. I believe it is a critical ministry for our parish to be involved in so please be ready to hear more about it next weekend and be open to the ways that you can help.

****Follow up to my homily on hope and new life in the church from the weekend of November 29-30** Several weeks ago I mentioned some hopeful statistics between OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) at parishes and college campuses as well as October counts at OLP. I want to repeat them here so you can all see them.

OCIA Participation:

Significant Increase in OCIA conversions throughout the United States- The increase is not isolated, as dioceses across the country—including New York, Detroit, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Washington D.C.—are reporting significantly larger OCIA classes, with some noting their largest numbers in decades. This was also affirmed by many bishops at their latest USCCB meeting in November.

Significant Growth in Parishes:- Specific parishes have seen their numbers double or triple in a single year. For instance, St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich Village reported that interest in OCIA tripled, with about 130 people signing up. **At OLP we went from having classes of 3-6 from 2019-2023 to 10 in 2024-25 and now 18 in 2025-26.**

Growth on Campuses across the U.S.- Increases of doubling and tripling are reported across the U.S., from large state schools (like Texas A&M, Arizona State, Minnesota., Illinois, Nebraska) to Catholic institutions (like Notre Dame and Gannon).

Global Trend- Similar surges in young adult converts are seen in countries like Austria, Canada, France, and the UK.

October counts at OLP:

We reached height in the last 25 years with the average of 3,089 people participating in Mass in October 2004.

From 2004 to 2019, we saw a steady decline to 1,375 average mass attendance in 2019, and reached a low in October 2020 (COVID) with the average of 521 people attending Masses at OLP. Increased to the 900 in 2021 and 2022. Increased to 1,055 in 2023, 1,140 in 2024 and 1,158 in 2025.

So, we have seemed to bottom out and are slowly building back up over the last 5 years since COVID.

Reasons:

Post-COVID Yearning: Some church leaders credit a "post-COVID sacramental boom," as people who postponed religious connection during the pandemic now seek community and a deeper sense of purpose.

Motivations: Converts and participants often cite various reasons for their interest, including a yearning to connect with something bigger than themselves amid confusing news headlines, the influence of the National Eucharistic Revival, and personal evangelization.

Let's allow these statistics to be a witness to new life in the church and our parish, and a source of hope this Advent Season!

****OLP Cursillo 2026** Last year we tried something new in collaboration with the Cursillo Retreat Movement in our Diocese and it was a great success. For the men's retreat in February 2025, OLP parishioners comprised most of the team and two thirds of the candidates and it was a great boost to both our parish and the Cursillo Movement. So we are going continue that with the Women's Cursillo April 17-19, 2026, at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek. I will be one of the spiritual directors, along with Deacon Ralph, and hopefully the lay leader (called a rector) will be as well.

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." See www.ericursillo.org for more information or to sign up.



Our Lady of Peace...
Pray for us



MONDAY, December 15, 2025

7:00AM Mary Jane MacKrell - Sr. Claudia Dombrowski
12:10PM John Fleek - Family

TUESDAY, December 16, 2025

7:00AM Patty Ann Miklos - Family
12:10PM Sarah Harrington -
Mom, Dad, Kayleigh, Josh & Daniel
6:00PM **Community Advent Experience** (cafeteria)

WEDNESDAY, December 17, 2025

7:00AM Jeanne Johannesmeyer - Cindy & Nick Forne
12:10PM William R. Miklos - Family

THURSDAY, December 18, 2025

7:00AM Joseph Foti - Foti Family
12:10PM Jean Burr - Family
2:00PM **School Mass** - Deceased Members of the
DelBeato Family - Ehrman Family



FRIDAY, December 19, 2025

7:00AM John Vojtek, Sr. - Paul Vojtek Family
9:00AM **School Advent Project Prayer Service**
*Representatives from area agencies are on hand to receive
gifts that the OLP School Community has collected.*
12:10PM Charles Gerbracht - Daughter

SATURDAY, December 20, 2025

8:00AM Russ Madonia - Sam Pirrello
5:00PM Genevieve Krasnesky - Family

SUNDAY, December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30AM Living & Deceased Members of OLP
9:00AM Jim MacKrell - Family
11:00AM Deceased Members of the Harrington-Tenney
Families - Family
4:30PM Gary Bauschard - Family

Christmas Mass Schedule

MONDAY, December 22, 2025

7:00AM Josephine DeSantis Wise -
Barnes Family
12:10PM Special Intention for
Damon & Meagan Finazzo - Family

TUESDAY, December 23, 2025

7:00AM Jeanne Johannesmeyer -
Betsy MacKrell
12:10PM Marie Kengersky - Daughter, Sylvia



WEDNESDAY, December 24, 2025

7:00AM Maria Bella Gauna - Family

Christmas Eve

5:00PM Peggy & John Pulice - Family
7:30PM Living & Deceased Members of OLP
Midnight 12:00AM Ralph & Eva Dangelo -
Sargent Family

THURSDAY, December 25, 2025

The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas

10:00AM Eleanor Agnello -
Alfred & Caren Naylor

FRIDAY, December 26, 2025

7:00AM Gene Cudny -
Corey Ferraro Family
12:10PM Gert Milkowski - Daughter, Nancy

SATURDAY, December 27, 2025

8:00AM John Wojtkielewicz - Family
2:00PM **Wedding** -
Drew Heinlein/Tori Sandstrom
5:00PM Edward Karpinski -
Jackie, Dan & Family

SUNDAY, December 28, 2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:30AM Living & Deceased Members of OLP
9:00AM Patrick Double -
Judy & Randy Whittelsey
11:00AM Larrie Dudenhoeffer -
Wasielewski Family
4:30PM Edward Szymanowski - Wife, Gloria



