



Our Lady of Peace



March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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 Dagher

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.

March 2026

29th Canned: Vegetables / Soup



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 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 - Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

Gospel at the Procession with Palms - Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11).

First Reading - In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm - My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22)

Second Reading - Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel - The account of Christ's passion according to Matthew (Matthew 26:14 - 27:66).

Family Discussion of the Week: Love and Betrayal

The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." (Luke 22:61)

Adults: When have you felt that you betrayed the confidence of another, as Peter did when he denied Jesus?

Kids: When have you let someone down who trusted you? How did you feel?

ENCOUNTER WITH THE CROSS

The journey of Lent brings us to an encounter with the cross. During Lent, we have been led more deeply into questions at the heart of our faith: Who is God? And who are we, the Church? The Gospel of Matthew indicates that, in the crucifixion, God's true nature is most fully revealed in Jesus. In Jesus, God is the self-emptying One, who embraces humility and suffers rejection, as Paul tells the Philippians. God's power is redefined, present not in coercion and violence, but in Jesus' unbounded love. We the Church can learn who we are, the followers of the Crucified One, when we bear crosses that offer life and hope to the world. We more fully become the Church when we empty ourselves by sharing in others' sufferings, rejecting violence, and taking risks for justice and reconciliation. Like Jesus, we may reveal God's power as compassion and mercy.

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MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

Monday of Holy Week

7:00AM Mark Grzywinski -
Jean Verdecchia

12:10PM Sherry Sarver - Family

1:00PM Chrism Mass, St. Peter Cathedral, Erie



TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

Tuesday of Holy Week

7:00AM Paul Forquer - Tom & June Sargent

12:10PM Charles Gerbracht - Daughter

12:30PM til Noon Wednesday -
24 HOUR Adoration, OLP Chapel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

Wednesday of Holy Week

7:00AM Valentine Wieszczyk - 7AM Mass Group

12:10PM Jean Martin - Martin Family

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

Holy Thursday

7:00AM Morning Prayer

7:00PM Mass of the Lord's Supper -
Living & Deceased Priests Who Served OLP

Collection for the Needy Fund of the Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Until Evening
Prayer at 11:30PM (OLP Cafeteria)



FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026

Good Friday

7:00AM Morning Prayer

12-1:15PM Confessions

1:30PM Passion/Veneration of Cross/
Distribution of Communion

Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

3-4PM Confessions

7:00PM Tenebrae

(A Good Friday Service with prayer, readings & song)

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026

Holy Saturday

8:00AM Morning Prayer

12:00PM Blessing of Easter Food Baskets

8:30PM Great Vigil of Easter

Living & Deceased Members of OLP



SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026

Easter Sunday

7:30AM Jean DoNofrio - Children & Family

9:00AM Terese Wieszczyk -
Konti & Oldach Families

11:00AM Patricia Jo Kostolansky -
Joan Santangelo



NO 4:30 Mass

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026

7:00AM Rudy Passauer - OLP Knights of Columbus

12:10PM Stan Scepora - Eric & Dee Campbell

Church offices closed today, will reopen Tuesday

Readings for the Week of March 29th

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34;
Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14;
Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26;
Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25;
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42

Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2; Ps 104
b) Gn 22:1-18; Ps 16
c) Ex 14:15 — 15:6, 17-18
d) Is 55:1-11; Is 12
e) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42
f) Rom 6:3-11
g) Mt 28:1-10

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

SANCTUARY LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Suzanne Palucki - Mom & Dad.

CHAPEL LAMP - The lamp is burning this week in memory of Jeff Hickin - Steve Snyder.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED - Please pray for Jack L. Fatica, brother of Laura Ott & Emily Sertz; and for Susan Kosich. 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:

Mar. 29: Linda M., Janet A.

Mar. 30: Bethann D., Linda D., Julie M., James S.

Mar. 31: Jim Z.

Apr. 1: Maxine R., Mark S., Evelyn V., Pat B.

Apr. 2: Kathy W., Deacon Dennis K.

Apr. 3: Sister Peggy, Linda D., Virginia S.

Apr. 4: Arlene B., Catherine C., Denny D.

Apr. 5: Joyce K.

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...

