



# Reflections on 'The Greater Things'

January 2019  
Volume XXXIII Issue No. 01

*"Amen, Amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." (John 14:12)*

## WALK ON WATER By Kathryn Wilcox

January is the first month of the year, and we find ourselves looking forward, but also reviewing the past year. It would be easy to be filled with fear and trepidation as we remember the catastrophic events of 2018. Riots, threats of war, fires, floods, scandals, and storms are not joyful memories. Yet, in the midst of these tribulations, heroes have emerged; anonymous, ordinary people who have aided their neighbors and sheltered the homeless.

Fireman, police officers, doctors, nurses, and neighbors waded through muddy water, stepped over ashes and piles of rubble, and sometimes through angry mobs to rescue and bind up the physical, emotional, and spiritual wounds of the injured. Why were they able to overcome their fear in order to help? Since I do not know these people personally, I cannot speak for them; yet, I know what our Lord teaches about how to make choices in difficult times. These are just a few scriptures that counsel us about overcoming fear.

***"There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear,"***  
(NABRE, 1 John 4:18)

Love is a powerful motivator. It propels people to protect and care for their family members and also their neighbors—even those they do not know.

***"I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go,"***  
(NABRE, Joshua 1:9)

Fortitude and bravery come from God. His strength will sustain us in the most difficult situations. When we turn to Him in times of trouble, He gives us the strength to prevail.

***"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God,"***  
(NABRE, Philippians 4:6)

When we turn to God instead of trying to go it alone, He will provide all our needs.

***"Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you, and I will uphold you with my victorious right hand,"***  
(NABRE, Isaiah 41:10)

God is always with us. He carries us when we do not have the strength to go on. He is the One who fights for us as we call upon His Name.

***"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control,"***  
(NABRE, 2 Timothy 1:7)

Those who walk with God will not fear.

I cannot know for sure what motivated the individuals who were heroic in the various crises of the past year. What is clear is that they were ordinary people who did extraordinary things, and when asked, many gave all the credit to God. It is also interesting to note that God has always worked miracles through ordinary everyday people when they put their trust in Him.

The Word of Life Board of Directors recently met in prayer for the coming year, and a prophecy was given. Our Lord encouraged us to *"get out of the boat and walk on water!"* Just as Peter did in Matthew 14:22-33.



If we get out of the boat, we cannot carry anything with us that will weigh us down and cause us to sink. And we must keep our eyes on Jesus instead of the waves, remembering that fear does not come from God and that, only when Peter took his eyes off of Jesus did he experience fear and begin to sink. Where are our eyes? What are we looking at?

It requires a lot of trust in the Lord to get out of our comfort zone, walk on water, and follow Jesus. Imagine the faith that Peter had when He got right out of that boat at Jesus' call, defying all human reason that would have said, "YOU WILL DROWN!" But it's only then, with that deeper level of trust and faith, that Jesus can take us to the next higher level of our calling. And because of HIM, we *will*

**WALK ON WATER!!!**

## WORKING FOR GOD By Roseanne Blair

Right now I have several jobs. I am employed by two companies and work in three departments. However, I have the best job ever! Sure, the two companies that I work for are great, but working for God is the best.

Talk about an awesome boss. I mean *He's God*. Who's my mentor? You guessed it - *Jesus Christ*. Wow! I have been employed for some time. I'm not sure when I got hired. Perhaps the day my mother, Mary, had a baby girl. After all, when I was baptized, I had a nun for a God Mother. What a great start. My uncle was my God Father. He was an alcoholic. Well, none of us are perfect. My uncle was always nice to me. Maybe he watches over me from Heaven if God allows it. God works in mysterious ways that one day, we will fully understand.

