

JESUS IS LORD!

PEOPLE OF HOPE

A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION



**BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD,
WHO TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF
THE WORLD!**

JOHN 1:29

918TH COMMUNITY PRAYER MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

THE PEOPLE OF HOPE

Learn to live in God's hands



ST EDITH STEIN

EVERYONE WHO ASKS RECEIVES

A reflection on Lighthouse's recent Life in the Spirit Seminar

Hello friends!

We attended the Life in the Spirit seminar in mid-January and had a powerful experience. As former protestants with varying degrees of comfort with charismatic expressions of the Christian faith, we came with a reserved yet open posture, ready for how the Holy Spirit might move. And move he did!

Fr. John shared Matthew 7:8-11 which states:

“For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

Fr. John shared that sometimes God's answer is at best silence, sometimes it's a no, but that it's inconceivable that we could ask God for his Holy Spirit and he would not say yes. How amazing is that? Per John 16:7,

Jesus left that we might have the Holy Spirit. We also felt reassured that this charismatic movement is grounded in the teachings of the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

So we decided to move forward with baptism in the Holy Spirit, praise the Lord! God's peace came over us, reminding us of God's provision through any storm. What a blessing! We're still learning and we still have questions, but we cannot sufficiently express our gratitude to you, the People of Hope, who are striving for Heaven, and patiently eager to guide us along the same straight and narrow path.

May we all find the peace and joy that surpasses understanding through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior - Amen!

With Love in Christ,
Frederic, Jessica and John Repond

THE PEOPLE OF HOPE



Take my yoke and
learn from Me

MATTHEW 11:29



TO PRAY AS WE OUGHT

A PERSONAL REFLECTION OUR JOINT PRAYER MEETING WITH THE **PETROS COMMUNITY**

BY NATALIE YORK, PETROS MEMBER

On January 21st, the brothers and sisters of the Lighthouse, Compass, and Petros communities had the blessing of coming together for a joint prayer meeting at Koinonia Academy.

Not having grown up in a community, I hadn't even heard of prayer meetings until a few years ago. Even when my husband and I committed to life in the Petros Community, just after we were married in 2021, my understanding of Prayer Meetings was tenuous at best. I understood that it was a time to come together and thank the Lord for our lives in the community, and also to grow together to be closer to the Lord. But, even after growing to understand the point and see the benefit of prayer meetings, I'm usually met with a sense of anxiety going into them. Every prayer meeting, I am filled with the thoughts of "Am I Catholic enough to be here?" "What if I'm not praying correctly?" "What if everyone hears me sing?" "What if I don't say the right words?" "What if I never hear the Lord?"

Over the last three years, we've been so blessed by this time to worship together and come to understand the beauty and life that we get in prayer meetings. The January 21st prayer meeting at KA with the People of Hope was one such source of great life and joy for me!

Before the prayer meeting, being greeted with friendly faces of members of the People of Hope, even if they have only met us once, was welcoming and encouraging. We recognized faces and were greeted by those such as a couple with two young children who we hadn't seen in over a year, large families who have invited us over for combined Lord's Day dinners, our pastoral care workers and their families, and people we have seen before but to whom we have never spoken. The genuine friendliness helped to break down some of my stress and welcome me into a comfortable and open

atmosphere for prayer.

It was also the first prayer meeting without my daughter since she was born in September of 2022. I was so scared about leaving her! I dropped her off downstairs in childcare and despite her screams of protest, I made my way upstairs to take my seat and try to focus. The People of Hope's generosity to provide this service for us and careful consideration of each child's safety and needs allowed me to trust those who take care of her to keep her safe so that I could have that time to myself.

During the Prayer meeting itself, I was able to fully enter in and hear the Lord in all sorts of areas that I had been neglecting. I realized I had been using taking care of my daughter as a way to distract myself during prayer meetings. While it is necessary and beautiful to play with her, feed her, and change her diaper, I had been using these motherly tasks as a way to ignore the Holy Spirit moving inside of me. This was the first prayer meeting since she was born where I was able to focus on the Lord! I had an hour and a half of prayer to myself - a rare commodity in life with a toddler.

It is also so beautiful to see the great, holy families fully participate. It's wonderful - and dare I say, shocking, in our present day - to see teenagers praying and giving words that they hear! But it is so inspirational to me to see families raising their children in the light of the Lord and gives me a lot to look forward to and for which to be hopeful in my own family life.

After all the words of the Lord had been given, Ed Moccia stood up and told everyone to do something to document or remember some word that stuck out to them. Though I had been thinking through all the words, when I took out my phone to write something down, they all disappeared from my head except "Romans 8." I don't remember who said it or what verse he or

she mentioned, but that's all I could recall and all I wrote down.

Praying on it and reading through it later that week in adoration, it was very clear why it had stayed with me when everything else disappeared from my head.