Happy Holy Week! And welcome to the most important liturgical week of the year! As you have heard me say many times... this week should not look like any other week of your year when it comes to your spiritual life and your presence at the church. I hope you have fought hard to keep this week cleared of other commitments for you and your family but even if you have not it is not too late to incorporate some or all of the liturgies and devotions. Holy Week, and especially the Sacred Triduum, is a week of many opportunities for grace and unique celebrations, customs and traditions that we only do during Holy Week. Make the effort to participate in a few or many of them and I know God will bless you for it. Here's an outline of the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum and you can find the rest of Holy Week in my notes below this article.

**Sacred Triduum Liturgy Schedule:

Holy Thursday (April 2nd)

- 7am Morning Prayer (Church)
- 7pm Mass of the Last Supper (Church)
- 8:30-11:30pm Private Prayer at Altar of Repose (Cafeteria)
- 11:30pm Night Prayer (Cafeteria)

Good Friday

- 7am Morning Prayer
- 1:30pm Passion of the Lord Service
- 7pm Tenebrae

Holy Saturday

- 8am Morning Prayer
- Noon Blessing of Easter Foods
- 8:30pm The Great Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

- 7:30am Mass, 9am Mass, 11am Mass

**HOLY WEEK Confessions:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Wednesday, April 1 st | 11:15am-12Noon and 6-7pm |
| Friday, April 3 rd | 12Noon-1:15pm and 3-4pm |
| Saturday, April 4 th | 8:30-9am and 11am-12Noon |

I hope to see you before next Easter Sunday... and may God bless our Holy Week/ Sacred Triduum 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...

****Jesus Christ Superstar** Our OLP School 8th Grade will lead their annual Jesus Christ Superstar meditation for the parish at 6pm this Sunday (March 29th) in the church. This is a great way to enter into Holy Week and continue the meditation on the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and his passion that Palm Sunday Masses began.

****24 Hour Adoration During Holy Week at OLP** will be held from Tuesday, March 31st at 12:30pm to Noon on Wednesday, April 1st. Please consider signing up, in the vestibule, for a 30 or 60 minute slot.

****The Chrism Mass**, which is Monday, March 30th at 1:00pm at St. Peter Cathedral, is one of the greatest celebrations and expressions of the community of our Diocesan Church of the entire church year. The oils are blessed by Bishop Persico that will be used for the sacraments at parishes for the next year and the priests of the diocese recommit ourselves to our priestly ministry. This is another liturgy that every Catholic should experience at least once. This is a great opportunity to show solidarity with our Bishop and your priests- we would love to pray with you there!

****Catholic Services Appeal 2026** As of Monday, March 23rd, OLP had **357 pledges for \$213,101**. That puts us over our Diocesan Assessment of \$160,000 and over our Parish goal of \$210,000. Way to go! Remember that everything raised over what we contribute to the Diocesan Church will be put toward our Parish Vision and Renovation Plan. Please make a pledge if you have not already done so and thank you to those that have!

****Masses this Week** March 30th- Monday of Holy Week; March 31st- Tuesday of Holy Week; April 1st- Wednesday of Holy Week; April 2nd- Holy Thursday of the Last Supper; Good Friday, April 3rd- Celebration of the Lord's Passion (NO MASS); Holy Saturday, April 4th- NO MASS until the Great Easter Vigil at night.

****Visual and Musical Fast for Passiontide** The last two weeks are sometimes called Passiontide, and at OLP we continue the practice of covering the statues to enter an even deeper liturgical fast of the eyes in these last few days of Lent (We also turn off the lights that shine on our main mosaic cross in the sanctuary to focus on the Lenten Cross that has been in our front niche that we will venerate on Good Friday). We deepen our musical fast as well in these days by having no music at all at the end of Mass (as opposed to the instrumental music we have done so far) as a reminder and invitation to enter into deeper silence as Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum approach.

****Women's Cursillo 2026** I will be one of the spiritual directors, along with Deacon Ralph and his wife Janet, and several other OLP members are also on the team for the Women's Cursillo on April 17-19, 2026, at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Harborcreek. I would love to have a good crew of women from OLP join us for this great opportunity for renewal.

"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. Please contact me or go to the website if you have questions or to sign up.