MONDAY, December 29, 2025

7:00AM Joan Wieszczyk - Ken Tome
12:10PM Lawrence & Patricia Smith - Family

TUESDAY, December 30, 2025

7:00AM Joseph Henke - Sister, Dorothy
12:10PM Marcy Lubin - Family

WEDNESDAY, December 31, 2025

7:00AM Norma Kalie - Husband, Jim
12:10PM Josephine Przybycin - Fred & Evelyn

Vigil:

5:30PM Living & Deceased Members of OLP
11:00PM **Holy Hour for Peace**

THURSDAY, January 1, 2026

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

10:00AM Dan Carbo - Family

FRIDAY, January 2, 2026

First Friday Adoration 7:30AM - 7:00PM Benediction

7:00AM Joan Wieszczyk - Jean Verdecchia
12:10PM Michael Kilmer - Family



Help Support a Missionary!

Hi! My name is Katie Benson.
I'm a graduate of MPS and

Franciscan University, and I have been a volunteer in the OLP youth ministry program for the past two years. I am answering God's call to be a missionary with *Ablaze Ministries*, doing parish and school youth ministry in Waco, Texas. To do this, I need your help! I'm looking for **prayer partners** and/or **donors** to support my mission. Please reach out to me at katie@ablaze.us if you are interested in becoming either!



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



Benedictine
Sisters of Erie

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

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

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 from 6-8pm in the cafeteria. We will be making care packages for the families of the Millcreek Food Pantry. Join us for dinner and activities.



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.

***Drop off donations in the “Advent Project”
bins in the vestibule***





OLP Families Together Ministry
presents another...

Adult Night Out



TRIVIA NIGHT

○ JANUARY 31, 2026 +

SAVE THE DATE

PRIZES AWAIT OUR WINNERS!

Gather your OLP family and friends for an evening of
fun and friendly competition!

Form a team of up to 6 players OR let us know and
we'll connect you with a team.

Registration opening soon!



Babysitting
Available

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

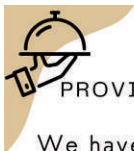
Grades 1-8: Classes meet in the school & church basement.

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. 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



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

Special Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious

They gave their lives in service - now they need your help. For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation - it's a way of thanking them for their lifelong service.

Thank you for prayerfully considering supporting this collection.

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:

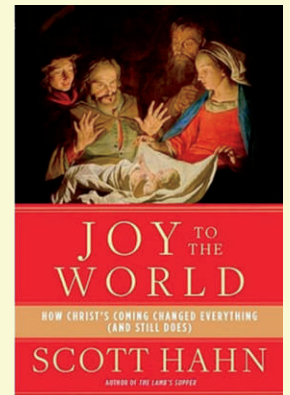
Andrew Heinlein - Outreach Coordinator
 814-833-7701 x 206 or andrew.heinlein@olp.org

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.



Scout Troop 59 Christmas Decorations Sale



"Thank You"

from the Boy Scouts for our
Christmas Garage Sale.

Your generosity is truly remarkable. Thank you for



Yard Signs Available:

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



DECEMBER 2025 RISEN & ROOTED RCYM SCHEDULE

Dec 16th-OLP's Community Advent Experience

6-8:00pm 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 it is 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



PRAYER for a NEW BISHOP

O Almighty God,
Pour forth the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Father
and those who assist him
in the discernment of our new bishop.
May the one chosen have the strength
to be a compassionate leader,
who models humility and joy.
Grant him the wisdom of Solomon,
the courage of the apostles,
and the tenderness of your Son, the Good Shepherd.

We also pray for the Diocese of Erie
that he is called to serve.
may we welcome him with open hearts
and work with him in a spirit of synodality,
called to listen, collaborate, and build unity.

Through the intercession of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church,
St. Joseph, the protector of the Church,
and St. Patrick, the patron of our diocese,
may we journey the path of life
with an unwavering focus
on the hope we have in Christ.

For he lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



Imprimatur, October 28, 2025
The Most Revrend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie

Music Ministry presents an Epiphany Concert



Save
the
Date

January 4, 2026

Bulletin Early Deadlines

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

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.

OLP Casserole Club benefiting Maria House Project



"Lord, teach us to be generous; to give without counting the cost; to return good for evil; to serve without expecting some award; to draw closer to those whom we find repulsive; to do good to those who cannot reciprocate; to love generously; to work without being concerned about rest; to be solely concerned about giving; to give our whole self; to give to those who need us, hoping to receive only You, Lord, as our reward."

~Noble Saint Vincent DePaul
Patron Saint of Donors

When I read this, I could only think of you, Our Lady of Peace **Casserole Club** participants. Maria House Project is grateful for all the years of "donating" the **casseroles** you bring. Thank You!

The December **casseroles**, benefiting Maria House Project, can be brought to the Our Lady of Peace church office on *Saturday, December 20th*, between 3:30 and 4:30pm. If you would like us to pick it up call Skip or Dottie Glover at 814-440-3496 or email scottiedippy@gmail.com. **Casseroles** should be pre-cooked, frozen in a disposable container, with reheating directions attached. Names or addresses are NOT to be included.

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



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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.

A Service of Lessons & Carols



WHEN: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025
4:00 PM

WHERE: SAINT PETER CATHEDRAL
230 W 10TH ST
ERIE, PA 16501

PRESIDER: MOST REV. LAWRENCE T. PERSICO, JCL
BISHOP OF ERIE

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

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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!

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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.










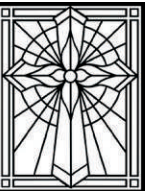






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