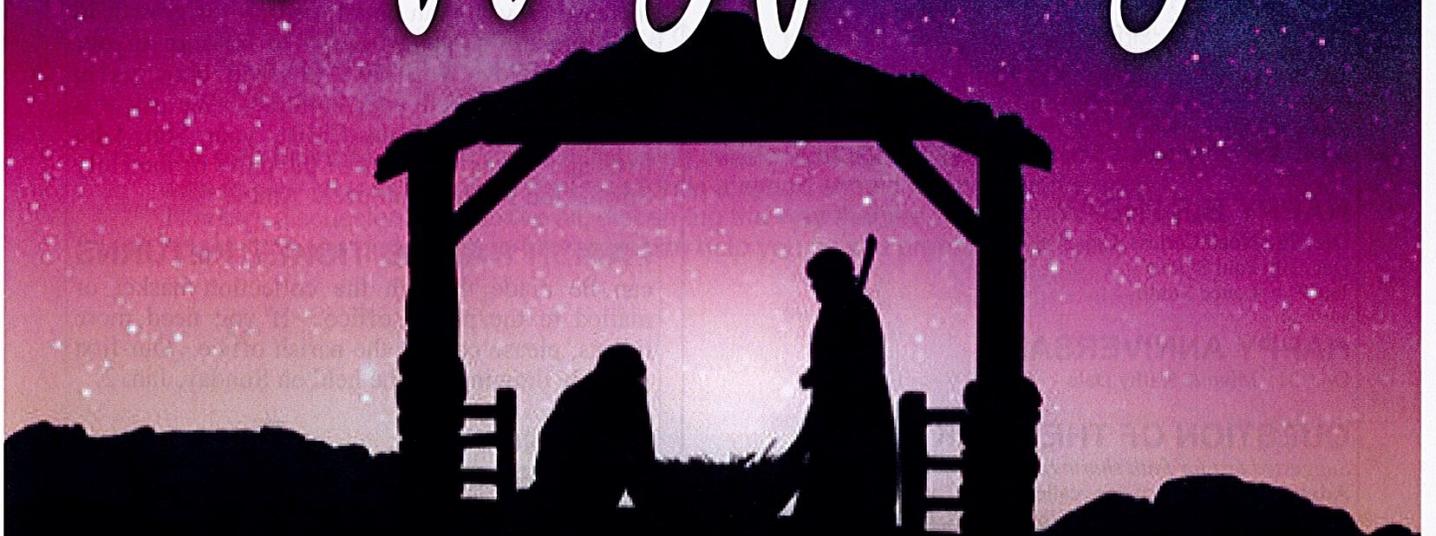


Merry Christmas

For unto *you* is
born this day, in
the city of David,
a *Savior*, which is
Christ the Lord
Luke 2:11



St. Hippolyte Our Lady of Lourdes

Pastor - Rev. Jeffrey J. Lucas
25997 State Highway 27 • Guys Mills, PA 16327

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 26, 2020

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confession) is offered at The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Saint Agatha Church (353 Pine Street, Meadville) on Saturday mornings following the 8:00am Mass and on Saturday afternoons at 3:30pm. To schedule an appointment with Father Jeffrey Lucas or Father Joseph Petrone, call 814-336-1112.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

The Parish office is closed this week.

Today No Faith Formation Classes
Monday 9:15am Small Group Bible Study at SH
Wednesday 6:30pm Hebrews Bible Study at OLL
Sunday No Faith Formation Classes

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 3-4 Parish Office Closed
Jan. 4 Rosary at OLL 6:30pm
Jan. 5 Le Nom du Pere Society Christmas Party at SH 6:00pm

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

TODAY: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
MONDAY: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
TUESDAY: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18
WEDNESDAY: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
THURSDAY: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
FRIDAY: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
SATURDAY: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
SUNDAY: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 28: Noah Carless, Cale Miller
Dec. 30: Paul Sylves
Jan. 1: Lance Smith

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dec. 31: Mike & Kathy Dale

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel

Adults – How are you, too, called to our Father's house?

Youth – Jesus was obedient to his parents, even though he was the Son of God. Why is obedience so important? Is it something you struggle with?

Children – Why is it important to obey our parents? Why is it important to obey God?

lifelongcatechesis.osv.com

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A CURSILLO WEEKEND or NEED MORE INFO? Pick up a brochure in the church vestibule or call Carl and Kay Hotchkiss at 814-425-3933.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our gifts given in thanksgiving for what we have already received.