****Walking With The American Saints** We invite you to join us on a journey of discovery this Easter Season. Saints started out as ordinary people just like you. Sessions will be held in church on Tuesdays (April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, and 12) from 7:00-8:00PM. The saints we will learn about are: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. rose Philippine Duchesne, St. John Neuman, St Marianne Cope and St. Francis Xavier Cabrini.

****Holy Thursday 7 Church Pilgrimage** (++)A full list of churches in Erie that will be open with altars of repose can be found at the doors of the church at OLP or online at <https://www.eriercd.org/repose.html>.) Every Holy Thursday, groups of Catholic faithful across the country and world embark on what's known as the Seven Churches Visitation. In this special tradition, pilgrims adore Christ in seven different altars of repose while praying and reflecting on the passion of Christ. At the end of each Holy Thursday Mass, the priest strips the altar and removes the Eucharist from the tabernacle to place it in repose on another nearby altar.

The Seven Churches Visitation (or Pilgrimage) is credited as beginning in Rome with St. Philip Neri in the 1500s. Neri would lead groups of faithful to visit each of the seven basilicas of Rome on Holy Thursday night as a way of keeping watch with Christ as though at the Garden of Gethsemane before his passion. Today, the devotion is primarily practiced in Latin America, Italy, Poland, and the Philippines.

Each visit calls on the faithful to reflect on the seven final places Jesus went from his arrest on Holy Thursday to his death on Good Friday. At each church, pilgrims kneel before the altar of repose, meditate on a scriptural excerpt, and offer prayers and adoration. How do pilgrims going on this seven-church journey meditate on the passion of Christ?

Here are the Scripture excerpts to reflect on at each church:

- 1) Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Lk 22:39-46)- At the first church, the faithful recall Jesus going from the upper room, where he celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples, to the Garden of Gethsemane, where he earnestly prayed and sweated blood in his agony over what was about to take place.
- 2) Jesus before Annas (Jn 18:19-22)- In the second church, the pilgrims meditate on Jesus being taken from the Garden of Gethsemane by the armed crowd to the house of Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas the high priest, where he was interrogated and slapped in the face.
- 3) Jesus before Caiaphas (Mt 26:63-65)- In the third church, the prayer focuses on Jesus being brought to the house of Caiaphas, where he was beaten, spat upon, insulted, and endured a painful night in captivity.
- 4) Jesus before Pilate (Jn 18:35-37)- The focus of the reflection for the fourth church is the first time Jesus was brought before Pilate, the Roman governor of the region. There Jesus was accused by the Jewish religious authorities of being a rival king to Caesar.
- 5) Jesus before Herod (Lk 23:8-9; 11)- In the fifth church, the pilgrim follows the Lord as he is taken to King Herod, who along with his guards mock him.
- 6) Jesus before Pilate again (Mt 27:22-26)- The sixth church recalls Jesus being taken from Herod and brought before Pilate for the second time and then scourged, crowned with thorns, mocked, and condemned to death.
- 7) Jesus's crucifixion and death (Mt 27:27-31)- The last church commemorates Christ carrying the cross on his shoulders from the Praetorium, where Pilate yielded to the crowd's demand for his crucifixion, to Mount Calvary where he suffered excruciating pain, died, and was laid to rest in a nearby tomb until his resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday.

RISEN & ROOTED RCYM FUNDRAISER

For those IN K-5TH GRADE

RISEN & ROOTED KID'S NIGHT OUT SCHEDULE

OPEN TO KIDS FROM ANY SCHOOL

APRIL 10TH AT OLP
MAY 8TH AT OLP
5:30-9:00PM

\$30+ \$5 PER ADDITIONAL CHILD IN THE SAME FAMILY

Dinner, snacks, crafts, games, & prayer included. Must RSVP, no walk in's. Limited spots. Sign in/out Cafeteria at OLP! Regarding volunteers, we will have youth group participants due to this being a fundraiser

RSVP to sarah.beaver@olp.org by the Wednesday before!