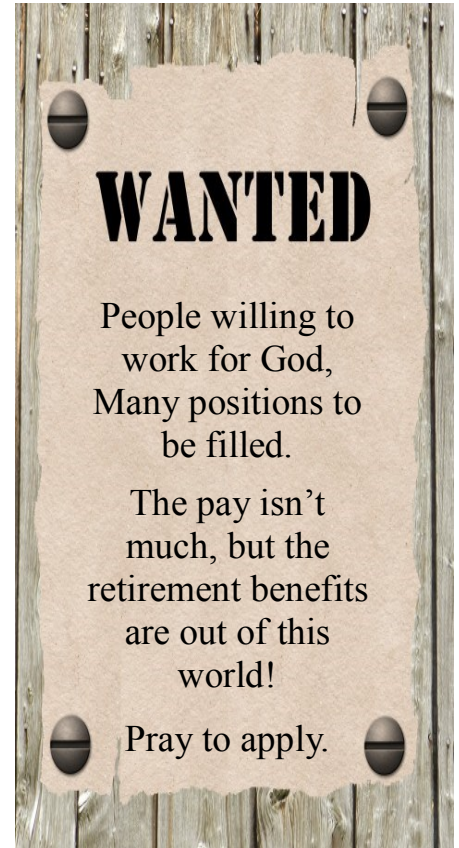
I can't quite describe my job duties. I am a wife, mother, caregiver, co-worker, fellow parishioner, writer, and those are just a few of my responsibilities. There are times when my duties change. My invisible contract states that *'people and circumstances are subject to change.'*

That is o.k. with me, though, sometimes a little unnerving. I just have to seek out my Mentor; He will set me straight.

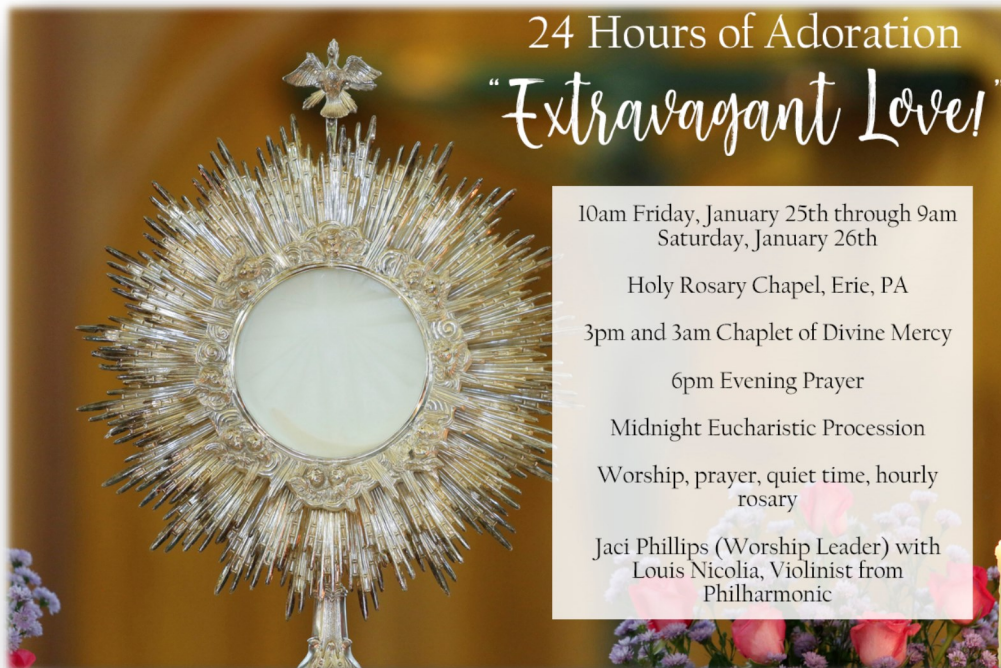
I do get lots of benefits. I get to breathe the breath of life during breaks. I get to have glimpses of the sun rise and of sunsets. I can take in the awe of a flower, butterfly, newborn baby and so much more. Oh, do I get paid? Yes. I am constantly *filled* with joy from the Holy Spirit. I haven't reached retirement age, but I know my Boss has a good plan in place.

The way I understand it, when my job is finished, there is an awesome 'retirement home.' I think it is called Heaven. It sounds wonderful. So I keep working away, taking care of all of those He has assigned to me and put in my path. I trust my wonderful Boss.

Oh, by the way, God is *always* looking for a few good people to work for him. He has many tailored positions to fill. Just pray to Him and listen for His call. He knows you are qualified and He is the best employer. You won't be sorry.



*Exposition at 10am Friday  
Benediction at 9am Saturday*



24 Hours of Adoration  
*"Extravagant Love!"*

10am Friday, January 25th through 9am Saturday, January 26th  
Holy Rosary Chapel, Erie, PA  
3pm and 3am Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
6pm Evening Prayer  
Midnight Eucharistic Procession  
Worship, prayer, quiet time, hourly rosary  
Jaci Phillips (Worship Leader) with Louis Nicolai, Violinist from Philharmonic

*Worship with Violin: 11pm Friday*

*WE COME before the Lord to offer HIM our 'extravagant love' in response to HIS 'extravagant love.' We have expectant faith as we bring our hearts before our all-loving, all-powerful, Living God! We introduce a special version of the 'Mystical' mysteries of the rosary, focusing on 4 important miracles of Jesus and His promise. Come for a visit or spend the whole 24 hours with our Lord.*



## By The Word of Their Testimony

*"But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death."  
(Revelation 12:11)*



## WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH STORMS By Kathy Wilcox

I was sharing a prophecy from the board meeting with a team member of our 'Beloved Daughters Prayer Group' as we walked through the prison yard to share our Christmas presentation. I said, "Our Lord told us that this next year, we have to learn to totally trust Him, get out of the nice safe boat, and 'walk on water.'"

We signed into the building and went into the chapel. The cd player we were promised, which was a necessary tool for our program was not there. We are not allowed to bring one in, and we were assured that it would be there. Our worship leader asked the security guard about it, and he said that 'there was the only one available and that the Hanukkah group was meeting at the same time and needed it.'

Our entire program was dependent on the songs on the cd. We immediately started to pray with Loretta (our worship leader) who was close to tears. The prophecy came back to me. So I said out loud, "Jesus wants us to trust

Him. He wants us to 'walk on water.' He will take care of it." One of our regular inmate attendees, Jeanette, confirmed that she was given the same word recently and joined with us in a prayer of agreement. Then she went and spoke to one of the guards as we continued to pray. Within minutes, the guard walked into the room with, not one, but TWO cd players because he wasn't sure which one would work!

Our program was truly anointed. The Holy Spirit came so powerfully upon the whole group that we were all in tears. At the end we had a few minutes left, so we asked if anyone wanted to share. One woman shared that she came from Muncy (a woman's prison near Philadelphia) and was Muslim, but she was converted to Christianity at the prison we were visiting. She was going back to Muncy in few days and was anxious to evangelize and share her conversion story there, so we prayed for an anointing to be upon her in order to evangelize. As we prayed, a team

member saw a white dove hovering over her head!

This same woman also shared that, "If anyone had ever told me that I would accept Jesus, I wouldn't have believed them! I used to just watch those Christians who passed by me and smiled warmly, but I never thought that I would *become* a Christian." Praise be to God!

It never ceases to amaze me when I hear from a newly converted Christian that it has truly changed them on the inside in a way that cannot be fully explained. You have to experience it. It was easy to see the change in her because she was just glowing!

As they were leaving, Jeanette said, "you have no idea what a miracle Jesus worked tonight in this place; for that guard to walk in with two cd players, that just should not have happened." And she said, "make sure you tell your church community what happened here tonight."

So I am telling all of you:  
**WHEN YOU TRUST JESUS,  
HE PERFORMS MIRACLES!!!  
YOU WALK ON WATER!!**



## PROPHECY REPORT

11/16/18 WOL Board Prayer meeting:

TA: My children, I do call you deeper. I call you deeper. I will lead you. I call you to grow your faith in Me. I am about *challenging* you. I will have My way in you. Bring the Holy Spirit to My people.

Jaci: In this New Year, the Holy Spirit is inviting us to step out of the boat and walk on the water. Trust Him to take us to new things. He is waiting for His people to say "Yes, Lord." He is waiting for His people to step out of the boat and walk on water. We say "Yes, Lord!"