The December 19 offertory information was not available at the time that this issue of the bulletin went to the printer.

Catholic Services Appeal 2021:

Dio Assessment: \$27,069

of Gifts/Pledges: 104

Pledged: \$40,465 Received: \$39,650

Thanks for your generosity and dedication.

HELPING HANDS PRAYER:

O God, Creator all-powerful, in your wisdom and love, your Son, begotten before the dawn of time, became in time a member of our human family. Give to parents the wisdom and wonder to see the mystery of your will unfold in the lives of their children. To daughters and sons, give, with the increase of years, an equal measure of growth in your grace. Together may we treasure in our hearts the love you have lavished upon us in letting us be called your children. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH RAFFLE TICKET RETURNS

can be made through the collection basket or mailed to the parish office. If you need more tickets, please contact the parish office. Our first monthly drawing will be held on Sunday, Jan. 2.

LOOKING FOR RESOURCES FOR YOUR FAMILY?



Discover why families always matter at:
<http://www.eriecd.org/fam.htm>

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

Saint Hippolyte/Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church



Join the diocesan Facebook page at
www.ErieRCD.org

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, SAINT JOHN
8:30am SH Communion Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, THE HOLY INNOCENTS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29, 5th DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DEC. 30, 6th DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

FRIDAY, DEC. 31 7th DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS
8:30am OLL Communion Service

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00am OLL Ed, Elsie & Roger Greathouse
(John & Fran Greathouse)

11:00am SH Norma Burchard (Sharon & Dennis Lombrardo)

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PASTOR AND STAFF OF SAINT HIPPOLYTE and OUR LADY OF LOURDES!

Did you remember...to send the person you received in the *Christ-kindel* name exchange a small gift and/or card revealing your identity to them? There's still time if you forgot!



Last call to subscribe to *Magnificat*... If you would like to subscribe to *Magnificat* at the reduced rate of \$36 (rather than \$47) and you have not yet contacted the parish office to be added to the list, please do so no later than December 31st.

The Le Nom du Pere Society's annual Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, January 5 at 6:00pm in the Saint Hippolyte social hall. Bring a dish to share and a \$10 exchange gift if you would like to participate in the game. Men and women of the parish are welcome to attend.

Mark your calendar—We will be hosting an appreciation Thank You dinner for anyone that has helped with OLL Family Society functions such as fair booth, strawberry festival, and funeral dinners. It will be held January 9th at 6:00pm. Watch for your invitation to come.

WHOLE COMMUNITY CATECHESIS



JOURNEY FROM ADVENT INTO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The world journeyed from Advent into the Christmas Season at the Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord on December 24th. The Season of Christmas continues until we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Sunday, January 9th. Many people think that Christmas is over on December 26th, which is not true for people of the Catholic Faith Tradition. The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) is a holy day of obligation and so is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God on January 1st (except those years when it falls on a Saturday or Monday). Sunday, January 2nd is the Epiphany of the Lord; the day we celebrate the long wait of our Lord's coming. Following our celebration of the Baptism of our Lord and the conclusion of the Christmas Season, the Season of Ordinary Time begins on Monday, January 10th and continues through March 1st, the day before Ash Wednesday.

We as a parish family still need to follow the CDC guidelines for our Christmas activities and celebrations because of the pandemic. This year we brought back our traditional Christ-kindel name exchange and prayers as well as our display of the Journey to Bethlehem Live Nativity. We also brought back our traditional prelude and singing by the parish choir for our Christmas celebrations. All of our activities will still follow the diocesan and CDC guidelines and we still need to be vigilant in wearing our masks for our own safety and the safety of our fellow parishioners, family, and friends. We need to be creative in how we celebrate the season, being especially careful when we are in groups of people. Stay safe!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