Palm Sunday



Holy Week begins today. During this week we will act out parts of Christ's life and share in the mystery of His suffering, death and resurrection. From Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to the Lord's Supper, washing of feet, going with Jesus to Gethsemane, embracing the Cross (veneration), and his crucifixion. The Triduum (Holy Thursday evening through Holy Saturday) is one day liturgically leading us to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

Lord God, I give you thanks, for you are good, and your mercy is endless.
Here I stand, at the start of this holy week,
the week in which your church remembers Jesus' passion and death, and I am distracted by many things.
Turn my eyes now to the One who comes in your name.
The one who opens the gates of righteousness. The one who answers when we call.
I bless you, Lord, for shining your light upon me, and for sending your son to us, in human frailty.
To walk the road we walk.
Open my eyes that I may see him coming, may praise him with a pure heart,
may walk in the way of his suffering, and share also in his resurrection.
(ibelieve.com)

Today, we join those who honored Jesus during his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We take palms as a symbol of the ways that we can honor and adore Jesus more in our lives and to reaffirm our desire to welcome Him and never take Him for granted.

Today marks the beginning of Holy Week, a week that for Christians looks different than any other week of the year.



Chrism Mass

Monday, March 30, 1:00pm at St. Peter Cathedral

Today, Bishop Persico will bless the holy oils for the Diocese. The Oil of the Catechumenate will be used in Baptisms of infants and adults to instill wisdom and the strength to avoid evil and to prepare for a life with Christ. The Oil of the Infirm is used for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, in which God gives the sick the grace and strength to bear the illness or infirmity. The Sacred Chrism is used for confirmation as well as being part of the Baptismal rite and the Sacrament of Holy Orders. It is a fragrant balsam that represents the "aroma of Christ." It is also a key moment of unity for the Diocese, as the local priests renew their vow of obedience to the Bishop and commitment to serve.

Lord God, six days before his death, your son sat with Lazarus, whom he raised from the dead, and ate dinner with his friends.

Your gospel tells us that Martha served and Mary knelt at Jesus' feet to anoint them with costly perfume. The disciple who was about to betray him said that it was a waste. He didn't care about the poor, really- and Mary felt ashamed.

Lord, often we cannot discern what is best: When to pour out costly perfume for your sake, even if the world thinks it is a waste. When to be busy serving, or when to rest at your Son's feet and learn.

Give us ears to hear you and eyes to see you.

(ibelieve.com)



24 Hour Adoration

Tuesday, March 31-Wednesday, April 1

Our Lenten Season began on Ash Wednesday when we received ashes on our forehead as a reminder to "repent and believe in the Lord."

In this Lenten Season, there have been opportunities for confession and on Friday's we pray the Stations, all showing that we **believe**. Beginning at noon on Tuesday, March 31st we will have **24 HOURS OF ADORATION** in the main church concluding at noon on Wednesday, April 1st.

Spend time this Holy Week growing closer to Him, he longs for you to know Him.

Lord God, we tremble to think that it was one of Jesus' own friends who betrayed him.

One who sat by him, who broke bread with him.

Give us strength, we pray, to walk faithfully with Jesus;

even when the road we walk is rocky, even when the message of the cross seems like foolishness, and even when we feel betrayed.

You, Lord, are always faithful. We stumble, we become lost, but you are steady and sure.

Give us the grace to endure our troubles, and reveal to us the glory of your kingdom.

(ibelieve.com)

Holy Thursday

Thursday, April 2, 7:00pm



Take and eat . . . take and drink.
Do this in memory of me.
Do what I have done for you.

Today we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper as we remember the first Mass that Jesus celebrated with the Apostles, when he invited them to take and eat. . . take and drink; and then commanded them to "do this in memory of me." After washing his disciples feet, Jesus says, "do what I have done for you." He is telling them and us that foot washing is an image of the Church we are called to be - a parish where service is at the heart of what we do, strengthened by the Eucharist.

After Mass, as church we "go to the garden" with Jesus, processing with the Blessed Sacrament to the cafeteria. There the Eucharist is reposed in the tabernacle until 11:00pm when all present will say Night Prayer.

Lord God, You sent your Son into the world, and before his hour had come, he washed his disciples' feet. You had given all things into his hands.