*26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
27 And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
28 We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.*

All my anxieties about praying, not being "enough" and everything else were gone! Any fears that I had were gone! The Lord makes all things work through him and the Spirit intercedes for us when we are at a loss for words. The Lord has called us to community life to help us in our areas of weakness and to call us to be better people. The Lord provides us with what we need and what I needed was faith in the Lord and trust in the Lord to rid myself of all my worries and questions. I'm so grateful for the experience to pray together with the People of Hope and I await joyfully the next time we'll do it again!

This article is the continuation of a bulletin series which seeks to highlight the many ministries and communities around the world which we are blessed to call friends.

If you are interested in learning more about the vibrant Petros community visit their page at

stpeternewbrunswick.org/young-adults

JESUS IS LORD!

POWER FROM ON HIGH

MARCH 1-2, 2024

The People of Hope spring retreat
CO-HOSTED BY THE
BROTHERHOOD OF HOPE &
PETROS COMMUNITIES

GOALS/EXPECTATIONS FOR RETREAT

- Bring our communities together
- Gain Greater Openness to the Holy Spirit
- Gain Greater Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

Please visit our website for registration and full details:

<https://www.peopleofhope.net/2024springretreat>



PEOPLE OF HOPE



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

PEOPLE OF HOPE COMMUNITY
WIDE MASS

On December 31st, the People of Hope had our annual Christmas mass together at our Lady of the Mount parish in Warren. Typically, we celebrate the feast of Mary Mother of God. This year, since the 31st fell on a Sunday, we celebrated Sunday's mass which was the feast of the Holy Family. It was gift to be together as brothers and sisters, a family of the People of Hope and be encouraged by Fr John Gordon as his words encouraged us in the gift of family life and the example the Holy Family is to each of us. The mass & fellowship that followed was a great time to be together as we celebrated the Christmas season together as a community.

“WHEN THEY HAD FULFILLED
ALL THE PRESCRIPTIONS
OF THE LAW OF THE LORD,
THEY RETURNED TO
GALILEE,
TO THEIR OWN TOWN OF
NAZARETH.
THE CHILD GREW AND
BECAME STRONG, FILLED
WITH WISDOM;
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD
WAS UPON HIM.”

LUKE 22:39-40



Jesus is Lord!

The People of Hope

Marriage in the Holy Spirit

A couples retreat

Feb 16-18, 2024

Journey on a weekend of encouragement, renewal, and an outpouring of God's grace through the Holy Spirit.

Basking Ridge, NJ

peopleofhope.net/mihs

Visit our website by scanning the QR code for more information regarding registration, schedule, pricing, speakers, etc.



JESUS IS LORD!

CAMP HOPE

SAVE THE DATE!

**AUGUST
4-10, 2024**

Camp Hope is a week long Catholic youth camp focused on summer fun, deep friendships, and a growing relationship with Christ and His Church.

Registration for campers & volunteers opens 2/15!

www.camphoperegistration.com/

IGNITE

YOUTH MINISTRY

You're Invited!

**SAVE THE
DATE**

Kairos YES RETREAT!

April 5-7th

Hillsdale, MI

High School Teens

Details to come



PEOPLE OF HOPE

SING TO THE LORD WITH THANKSGIVING;
WITH THE LYRE MAKE MUSIC TO OUR GOD,
WHO COVERS THE HEAVENS WITH CLOUDS,
PROVIDES RAIN FOR THE EARTH,
MAKES GRASS SPROUT ON THE
MOUNTAINS,
WHO GIVES ANIMALS THEIR FOOD

PSALM 147: 7-9

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK

IMMEDIATE NEED

- Eric Garcia
- Peggy Camiolo
- MaryAnn Paster
- Shannon Hardy

SERIOUS & ONGOING

- Rita (Buganski) Arena
- Eleanor Benson
- Jack Bickel
- Margaret Fierro
- Danielle Neri
- Lee Scarfone
- Rose Molnar
- Dan O'Mullan
- Carol Ann McCarthy
- Jackie Donnelley

AROUND THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

- Steve Clark - Servants of the Word, Chelsea, MI

Please visit our website peopleofhope.net/prayerintentions to see our complete list of our prayer intentions and to add to our list.

2023 PRAYER PETITION HIGHLIGHT

THE SICK

Please bless, console, and heal all the sick in our midst. (ref. [community website](#) for specific names.) Please bless all who care for them. Thank you for already healing so many.

“Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and petitions full of gratitude.”

PHIL. 4:6

UPCOMING EVENTS

LIGHTHOUSE DINNER GROUPS

Friday, February 16th
6:30-8:30pm
[RSVP HERE](#)

ANCHOR PRAYER MEETING

Sunday, February 18th
2:30-4pm
Koinonia Academy

POH SPRING RETREAT

March 1-2nd
Koinonia Academy
[RSVP HERE](#)

COMPASS

TEACHING NIGHT

Tuesday, February 6th
8-9:30pm

IGNITE

IGNITE SMALL GROUP



Thursday, February 15th
8-9:30pm
Location TBD

IGNITE LARGE GROUP

Thursday, February 29th
8-9:30pm
Koinonia Academy

908.222.9722

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T H E P E O P L E O F H O P E
A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION