

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

October 5, 2025

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

**Saturday: 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.**



*Increase
Our
Faith!*

~ Luke 17:5

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday: 5:15 P.M.
Sunday: 8:00 A.M.
10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.
Weekday Mass
Monday - Saturday
8:00 A.M.
Last Tuesday of the
Month 7:00 P.M.

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Visit us at: www.olpfords.org
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Hours: Monday through Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm
Phone: 732-738-7940

“Expecto Patronum” (Harry Potter)

This is from Harry Potter in the magic novel, and the film based on it, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. One night in the misty moonlight of Hogwarts Castle, the evil dementors are closing in on Harry. The shadowy, hooded figures are trying to capture his soul. Harry has only one chance -- use the "Patronum" magic spell. So he summons every ounce of belief because the “Patronum” spell demands absolute faith in its power. Pointing his magic wand at the dementors Harry shouts, “Expecto patronum.” The spell works. A silvery stag gallops forth, the dementors fall back. Harry Potter is safe because he had faith in the power of his magic word.

Today’s readings ask us to have such a Faith in the power of God. We need to increase our Faith by becoming dutiful servants of God. A zealous Christian can speak more convincingly to his or her neighbor about the need for God and an upright life through his or her own daily actions than through explaining religious doctrines. A sincere Christian can find many ways to help to make Christ known to his neighbor. A quiet word, a charitable gesture, an unselfish interest in a neighbor’s troubles can do more good than a series of sermons given by some renowned theologian. There are always people around us who need help. We can help them — God expects it of us. Faith is increased by serving others, not by being served. Faith is increased when we manifest our love towards others, our family, friends and strangers. When we isolate ourselves from the world, we lose our Faith.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

October 5, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am

+ Manny Castillo from Candi

10:00 am

+ Altar Rosary

12:00 Noon

+ Lowell Aube from Family

October 6, Monday Weekday

8:00 am

+ Rachel Evans from Tracie & Family

October 7, Tuesday Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00 am

+ Barbara Coyle from The Wathen Family

October 8, Wednesday Weekday

8:00 am

+ Wayne Borg from Mary Negowetti & Family

October 9, Thursday Weekday

8:00 am

+ For Our Parishioners from Our Pastor

October 10, Friday Weekday

8:00 am

* Special Intentions for Walter & Liza Springer
Wedding Anniversary

October 11, Saturday Weekday

8:00 am

+ Lucio J. Cerreta Jr. from Paul & Elaine Cerreta

5:15 pm

+ Stephanie & Charles Kolator from Carol & Ron

October 12, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am

+ Judith Wendt from The Wendt Family

10:00 am

+ Holy Name

12:00 Noon

+ Yvonne Frazer & Joseph Lyons from Family



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Q: What did the triangle say to the circle? A: You're pointless!

Mr. Jones to his servant: Go and water the plants. Servant: It's already raining. Mr. Jones: So what! Take an umbrella and go. 😊

Three boys are bragging as to whose dad is the fastest runner: The first: "My dad is a hunter. He can shoot an arrow, run to where it's gonna land and catch it!" "That's nothing!" says the second boy "My dad's a police officer. He can shoot a bullet and be at the target before the bullet hits!" "My dad can run the fastest!" says the third boy. "He's working in a government office. He works till 4 pm but is always home by 3:30!" 😊

Three friends from the local congregation were asked, "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?" Artie said, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man." Eugene commented, "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives." Allen said, "I'd like them to say, "Look, he's moving!" 😊

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear OLP Family,

As you know I was away for a pilgrimage and am very happy to be back to our parish. I wish to thank the priests who helped us with Masses in my absence - Fr. Sean Winters, Fr. Ken Kolibas, Fr. Justin Akkara - and in a special way Fr. Sebastian Kaithakkal who is our resident priest helping us in many ways.

