



*September 12, 2021*  
*The Twenty-fourth Sunday*  
*in Ordinary Time*

## Mass Times

### Saturday

5:00 pm

### Sunday

9:00 am & 11:00 am

### Monday

8:15 am

### Tuesday

8:15 am

### Wednesday

8:15 am

### Friday

8:15 am

## Sacrament of Confession

### Saturday

3:00 - 4:00 pm

## Eucharistic Adoration

### First Friday of the Month

9:00 am - 6:00 pm

## Rosary Devotion

### Monday-Wednesday & Friday

7:55 am

## Sacraments

For inquiries regarding Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, or Marriage visit [olpmn.org/sacraments](http://olpmn.org/sacraments).

## Is This Your First Time at OLP?

Thank you for choosing to spend your time with us!

It would be great to be able to connect with you and welcome you into the Our Lady of Peace community.

Text *Welcome* to 612-540-1752 and let us know you are here!

## Weddings at OLP

Couples planning to be married at Our Lady of Peace should plan on at least six months to prepare for this lifelong commitment to each other and to complete all the necessary steps.

Visit [olpmn.org/sacraments](http://olpmn.org/sacraments) for more information.

Contact us: [www.olpmn.org](http://www.olpmn.org) | 612-824-3455

## From Fr. Ellis

### Synod: Final Preparations



We've all be hearing about the Archdiocesan Synod for a couple of years now, especially since the timetable got delayed due to the pandemic. Even without that interruption, the process of preparing for and holding a synod is large and complex. It took me longer than I care to admit to wrap my mind around both the big picture and the details. Now that we're approaching the final preparations/stages of it, I thought it would be a good time to recap what has happened, and how you're asked to be involved now.

The whole point of the synod is to assist the archbishop in determining the pastoral priorities for our local church. The word "pastoral" is important; this is not about administrative or financial priorities. Instead, we are looking at the spiritual and religious situation in our communities, and assessing our strengths and weaknesses in responding to those circumstances. This includes examining how to remedy the weak spots and shore up the strong ones.

Back in 2019 and early 2020, the archdiocese held about 20 large prayer and listening sessions. These were geared toward identifying the landscape of our communities. From the feedback received from thousands of parishioners, three priorities (called focus areas) emerged. They are:

- Forming parishes that are in the service of evangelization
- Forming missionary disciples who know Jesus' love and respond to his call
- Forming youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young

Starting in just a couple weeks, parishes will be hosting Synod small groups. The purpose of these will be to pray and discuss how to achieve those three goals identified in the focus areas, above. That includes taking advantage of our strengths and identifying where we need to grow. There will be six small group sessions—two for each of the three focus areas. If you don't already have a small faith sharing group that you meet with, we will be hosting six sessions on Thursdays from 5:30-7:30pm in Pates Hall. The sessions will run September 23-October 28.

Your feedback is an essential part of this process! I both invite and heartily encourage you to come, get to know some of your fellow parishioners better, experience what small groups are like, and help discern how we as an archdiocese can achieve our pastoral priorities. The synod committee has put together videos that will walk everyone through it, so all you need to do is come and participate.

## OLP School Hires First Religion Teacher

*While that headline might appear a bit misleading (afterall, OLP has been teaching Religion classes to students ever since we opened our doors) it is also technically true. This past summer, OLP redesigned their curriculum for 4th-8th graders, to allow for each of these classes to receive their Religion instruction from one, dedicated teacher who specializes in this field. "As a Catholic School, it just makes sense," said Principal Paul Berry. "Our students receive Math and Science instruction from teachers who specialize in those fields, why should we treat Religion any differently?" Luckily, the perfect candidate for this exciting new position was right across the parking lot. Michaela Swarthout (formerly the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church) formally joined the school faculty in August. As a way to help families get to know more about her and her approach to Theology, Michaela has shared a weekly blog she writes with the entire OLP community (michaelasmusings.weebly.com). Shared below is her most recent post entitled "If I Fits, I Sits."*

There are some hilarious memes on the internet of cats shoving their bodies into spaces they don't belong in (boxes in particular): if they fit in it, they will sit in it. If you don't know what I'm talking about I encourage you to google "if I fits I sits" and look through the images.

As human beings, our brains are wired to do the same thing these cats do; our brains put all sorts of things into boxes with varying degrees of success. Some of the things fit tidily into the boxes and other things are left spilling over the sides.

Our subconscious mind is constantly arranging and grouping things in ways that help us to understand and interact with the world around us. This classification system is super useful, imagine if we had to re-learn that hot food burns our mouth for every different type of food. Yikes! Instead, after having an experience of burning our mouths, our brain remembers this for all types of food because of the "food" box in our brains.