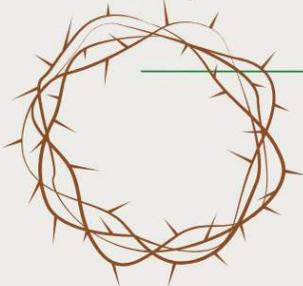
He had come for you, and was going to you, and what did he do?

He knelt down on the floor and washed his friends feet.

He was their teacher and their Lord, yet he washed their feet.

Lord God, help us learn from his example; Help us to do as he has done for us.

(ibelieve.com)



Good Friday

Friday, April 3, 1:30pm

Good Friday is the most somber day of the whole year. We are encouraged to make every effort to be prayerful and quiet, especially during the hours of Noon and 3:00pm. This is the only day in the liturgical year where there is no Mass and the tabernacle is empty. We gather for the "Celebration of the Lord's Passion." The scriptures for the liturgy are filled with images of suffering and they point clearly to Jesus. Jesus, the servant who is beaten and disfigured, who empties himself of everything and is led to Pilate is none other than the only Son of God. There are special intercessions and the highlight of the ritual is the Adoration of the Holy Cross. All come forward, to reverence, genuflect or bow before the instrument of our salvation. The service concludes with a simple communion service using hosts consecrated at the Holy Thursday celebration. All leave in solemn silence.

Lord God, we wait, on Friday, for the resurrection of Sunday.

And sometimes our lives seem a succession of Fridays and we cannot see what is "Good."

Teach us to call your name as Jesus did. Make us trust in you like little children.

(ibelieve.com)



Holy Saturday

Saturday, April 4, Noon

Lord God, on the Sabbath, Jesus rested.

He was in the grave.

He had finished his work.

To most people's eyes, it looked as if it were all over. He was dead and buried.

But only as a seed dies when it is planted in the earth, not to decay, but to spring to new life.

Teach us to take refuge in you when we are afraid.

Teach us that death is not our end.

Teach us to hope always in you and in the resurrection, the making of all things new.

(ibelieve.com)

The blessing of the Easter foods dates back to the Middle Ages when milk, eggs, fat, and meat were forbidden during the Lenten fast and abstinence. When the feast of Easter brought the rigorous fast to an end, people showed their joy and gratitude by first taking the food to the church for a blessing. On Holy Saturday morning, families bring symbolic items in their Easter baskets to the church for a special blessing. Traditionally baskets are lined with a white cloth, filled with decorated eggs (Christ's Resurrection), lamb shaped butter (Christ as the Lamb of God), bread (Jesus is the Bread of Life), meats (great joy and abundance), salt, pepper, oil, vinegar (we are "the salt of the earth" and a reminder of the bitter herbs of Passover) and decorated with greens symbolizing spring renewal.

Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 4, 8:30pm



The Easter Vigil is the high point of the Easter Triduum celebrating the passion and resurrection of Jesus. It begins in the darkness with a service of light. The lighting of the fire and the Easter candle are signs of Christ, "the light of the world," and celebrates the victory of light over darkness.

There are a series of readings recalling God's interventions in history, from creation to the redemption of Israel from Egypt, ending with the story of Jesus' resurrection. The great "alleluia," which had been banished from our prayer since Ash Wednesday, returns proclaiming with joy the triumph of God's Son. Water is blessed in an elaborate ceremony. We invoke the presence of the holy men and women who have gone before us and lead the Elect into the waters of Baptism. Those already baptized Christian will then be received into full communion with the Church. The whole congregation is then sprinkled in the waters of life, recalling our own baptism. The newly baptized then complete their initiation through the sacrament of Confirmation. At the joyful celebration of the Eucharist, some will receive communion for the first time.

Having been immersed in the Lord's passion, in the stories of salvation history, and in the waters of rebirth, we journey now through the fifty days of Easter toward the celebration of Pentecost. We pray that the realities and mysteries of the Triduum will remain with us - commitment, service, victory, resurrection, washing, welcoming - all are part of the Easter experience and the lifelong experience of the Church.

WALKING WITH THE



THE AMERICAN SAINTS

We invite **YOU** to join us on a journey of discovery this **Easter Season**. Saints started out as ordinary people just like you; come and learn how they turned their ordinary lives into extraordinary ones.