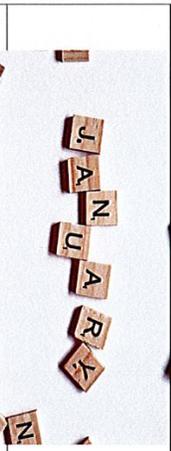
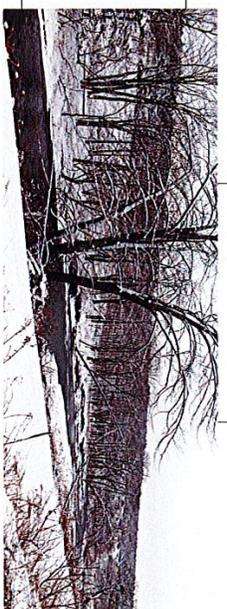
LE NOM DU PERE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL FRENCH DINNER will be held on Saturday, February 12 in the Saint Hippolyte social hall. This four course dinner includes Soupe a L'oignon Francaise (French Onion Soup), Salade de Vinaigrette (Salad with Vinaigrette Dressing), Poitrine de Poulet Velouté Suprême (Chicken Breast with Mushroom Sauce), Riz Aux Champignons (Rice with Mushrooms), Haricots Verts (Green Beans) and Crème Brûlée for dessert. All dinners also include french bread and a choice of beverage. The cost for this delicious dinner remains at \$18 per person, in advance. Seating will take place on the hour at 5:00pm, 6:00pm, and 7:00pm. This dinner is by advance reservation only — dinners are not sold at the door. Make your reservation by calling Connie at 814-967-3813 no later than February 1.

January 2022—Parish Calendar

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Dec. 26 <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i> No Faith Formation  | Dec. 27 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Parish Office Closed this week.</div> | Dec. 28 | Dec. 29 6:30pm—OLL Bible Study | Dec. 30 | Dec. 31 | <i>1</i> <i>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i>  |
| 2 <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i> No Faith Formation  | 3 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Parish Office Closed</div> | 4 10:00am—SH Bible Study 6:30pm—OLL Rosary | 5 6:00pm—SH Le Nom du Pere Society meeting 6:30pm—OLL Bible Study | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i> Faith Formation PS-11 at SH PS-11 at OLL  | 10 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group 7:00pm—OLL Family Society meeting | 11 7:00pm—SH Choir | 12 6:30pm—OLL Bible Study | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 <i>Second Sunday O.T.</i> Faith Formation PS-8 at SH PS-8 at OLL 9:00am—OLL Donut Sunday 12:00pm—SH Sunday Social | 17 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group 6:00pm—Rectory Finance Council meeting | 18 7:00pm—OLL Choir | 19 6:30pm—OLL Bible Study | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 <i>Third Sunday O.T.</i> Faith Formation PS-11 at SH PS-11 at OLL | 24 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group | 25 7:00pm—SH Choir | 26 6:30pm—OLL Bible Study | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 <i>Fourth Sunday O.T.</i> Faith Formation PS-8 at SH PS-8 at OLL | 31 8:30am—SH Communion Service 9:15am—SH Small Group | | | | | |

Weekend Mass Schedule
Our Lady of Lourdes: Sunday at 8:00am
Saint Hippolyte: Sunday at 11:00am
 The Rosary is prayed one half hour before our Sunday Masses and immediately following the Monday and Friday Communion Services.

January 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|  | | | | | | |
| 2 Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Smith | 3 Rev. Msgr. Charles A. Kaza | 4 Rev. F. Thomas Suppa | 5 Very Rev. Michael T. Kesicki | 6 Rev. William M. Laska | 7 Rev. Chris M. Hamlett | 8 Rev. Msgr. Bruce R. Allison |
| 9 Rev. Matthew J. Ruyechan | 10 Rev. Thomas L. Tyler | 11 Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico | 12 Pray for consecrated life | 13 Rev. David A. Perry | 14 Rev. Thomas M. Falkowski | 15 Rev. Michael Polinek |
| 16 The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman | 17 Rev. Lawrence R. Richards | 18 Rev. Stephen L. Collins | 19 Rev. Stephen J. Schreiber | 20 Rev. Jerome S. Simmons | 21 Rev. Mark A. O'Hern | 22 Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. McSweeney |
| 23 Rev. Msgr. Bernard J. Urbaniak | 24 Rev. Richard J. Toohey | 25 Rev. Msgr. Gerald J. Koos | 26 Rev. Casimir J. Wozniak | 27 Rev. David J. Wilson | 28 Rev. Joseph P. Staszewski | 29 Rev. James Power |
| 30 Rev. John E. Santor | 31 Rev. Thomas N. Trocchio | Pray for Vocations | |  | | |

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE

SYNOD?

What is Synodality?

Synodality literally translates as "on the same path" or "journeying together."