We were 60 pilgrims, in this trip to Poland, Czech Republic and Italy with Fr. Antony from Phillipsburg and myself as chaplains. It was a wonderful spiritual experience for us all to visit so many holy places, basilicas, cathedrals and shrines – too many to describe in detail in this column. We flew into Krakow where we visited so many memorials of Pope Saint John Paul II. Among the many relics, his blood-stained cassock (when he was shot in the Vatican In 1981) was on display in the International Shrine of Spirituality in Krakow.

A very moving experience was visiting the concentration camp of Auschwitz where Hitler had ordered the extermination of millions of Jews and political opponents. I was so touched to see the cell where St. Maximilian Kolbe and nine others were given the punishment "to starve to death." It was truly heart-wrenching to know the details of the cruelty meted out to those countless innocent men, women and children: death in the gas chamber as well as by starvation, disease, catastrophic sanitary conditions and exhausting labor.

Krakow also has the Shrine of Divine Mercy which is among the world's top Shrines in terms of the number of countries from which pilgrims come – about 100 countries annually. This Shrine in Krakow-Lagiewniki grew out of the spiritual heritage of Saint Faustina Kowalska who we all know is the apostle of Divine Mercy. We visited the central place of the Chapel with the miraculous image of the Merciful Jesus and the tomb of St. Faustina.

Then we drove to Brno in the Czech Republic, stopping at Velehrad to visit the shrine dedicated to Saints Cyril and Methodius - the missionaries who Christianized the Slavic region and created the Slavic alphabets. Driving to Prague, we visited the Shrine of Loreto and celebrated Mass at the Church of the Infant Jesus, Prague. I gladly remembered that we have a niche or shrine here in our own parish church with the statue of Infant Jesus of Prague.

The last five days were spent in Italy, visiting Rome, Siena, Turin and Milan. So much to share about these – hopefully another time. But at every place I offered the Mass, I included all of you, dear OLP Family, in my prayers. I carried you in my heart, together with your intentions and asked God to bring about a new energy and spiritual renewal in all of us for the good of our parish of Our Lady of Peace.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D.

STEWARDSHIP

Sept. 28, 2025

Online Giving	\$2,299.50
Parish Assessment	\$ 898.00
Mail In	\$ 805.00
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Total \$ 8,758.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your continued financial support which is essential and much appreciated by our parish community.

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Ministry Schedule for October 11/12

5:15 p. m.

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Senatore,
Julia Dischler

Reader: Bill Herring

Altar Server: EmmaRose Felcetto

8:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Roseanne Brady,
Kenneth Egan, Martin Verendia

Reader: James Padden

10:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Jennifer Sardo,
Maryann Shingola, Marie Frey

Reader: Holy Name

Altar Server: Ava Pridady

12:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Frank Heelan,
Kathy Kazary, Angela Chundak

Reader: Frank Heelan

Altar Server: Sienna Santos

Flowers October 4, 2026

In Memory of

Helen & Louis Bertkap

From

Marcella, Bob & Family



Please pray for the Sick

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,

Danielle Maglies, Francis Lee, Dotty Karnowski,
Anna Verrico, Rolando Rey, Christine Mary Brown,
Donna Ferrara, Lonie Ebarle, Julia Forsythe, Joanne
M., Maria Lavid, Teddy Sabo, Lisa Sabo, Norma
Nebus, Nancy Gaid, Joan Trainor, Peter Rutkowski,
Renata Wisnik, Bishop Bootkoski, Raul Ramos,
Veronica Roush, Suzanne Pontes Sarisky, Kelly
Lease, Maria Turek, Evelyn Prince, Alex Deliso, John
Herring, Michael Miller, Marie Burke, Bill Herring,
Mercedes de Leon, Eve Morawski, Andrew
Southern, Norma Izzo, Shelly Greene

Please pray for the Dearly Departed

Theodore Urlton, Lucio J. Cerreta Jr., Cathleen
Baptista, Wayne Borg, Lois Wiuff, Robert Bertekap,
Barbara Coyle, Paciencia Aviso, Renee Soto, Maria
Couto, Michael O'Hara, Anthony Sclafani, Bart
Miller, Hans Hadman, Ralph Baez, Maria Lopes,
Sandra Husko, John Gonyo, Kevin Mitro



Installation of Father Abraham
Orapankal as the new Pastor of Our Lady
of Peace by Bishop Checchio, on October 12,
2025 at the 10:00am Mass. Reception after
Mass in the Parish Hall (cafeteria). Please call
the Parish Office 732-738-7940) if you are
planning to attend.