But this can also really limit us because people, in particular, have a habit of not fitting into boxes the way they "ought" to. Generalizations made about people (often without conscious effort) can hamper the relationship that we could have with them because if we keep them in a box, we risk not fully seeing them for who they are.

Catholic Social Teaching affirms this idea; human life is sacred, each person is created in the image and likeness of God, and we are all precious in our uniqueness. When we take time to truly know

someone, we are living our calling to be like Jesus who loves people because He sees them for who they truly are.

On the first day, I gave the students one minute to write down every word they could think of to describe God. Then I had all of the students ask their parents for one word to describe God. In every class, I covered the whiteboard with different words. Then we asked the question: "Does this mean that some of the words are wrong?"

The answer is, of course, no. Because God doesn't fit into a small, tidy box either.

The older I get and the more I learn, the less I feel I know. Not because I doubt the things I've learned but because I realize just how much I do not know. I love teaching kids and teens about God and religion because I get to learn all of the time, too. Kids ask questions that I've never wondered about, they have insights about God or scripture that I never have, and they conceptualize things in different ways than I do. It's fun to learn new things, make new connections, and adjust the ways that I've subconsciously put God in a box.

God reveals Himself to (and in) all of us in different ways and it's only in learning to recognize other people for their gifts and strengths that we can grasp a fuller picture of who God is.

It is my prayer as we go through this year that we learn to recognize God in one another and we continue to grow in our ability to treat others with dignity and see them (and ourselves) as the image of God we're created to be.

## Archdiocesan Synod

### Join the Journey this Fall

Don't forget to plan to join us this fall to help shape the future of our local Church through the ongoing Archdiocesan Synod process. Archbishop Hebda needs your input in how to best form:

- Parishes that are in the service of evangelization;
- Missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call; and
- Youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young.

Join a small group to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, September 11

5:00 pm OLP Parishioners

### Sunday, September 12

9:00 am Anna Pagliano †

11:00 am OLP Parishioners

### Monday, September 13

8:15 am OLP Parishioners

### Tuesday, September 14

8:15 am OLP Parishioners

### Wednesday, September 15

8:15 am Carolyn Hynnek †

### Friday, September 17

8:15 am OLP Parishioners

### Saturday, September 18

5:00 pm OLP Parishioners

### Sunday, September 19

9:00 am OLP Parishioners

11:00 am OLP Parishioners

## Food Shelf Collection

On the third Sunday of every month, Our Lady of Peace collects non-perishable food items before and after all Masses for delivery to the Minnehaha Food Shelf.

Please place donations in the bin near Door #2.

## Venmo Us!

Didn't have cash or check?

Did you know OLP now accepts Sunday offerings via Venmo?

Simply scan the QR code here or find us @olpmn.



**venmo**

## Giving for July

Sunday & Electronic Giving	\$27,177
Plate Offering	\$651
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,828</b>
<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>\$27,828</b>
<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>\$40,580</b>
<b>Previous YTD</b>	<b>\$28,561</b>

# This Week at OLP

## Sunday, September 12 - 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Mass - C  
11:00 am Mass - C

## Monday, September 13 - St. John Chrysostom

8:40 am Rosary - C  
9:00 am Mass - C  
7:00 pm Chaplet & Chat - V

## Tuesday, September 14 - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

7:55 am Rosary - C  
8:15 am Mass - C  
9:00 am Bible Study - WR  
7:30 pm Music Rehearsal - C  
Pastoral Council - TR

## Wednesday, September 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

7:55 am Rosary - C  
8:15 am Mass - C  
6:00 pm EDGE Catechist Kickoff - TR  
DOF Catechist Retreat - PH  
6:30 pm Bible Study - WR  
7:30 pm Music Rehearsal - C

## Thursday, September 16 - Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian

6:00 pm Evening Prayer - V

## Friday, September 17 - St. Robert Bellarmine

7:55 pm Rosary - C  
8:15 am Mass - C

## Saturday, September 18

7:00 am Men's Small Group - PH  
9:00 am Breakfast and Babies - O  
3:00 pm Confession - C  
5:00 pm Mass - C

## Sunday, September 19 - 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am Mass - C  
11:00 am Mass - C

C - Church  
CR - Childcare Room  
G - Gym  
LR - Leo Room  
O - Outside  
OC - Off Campus  
PH - Pates Hall

SC - School  
SKC - St. Kevin's Chapel  
SPR - Sts. Peter & Paul  
Rooms  
TR - Trinity Room  
V - Virtual  
WR - Whalen Room

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