"Fundamentally, synodality is about journeying together. This happens through listening to one another in order to hear what God is saying to all of us. It is realizing that the Holy Spirit can speak through anyone to help us walk forward together on our journey as the People of God."

In short, a synod is like a family meeting. Good family meetings listen to everyone in the family - from oldest to youngest. They are marked by deep listening in an effort to understand one another and to understand what the Holy Spirit is asking the family to do and to be. Like families, synods are not a democracy.

Every voice must be heard, but the path isn't necessarily determined by the loudest voice. It is determined by deep listening and discerning the voice of the Holy Spirit in each person's experience and insights.

Discerning the Holy Spirit is a "Church speak" way to talk about listening and understanding how the Holy Spirit is moving in our concrete reality. It happens through prayerful listening in the context of the Scriptures and the way God has acted in the Church in the past.

<https://slmedia.org/blog/what-is-the-synod-on-synodality>

What is the process for Erie?

October-November: Pastors will select parishioners to facilitate the synodal process at the parish level, and facilitators will be chosen for those on the margins, such as the differently abled, impoverished, and non-practicing Catholics.

January: Diocesan training of facilitators

February - March: Local Synodal gatherings take place. The faithful are encouraged to take part in the synodal gathering hosted by their parish, or if that is not feasible, the gathering hosted by another parish.

March-April: Diocesan representatives process responses and write synodal report.

Does my voice matter ?

Your voice is important to hear the breadth of what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Diocese of Erie for the 2021 Diocesan phase of the Synod on Synodality. More importantly, your participation in listening and discerning the Holy Spirit's action is important for building a culture of synodality in our diocese for the long term.

In the *Vademecum*, a document released before a synod to prepare participants, Pope Francis writes that the primary question for this synod is, "How does this "journeying together" take place today on different levels (from the local level to the universal one), allowing the Church to proclaim the Gospel? and what steps is the Spirit inviting us to take in order to grow as a synodal Church? (PD, 2)" (VD 1.3)

Over the next 6 months, the Diocese of Erie will be listening to its people to hear, honestly and charitably, about how we listen and journey with one another at the familial, parish, and diocesan level. The Diocese will also be listening to discern ways that the Holy Spirit is calling it to grow in a spirit of "journeying together," attentive to the direction of the Holy Spirit speaking through all its members and in the signs of the times.

In some synods, the questions focus on a particular challenge or topic (eg. Eucharist, New Evangelization) and the work of the synod is primarily done in preparation to or during the synod. This synod is different. The diocesan phase will take place over the next 6 months, but the most important work remains in continuing and growing a diocesan culture of synodality. Your participation helps us as a diocese continue listening and discerning; to become more fully a people who are "journeying together" in the Holy Spirit.



Synod: Key Term #4

What is discernment?

Discernment is the process for finding out what we should be doing. It might involve doing research or making a list of pros and cons, as you would for any major decision, but it is more than that. Especially in a religious context, discernment means trying to recognize God's will. Fruitful discernment takes place in a space of prayer and study. It includes sincere conversations with appropriate people, self-reflection, and attempting to read the signs that God may be placing around us.

We often speak of someone "discerning their vocation," which is something every person should do. In a similar way, discernment also happens on a communal level, from the local all the way up to the universal Church. Councils and Synods are always attempting to discern the will of the Holy Spirit, so that what they decide and teach may be what God wishes in that particular context. For communal discernment, dialogue is always more helpful than debate. Discernment should help us to understand our own needs and desires, but the final goal is to accept the will of God.

What is the Synod on Synodality?

Pope Francis has asked the entire world to participate in a synod on the topic "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission." The central question he asks of everyone is:

A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, "journeys together." How is this "journeying together" happening today in our diocese? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?

You may be invited to participate in listening sessions at your local parish, or you may wish to give your input online. Participation in a synod should always involve prayer, listening, discussion, and above all, discerning the way that the Holy Spirit is guiding us. Hopefully these questions and answers can help you as you prepare your input.

*Series of articles on the synod by Maria Caulfield
Graduate theology student, Franciscan University of Steubenville
Executive Assistant to the Offices of the Vicar General and the Chancery
Diocese of Erie*



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission



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Welcome to our parish! We hope you will become a part of our parish family!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Check One: Saint Hippolyte Our Lady of Lourdes

Please drop this form in the offertory basket or mail to the parish office.