WHEN: Tuesdays (April 7, 14, 21, 28 and May 5, 12)

WHERE: OLP Church

TIME: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA - ST. EIZABETH ANN SETON - ST. ROSE
PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE - ST. JOHN NEUMANN - ST. MARIANNE COPE
- ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI





March 29, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Between Palm Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday, parishioners in the Diocese of Erie are asked to give generously to the Pontifical Collection for the Holy Land.

This collection is a most important source of support for Christians in the Holy Land. Christians continue to be impacted especially hard with the war between Hamas and Israel as well as the instability caused by events in Lebanon and Syria. The money collected helps the Franciscans and others to minister in parishes, provide Catholic education, and aid the Catholic community with housing, food, health care and employment.

Christians in the Holy Land have great need of your prayers and financial help. The wars, unrest, and instability there have been especially hard on them. Please take this opportunity to reach out to those Christians who suffer persecution and hardship in the very land where Jesus lived.

I wish you and yours a blessed and joyful celebration of the Easter Triduum.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+*Lawrence T. Persico*

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

Scan to give



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TENEBRAE

A Good Friday Service with prayer, readings and song
April 3 - 7:00pm



RISEN & ROOTED

REGIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY
Summer Events 2026 COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

HS RETREAT & SERVICE TRIP

June 23rd -
June 27th

DIVINE MERCY ENCOUNTER RETREAT

July 10th -
July 12th

STUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

July 17th -
July 19th

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

August 19th

4TH/5TH GRADE RETREAT

July 8th

OLP VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 10th -
August 14th



Contact Us!

Sarah.beaver@olp.org
youth@stfrancisxaviermckean.org



Sign ups can be accessed at this link/QR code, as well as our website and social media.

Yard Signs Available:

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



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.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #4321 &
SAINT GEORGE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



WILD GAME, FISH & FELLOWSHIP DINNER



**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026
AT 5:30PM**

SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL CAFETERIA



Join us for a great evening of freshly prepared wild game meats & fish with friends, and a guest speaker!



**\$25 ADULTS
\$12 KIDS**

*TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW
IN THE RECTORY OFFICE.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

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

- Mar. 29** No Religious Ed Classes
- Apr. 5** **Easter** - No Religious Ed Classes
- Apr. 12** Regular classes, last day *Church Activity Forms due*

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

- Mar. 29** No Religious Ed Classes
- Apr. 5** **Easter** - No Religious Ed Classes
- Apr. 12** Regular Classes
- Apr. 19** Confirmation Youth Group Night 6:30-8PM
- Apr. 26** Last Class

*Practice for Confirmation: Sunday, May 17th, 5:30PM for students and sponsors.

*Confirmation Date: Wednesday, May 27th, 7:00PM

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



Our Lady of Peace...
Pray for us

SUNRISE

Holy Saturday

HIKE



Who: open to all ages, if under 18-please have an adult join you
What: a sunrise reflective walk to contemplate Christ in the tomb
Where: Start & end @Browns Farm; 5774 Sterrettania Rd, Fairview
When: April 4th. Meet at 6am, return by 8am

Please wear warm gear, bring a Rosary, a snack to break the fast.
We'll pray morning prayer on the trail.

Questions: Sarah.beaver@olp.org or
youth@stfrancisxaviermckean.org

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 Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., 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

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 NWPFAfaith 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:
Apr 18, May 16, June 20
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:

Our bulletin is supported through the generosity of the advertisers - many of whom are our parishioners. Most are members of our local community. Please support our advertisers with your patronage. Tell the business owner that you appreciate their support of our parish through their ad in the bulletin.



In Loving Memory of
Donna R. Kurco
-From her loving husband, Ron and her loving Family.