Blood Drive **Our Lady Of Peace Social** **Concerns Ministry**

Sunday, October 5, 2025
8:30 am—1:30pm

Parish Center Gymnasium
25 Franklin Ave Edison

The day the Great War Ended

The parables of the mustard seed and the “unprofitable” servant. Luke 17: 5-10

A Belgian survivor of World War I recalls the moment the Great War ended for her: A woman and her husband were in Holland doing relief work among Belgian refugees. They had rented a room from a Dutch family for their work. The Dutch landlord, she remembers, “felt as we did about the Germans. They also hated, as we hated.” One cold winter day the Belgian couple were walking near the town, not far from the German border when they saw something lying in the mud. It was a man in a torn German uniform. His muddy and bleeding feet showed through his broken shoes. “We could not leave him lying there in the cold,” the woman remembers. “What could we do? We could not take him to the house of the Dutch people, because they hated the Germans just as we did. But he needed help . . .

“We decided to take him to the house and try to get him in without the knowledge of the landlady. We helped him, between us, back to the town and into the house. The landlady was fortunately not around. We put him on the bed in our room. “What could we do? His feet were bloody and dirty. I had to wash them! So I got some water and a cloth and knelt down to wash his feet. While I was washing his feet something happened inside of me. Something fell down from my eyes, and I saw that he was a brother. A German was my brother. The Germans were our brothers.” The Belgian couple had to get the German something to eat. With every food stuff strictly rationed, she had no choice but to go downstairs and asked the landlady for two eggs.

“Two eggs!” the landlady exclaimed, “and what would you be doing with two eggs at once in war time?” The couple then told the landlady the truth: that they had found a German soldier, broken, bleeding and hungry — and that he was now upstairs in her house. The landlady said nothing for a moment. Her eyes filled with tears, she said, “Take the two eggs. And here’s some jam I made; take that up to him. But don’t you tell my husband!” The couple tended the soldier’s wounds and fed him. They found shoes and a suit of clothes from what they had collected for Belgian refugees. The woman concludes her story:

“It was late afternoon and almost dark. He started out from the house to find his way back to the German border. We stood at the window and watched him go. The snowflakes began to come down, slowly and steadily, then faster and faster. He would be wet through the storm. Would he get back to the border? Would he be safe? We never knew. We never heard of him again.”

[As told by Magda Yoors-Peeters at a conference of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation at Nyborg Strand, Denmark, in 1923.]

A “mustard seed” of faith enables a couple to uproot their understandable “mulberry tree” of anger and hatred to rediscover compassion and grace. Mustard-seed faith is the unshakable conviction that every ordinary act of selfless kindness can re-create and transform; that the smallest act of forgiveness can lift up and heal; that the simplest act of compassion, done in faith and trust in God’s providence, can transform our world in the justice and peace of God. What this couple and their landlady do for this “enemy” soldier is the sign of the Gospel “mustard seed” in our midst: to believe that whatever generosity and kindness we are capable of doing, done in the spirit of Gospel reconciliation, justice and peace, will one day yield the harvest that is the reign of God.