# Happy New Year!

## Estate Donations

Bequest in the amount of \$1,000  
from the Estate of Richard Zimmerman

## Memorial Donations

### MADE BY:

Darlene Wilkinson  
Paul DeMarco

### IN MEMORY OF:

Donald and Jeannine Miller  
His mother, Margaret DeMarco

**Word of Life is completely dependent upon your donations**  
to spread the fire of the Holy Spirit in the Diocese of Erie.  
Your donation, no matter how much, makes a big difference!

### Contributions can be made by check made payable to:

Word of Life  
Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center  
St. Mark Catholic Center  
429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, Pa. 16514

### Contributions can be made via text

Text the word "give to our dedicated giving number, (570) 536-9187  
You will receive a link to provide information and be set to use text to give.  
See November 2018 Newsletter for complete details

### Contributions can be made through the Tithe.ly app on your phone.

Apps for Tithe.ly are available for both iPhones and Android Phones  
In the app store search for "tithe.ly" Choose the app with the green colored  
logo and install it. Open the app and select "create account", fill in  
Required fields. In 'find a church' search for "Word of Life Catholic" and  
select Word of Life Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center

**Contributions can be made on our website**  
<https://www.eriecd.org/wordoflife/donate.html>  
Click on the green "give" button

**It's that easy! Donate today!**



### † SUNDAY

#### Shalom in Jesus Prayer Group

In home, DuBois, PA 6:30 PM  
Rick Kenawell (814) 771-7932

#### Acts II Community

St. Julia Church, Erie, PA 6:30 PM  
West Lake Rd. & Powell Ave. (814) 838-1325  
Jack Heintzel

### † MONDAY

#### Disciples of the Holy Spirit

St. Mary's Church Annex 6:00 PM  
139 Church St., St. Marys, PA (814) 781-3904  
Mary Ellen Frank

#### St. Andrew Chapel

#### (formerly Leopold Center group)

Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Rosary 3:15 pm (before Mass)  
1116 West 7th St., Erie PA (814) 866-5678  
Mary Lou Peterson

#### River of Life PG

St. Bridget Ch., Rm. 4, Meadville, PA 7:00 PM  
2nd & 4th Monday evenings (814) 724-6104  
Amy Mosbacher

### † TUESDAY

#### Son of God Prayer Group

Holy Rosary Church 7:00 PM  
2701 East Ave, Erie PA (814) 823-3968  
Pat Montefiori

#### St Stephen's

Social Center 12:30 – 2:00 PM  
21 State St, Oil City PA (includes Adoration in Church)  
Rosalie Bablak or 6:30 - 7:30pm  
(814) 671-7993

### † FRIDAY

#### Light of the World Community

In Home Prayer Meeting 1:00 PM  
Call for location (814) 833-9717  
T.A. Walkiewicz

### † SATURDAY

#### God's Holy Love

11 Russell St., Warren, PA 10:30 AM  
Virginia Baker (781) 217-1683

### † CALL FOR DETAILS

#### Promises Of God

St. Mary's Church - Crown, PA  
Denise Varo (814) 744-8199

We are simply God's servants; his co-workers. Each of us does the work that the Lord gives us to do (1 Corinthians 3:5-6). It is God Himself who has made us what we are and gives us new lives in Christ. Long ago God planned that we should spend these lives helping others. We were created to serve God, and we were placed on this planet with a special assignment.

We serve out of joy and deep gratitude for what He's done for us. Service is a pathway to real significance. Service is not optional. Ephesians 2:10 says: *"We are truly his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to lead the life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance."*

We were shaped to serve God. Each of us was uniquely designed to do certain things. In 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 we read about the spiritual gifts, the charisms, given for the benefit of others. A Life in the Spirit Seminar helps us to "unpack" the nine charisms of the Holy spirit: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, interpretation of tongues. When God gives us an assignment, he always equips us with what we need to accomplish it. How do you know when you are serving God from your heart?