RISEN & ROOTED
REGIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Spring Schedule

March

March 3rd: Middle School Youth Group (MSYG), OLP
March 4th: High School Youth Group (HSYG), OLP
March 5th: 4th/5th Grade Youth Group, OLP
March 7th: Men's Conference at St. Jude - Reach out to Chandler if interested youth@stfrancisxaviermckean.org
March 10th: MSYG, OLP
March 11th: HSYG, @ St. Francis Xavier
March 17th: MSYG-MOVIE NIGHT, OLP, 6:30-8:30pm
March 18th: HSYG, OLP
March 19th: St. Joseph's Table, OLP, 6pm, All ages welcome!
March 20th: Kid's Night Out at St. Francis Xavier 5:30-9pm-all are welcome, sign up by Wednesday, March 18th to sarah.beaver@olp.org
March 24th: MSYG, OLP
March 25th: HSYG at 12th St Chick-Fil-A
March 27th-29th: Divine Mercy Encounter Retreat- for HS & up
March 31st: MSYG, OLP

April

April 1st: HSYG, OLP
April 4th: Holy Saturday Sunrise Hike-meet at Brown's Farm 6am, youth under 18 must have an adult with them, open to all ages and families
April 10th: Kid's Night Out, OLP 5:30-9pm- all are welcome, sign up by Wednesday, April 8th to sarah.beaver@olp.org
April 14th: MSYG, OLP
April 15th: HSYG, St. Francis Xavier
April 16th: 4th/5th Gr Youth Group, OLP
April 18th: Women's Conference at St. Jude- Reach out to Sarah if interested
April 21st: MSYG, OLP
April 22nd: HSYG, OLP
April 28th: MSYG, OLP
April 29th: HSYG at 12th St. Chick-Fil-A

May

May 5th: MSYG, OLP
May 6th: HSYG, OLP
May 7th: 4th/5th Gr YG
May 8th: Kid's Night Out, OLP-5:30-9pm sign up by May 6th
May 12th: MSYG, OLP
May 13th: HSYG, at St. Francis Xavier
May 19th: MSYG, OLP
May 20th: HSYG, OLP
May 26th: MSYG and HSYG, at OLP with Chick-Fil-A

Please Note: Middle School Youth Group (MS YG) is 6:30-8:30pm, no optional silent Adoration. High School Youth Group (HS YG) is 6:30-8:30pm, with optional silent Adoration/prayer at 6pm, alternates between OLP and St. Francis Xavier. Dinner is provided at MS and HS. 4th/5th Grade YG is 4-5:30pm, if an OLP student, they can come over at 3pm until 4pm.

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

LENT AND CRS RICE BOWL

Called to Share Bread for Life



Holy Week, the heart of the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus' gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and resurrection to the world.

Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.



All Volunteers Welcome

Sunday Supper Mission

Meal served at First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant

Volunteer to help feed our brothers and sisters in need by preparing and serving the meal, or kind monetary contribution to help defray the costs.

Planning Meeting: Wednesday April 8, 7:00PM
Where: OLP School Cafeteria
What: Select Menu and volunteer for tasks
Who: Any parishioner 15+ years
Date to Serve: Sunday, April 19th, 4:00-5:30pm
Contact: Pete Piotrowski, 814-600-5386 or Debbie Piotrowski, 814-812-0122

Say Yes!

to the Eleventh Annual

1:38 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

PLACE: ST. JUDE PARISH, 2801 West 6th Street, Erie
TIME: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Registration and Refreshments: 8:00 - 8:30 AM
Cost: \$25

College and High School students & Religious - FREE!
Conference includes: Two talks, Adoration, Confession, Mass, Basket Raffle & Book/Media Sales

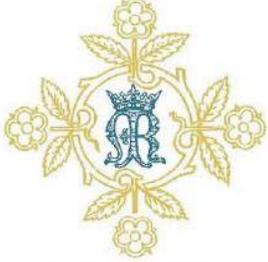
SPEAKERS: Jeff Joaquin with his message of Mercy and Paula Umama with her message of Hope
ATTENDANCE: Live in-person, Live-streamed to a satellite parish or your home



JEFF JOAQUIN



PAULA UMAMA



MORE INFO
www.138women.com or 814-455-7364
ALL FAITHS WELCOME!



FATHER PETE'S MARIA HOUSE PROJECT

BINGO BASH

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 1 PM
BINGO STARTS AT 2 PM

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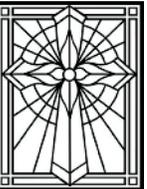

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In Loving Memory of
Donna R. Kunco
-From her loving husband, Ron and her loving Family.



Chris Ehrman, Parishioner
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Jennifer L. Turner



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