Tightrope walk across Niagara Falls

Blondin, the French tightrope walker became world famous in June of 1859, when he walked on a tightrope stretched over quarter of a mile across the mighty Niagara Falls. He became the first person to accomplish this amazing feat. He walked across 160 feet above the waterfalls several times, each time with a different daring feat - once in a sack, on stilts, on a bicycle, in the dark, and once even carrying a stove and cooking an omelet! A large crowd gathered and a buzz of excitement ran along both sides of the river bank. The crowd "Oooooohed!" and "Aaaaahed!" as Blondin carefully walked across one dangerous step after another -- blindfolded and pushing a wheelbarrow. Upon reaching the other side, the crowd's applause was louder than the roar of the falls! Blondin suddenly stopped and addressed his audience: "Do you believe I can carry a person across in this wheelbarrow?" The crowd enthusiastically shouted, "Yes, yes, yes. You are the greatest tightrope walker in the world. You can do anything!" "Okay," said Blondin, "Get in the wheelbarrow....." But no one was willing, although all had faith in his ability! Later in August of 1859, his manager, Harry Colcord, showed his faith in Blondin and did ride on Blondin's back across the Falls!

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to have such a Faith in him so that they may work miracles in their lives: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree 'be uprooted and planted in the sea' and it would obey you!" Sounds impossible and ridiculous to us? But, using this cartoon metaphor, Jesus challenges us to attempt the difficult things of life. By this strange example, Jesus shows us that we, too, can perform miracles. We must be ready to attempt things that the worldly, the wise and the sophisticated laugh at. Here's an example: A middle-aged mother went back to complete her teacher training. She specialized in helping children with learning difficulties. In a large school she worked with a class of what others called "the retarded." Because she had actually asked for this difficult class, some teachers treated her as though she were insane. Wasn't this truly "planting trees in the sea?"

Our Lady of Peace Staff

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph. D Pastor
Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I. In Res.
Deacon John A. Raychel
Rev. John J. Zec, Ph. D, Music Director
Lourdes Hnath Organist
Candida Gonzalez, Coor. Or Religious Ed.
Walter Springer, Business Administrator
Norma Izzo, Bookkeeping Assistant
Dawn Aube Parish/Religious Ed. Secretary
Joan C. Deyak Trustee
Robert Butvilla Trustee

October 5, 2025 Hymns



Breaking Bread # 542 Come,
Christians, Join to Sing

Breaking Bread #483 We Walk by Faith

Breaking Bread #510 Prayer of St. Francis

Breaking Bread #471 I Sing the Mighty
Power of God.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY ~ October 5

8am - 3pm Blood Drive ~Parish Center

12:00 Noon Religious Ed. Family Mass

MONDAY ~ October 6

8:30 am Novena ~ Church

TUESDAY ~ October 7

7:00 pm Blue Army Devotion ~ Church

WEDNESDAY ~ Oct 8

7:00-8:15pm Religious Ed. Family Mass ~ Church

THURSDAY ~ Oct 9

9am - 10:30am Bible Study ~ Parish Center

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal ~ Church

7:00pm Columbiettes Business Mtg. ~ Regina Caeli Room

FRIDAY Oct 10

No Activities

SATURDAY ~ Oct 11

11:00 am Confession ~ Church

4:00 pm Confession ~ Church

SUNDAY ~ Oct 12

9am - Holy Name Mtg. ~Regina Caeli Room

9:30am Holy Name to recite the Rosary Church

10:00am Mass Installation of Fr. Abraham

11:00am Cake & Coffee with Fr. Abraham

COLUMBIETTES OPEN HOUSE

If you are a practicing Catholic woman age 18 or over, we would like to invite you to join the OLP Columbiettes. We are a faith based woman's charity organization dedicated to helping our Church and community while having fun and making new friends.

Open House Thursday 10/23/25 at 7pm in the Parish Center

Contact Marianne Harris

(732-261-2190) for more information
or to arrange another time to meet.



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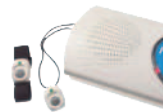
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Dr. Seeman, Sr. has been a devoted parishioner of Our Lady of Peace for 60 years, has been part of OLP from Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation and Marriage, and has served the community for 35 years.

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