God, loving Father,

You sent Your Son to be the light in the darkness and the hope of all people.

In Your every act of creation we see Your love for us.

Strengthen us for our role in the work
of proclaiming the Gospel.
Open our hearts to listen to the needs
of our brothers and sisters.
Give us joyful spirits that invite others
to be drawn into relationship with You.
Help us to be steadfast in times of discouragement
and rejoice in times of blessing.

Lead us to be vibrant in our support of the mission of Your church, continuing to reveal the dynamic life You offer through Your sacraments of belonging, healing, forgiving, blessing, and sending.

Allow us to be aware of Your Presence that we will remember You are always with us.

Remind us always that what we do for the least of our sisters and brothers, we do for You.

May we serve You in all things, through all things and above all things.

Through Christ our Lord.

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