### When you have enthusiasm!

What do you feel really passionately about? This passion can be used for God's glory. When you are doing what you love to do, no one has to motivate you, challenge you, or check up on you. You have a gift for doing it.

### When you have effectiveness!

Whenever you do what God wired you to love to do, you get good at it, but there must be discernment because we can also become good at doing things that were never in God's plan. When we see ourselves passionately serving others and loving it, it is likely part of God's plan for us. We have natural God-given talents that we were born with. What we are able to do, God wants us to do.

When we serve in a way consistent with the personality God has given us, we experience fulfillment, satisfaction, and fruitfulness. God deserves our very best. He wants us to focus on the talents He has given us. Can we use our gifts, abilities, and personalities and use them to serve the people He has given us: family, church, community? As we keep developing our gifts, these are be enlarged through practice.

We serve God by serving others. So pray for a genuine servant's heart which will enable you to make yourself available to meet the needs of others with real dedication, faithfulness, and commitment.

### FIVE SIGNS OF A GENUINE SERVANT:

- \* SERVANTS think more about others than themselves.
- \* SERVANTS think like stewards, not owners
- \* SERVANTS think about their work, not what others are doing.
- \* SERVANTS base their identity in Christ.
- \* SERVANTS think of ministry as an opportunity, not an obligation.

"If we pray, we will believe;  
If we believe, we will love;  
If we love, we will serve."

Mother Theresa of Calcutta

Holy Father, look upon this humanity of ours that is taking its first steps along the path of the Third Millennium. Its life is still deeply marked by hatred, violence, and oppression, but the thirst for justice, truth, and grace still finds a space in the hearts of many people, who are waiting for someone to bring salvation enacted by You through Your Son Jesus. There is need for courageous heralds of the Gospel, for generous servants of suffering humanity. Send holy priests to Your Church, we pray, who may sanctify Your people with the tools of Your grace. Send numerous consecrated men and women, that they may show Your holiness in the midst of the world. Send holy laborers into Your vineyard, that they may labor with the fervor of charity and, moved by Your Holy Spirit, may bring the salvation of Christ to the farthest ends of the Earth. Amen. May the Lord of the harvest provide many holy priestly and religious vocations for His Church!

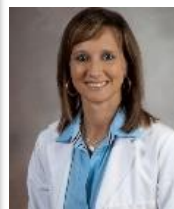
—John Paul II—



Lord,  
Hear Our  
Prayer



Speaker: Jacqueline Phillips-Sabol PhD



Jaci has been a worship leader, prayer group leader, and dynamic speaker in the charismatic renewal for over 20 years. Dr. Phillips is a neuropsychologist, trained to diagnose brain disorders and is the former director of the Neurocognitive Disorders Center at the University of Texas at Houston.



Worship led by Jaci Phillips, Brianna Erdman, & friends with special guest violinist for the Erie Philharmonic, Louis Nicolia

*Moses wanted to 'see' the glory of the Lord.*

This was a plea of a man to be able to stand in the glory of the presence of the One he

loved. His plea was a yearning that was born out of intimacy (*"I am pleased with you and know you by name"* Ex 33:17). Just as God desired relationship with Moses, He desires intimacy with us. Let us seek Him and desire to know Him more deeply. Draw deeper into the arms of the Living God. Come as Moses did, seeking more of the Living God with all of his heart.

*We cry out with Moses:*

*"Show us Your glory, Lord!"*

Online registration link! <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/427143>

**Registration form for Word of Life Event: "SHOW ME YOUR GLORY!" ANNUAL 'GREATER THINGS' CONFERENCE**

**Name (Print):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please send registration form and enclosed event fee to the Word of Life Office (make check payable to **Word of Life Center**):

Word of Life Charismatic Renewal Center  
St. Mark Catholic Center  
429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16514

**\*If registration fee is a hardship or for questions, please contact TA Walkiewicz at: (814) 833- 9717 or [wolccrc@eriercd.org](mailto:wolccrc@eriercd.org)**

(previously scheduled for October 2018, but postponed due to circumstances beyond our control)



## AVOIDING WORLDLINESS By Michael Brown

We often hear the term "worldliness." In the Bible, Jesus warns of this a number of times. So did His disciples. Take the reading used at Mass: "Do you not know that to be a lover of the world means enmity with God? Therefore, whoever wants to be a lover of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (*James* 4:1-10). That's stark language.

What *is* worldliness? It's earthy; it's being more concerned with worldly affairs than spiritual ones. It's being focused on scandal. It's being judgmental. Or argumentative. It's looking at the surface of religion instead of its roots. It's focusing on the physical, instead of the supernatural. It's making idols out of things and creatures and pleasures of this planet.

When someone loses property or a friend, and this becomes an obsession -- a constant mourning, when we are what some call *atrabillious* -- then there is a lack of balance tilted toward the worldly. To mourn over physical things or a person in an unusually prolonged way and even become angry about it is an indication of spiritual immaturity. All worldliness indicates this.

That doesn't mean we don't pay attention to what's going on around us. Let's face it: especially these days, what's happening in the news carries spiritual implications -- often grave ones. They are "signs of the times." We must be cognizant of such events. But we must not be not consumed or discouraged by them. We should not have them as our focus -- nor worldly music and entertainments (and food). Be of the world, said Jesus, but not part of it. Often, we find ourselves under attack from the enemy because we are treading on his territory -- partaking of it.

When we are "of the world," we are of the earth; we are caterpillars

instead of butterflies; we are religious without being spiritual. "And do not be conformed to this world," states *Romans* 12:2, "but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Being worldly is "double-mindedness."

Remember that we are in a war between spirit and flesh and what grows is what you feed within yourself.

*James* 4:4 tells us starkly that "friendship with the world is hatred toward God." He goes on to say -- even tougher -- that "anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God." That doesn't mean running off to a Catholic commune. It means testifying to the world by the way you believe and act. Real men are: humble.

We must really *think* Jesus all the time, through the day, in all episodes and junctions of life. One does not simply tend to be religious -- sit in a church once a week -- and become spiritual any more than one who is in a garage automatically becomes a mechanic. We must have a commitment to *eternity*. It should constantly be on our minds.

Be of the world, to repeat, but not part of it. Can this cause "problems"?

Well, it makes many situations in life awkward, and those sensing your unworldliness will often resist, shun, or even antagonize you. Butterflies have predators. But one must hold the ground of the risen Lord, for worldliness is the exact opposite of holiness and true wisdom derives not from human philosophy but the Wisdom of God. Butterflies and birds -- large and small, delicate and tough -- fly above circumstances; they are new creatures, as it says in *2 Corinthians* 5:17 ("Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away;

behold, all things are become new.") They have been through the crawling caterpillar stage and now transcend it -- have shed the cloak of the earth. They can see ultraviolet light: their perception is now beyond what it was.

Narrow worldly visions -- blindness - - as well as extended sorrow stem from self-love, self-pity, obsession with the faults of others, and a lack of Godly knowledge.

The Lord loves those *in* the world but wants them in His Kingdom, not the kingdoms of this earth, which tempt us every waking moment and *attempt* to keep us attached to the mud and scandal of this planet instead of the Light radiating from God.

Source: <https://www.spiritdaily.com/worldinessarchive.htm>

### A New Year's Prayer

May God make your year  
a happy one!  
Not by shielding you  
from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it,  
as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy  
to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you  
unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright,  
even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life  
always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people  
and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious  
to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to  
you for the year ahead.

Anonymous

# Word Of Life

Catholic Charismatic  
Renewal Center

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Erie, PA 16514



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Permit No. 285

# Reflections

## on 'The Greater Things'

January 2019

### Reflections is published monthly by:

Word of Life Catholic  
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The office is generally open limited hours.  
Please call before coming.

The purpose of this newsletter is to proclaim  
the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to provide  
teaching, news and calendar of events, which  
help to foster Catholic Charismatic Renewal  
throughout the Diocese of Erie.

**This newsletter may be copied to put in  
churches or shared with others.**

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