

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, Pennsylvania 16421
www.ourladyofmercychurch.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening: 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 am

Weekdays: 8:30 am

Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm, Feast 8:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30 pm

*We are a Eucharistic,
Catholic Christian*

*Community of communities
formed by the Word of God and
the teachings of the Church.*

*We are empowered by the Holy Spirit
to live the values of Jesus Christ
in a prayerful, welcoming,
and nurturing environment.*

Rectory Office: 899-5342
Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 899-6132
Sperry Hall: 898-3306
Pastor Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie
Pastoral Minister..... Donna Clark
Director of Office of Lifelong Faith Formation ...Irene Lucas
Coordinator of Music..... Mary Rose Romeo, S.S.J.
Permanent Deacon..... John Brophy
Parish Secretary Sr. Theresa Zoky, OSB
Youth Minister..... Geri Hadlock

The Week Ahead

Monday	05/21	7:00pm	Grief Support Group
Tuesday	05/22	2:00pm	Prayer Shawl
		7:00pm	Taize Prayer
Thursday	05/24	6:00pm	Prayer Shawl
Saturday	05/26	9:00am	Legion of Mary
Sunday	05/27	PENTECOST	

Pray For

Prayers are requested for **John Torrelli**, husband of Toni Torrelli and son-in-law of Anna Mae Passerotti. Please keep them, their family and friends in your prayers.

Prayer Line: Call Donna Smicker - 899-9108 - 9am-4pm
Kathy Lacy - 899-1746 - 4pm-9pm

The **Hospital Visitor** for this week is Fred Kerner.



Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, calls up the image of wind that rushes, flames that leap, and disciples inspired to go out from the upper room fearlessly.

Scripture tells us that this is the moment that gave birth to the Church. Therefore, *Pentecost is our Birthday.* As part of the Universal Church, the Community of Our Lady of Mercy will celebrate being Church. To acknowledge our oneness in the Spirit all parishioners are asked to wear red

NEXT SUNDAY, the Feast of Pentecost.

THANK YOU THANK YOU

The family of Cecelia Wolbert would like to express our deep gratitude to the members of the Funeral Dinner Ministry for their hospitality and the wonderful meal they prepared for us. We would also like to thank the Parish Community of Our Lady of Mercy for the support we received during Cecelia's illness.

John Wolbert

GRATEFULLY

Thank you to all who helped with the **Tajci** concert last Wednesday. The feedback from the other churches is that we present as a very hospitable community. Keep the Spirit of hospitality alive and well. With my sincere gratitude, Donna.

Mass Intentions

Mon.	05/21	8:30am	Patrick Chandley- Merle & Phoebe Wood
Tues.	05/22	8:30 am	
Wed.	05/23	8:30 am	Mary Ann Lapinsky- Dorothy & Walter Rydelski
Thurs.	05/24	8:30 am	
Fri.	05/25	8:30 am	
Sat.	05/26	8:30 am	Dorothy Fedak- Counasse & Moks Families
		6:00 pm	Francis & Marie Ritchie
Sun.	05/27	8:30 am	Msgr. Sperry-Dennis & Jean Hollarn
		11:00 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

Religious Education

Ink Jet Fundraiser: Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Your donation of used printer cartridges helps to support our ministry to the children of the parish. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER MEETING

after all Masses the weekend of June 2 & 3. This brief meeting is needed to review some logistical issues and to introduce the new ministers. If you are on the list as a sub please attend this meeting.

FRIDAY PLAY GROUP

Parents interested in meeting other young families are invited to attend a regular play group at 10:15 am on Fridays. (Give or take 10 minutes; you know how it is when dealing with small children.) Meet in the Our Lady of Mercy nursery. As the group gets established they will look at options to meet in different places. For more information contact Donna Clark at 899-5342.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

On Monday, May 21 at 7pm the Companions in Grief Ministry hosts its monthly support session. These sessions are open to anyone, parishioner or non-parishioners. Invite someone who could use a little support. Meetings are schedule for the third Monday each month. Each session includes prayer, sharing on a topic specific to the grief journey and a closing ritual. Most of the healing of those grieving takes place as people minister to one another by sharing their experiences.

TAIZE PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

Filled with Pentecost joy, we will gather for praise, quiet, Scripture and music on **Tues., May 22 at 7:00 in Mary's Chapel.** Come and pray with us!

BOOK GROUP

All are invited to the monthly Book Group on June 20 for great conversation, wonderful friends and a glass of wine at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd. We love new members, so don't be shy. Our June title is **Bel Canto by Ann Patchett.**

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Do you know someone who has an interest in joining the Catholic family? Would you like to be Baptized or come to the Eucharist for the first time? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is an awesome journey of faith that helps adults determine if full membership in the Catholic Church is right for them. Invite a friend to be part of our community. For more information about this process, contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132. We are beginning to form a new group now.

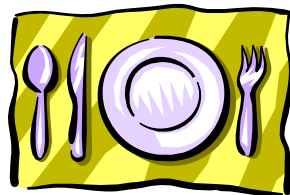
FAMILY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Our annual Family Pancake Breakfast will be held on **Sunday, June 3 at 9:30am.** This is an opportunity for the entire parish family to share a meal together. Please help us plan by calling in your reservations by **Friday, May 25.** Because we are all gathered as a family, we would like to take this opportunity to honor all of our high school and college grads. **If you are graduating from a high school or post secondary program, please be our guest.** Let us know that you will join us by calling the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation at 899-6132 or emailing ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



FAMILY PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Sunday, June 3
9:30-10:30

FOR THE WHOLE PARISH FAMILY
DONATION
\$1.00 per person



Please RSVP by May 25



GRADS FREE



2012 YOUTH GROUP CHALLENGE

provide youth groups of any age and kind a means by which they can work together creatively to help the Erie City Mission during a time of the year that we could use it most. **ADDED BONUS:** Offer youth and leaders the opportunity to unite, fellowship and celebrate their accomplishments at a fun culminating event.

June 1-July 1, 2012 to accomplish the **HEAVIEST** collection. Youth Group Celebration Night for ALL participating youth will take place at the Erie Seawolves game on Thursday, July 26th.

Collections may include any item from our food and personal care item list—this list can be found on our website at www.eriecitymission.org. **HOWEVER, collection items with specific weight values include:**

ITEM	WEIGHT VALUE
Toilet Paper	5 lbs./roll
Paper Towels	5 lbs./roll
Napkins	5 lbs./package
Facial Tissues	5 lbs./box
Feminine Hygiene Products	5 lbs./full size box or package
Baby Diapers	25 lbs./full size packages
Baby Wipes	5 lbs./container or package
Jar of Baby Food	3 lbs./jar
Box of Baby Cereal	10 lbs./box
Cereal	10 lbs./medium or large box
Macaroni and Cheese	5 lbs./box
Spaghetti	5 lbs./1lb. box
Can of Soup (Any Flavor)	5 lbs./can
Monetary Donations	5 lbs./\$1.00 (\$100.00=500lbs)

Our Lady of Mercy and St. Mark’s are requesting that you can donate any of these items at any time but have specific items we want to focus on each weekend.

June 2-3 Toilet Paper or Macaroni and Cheese

June 9-10 Diapers or Baby Wipes

June 16-17 Cereal or Soup

June 23-24 Feminine products or Spaghetti

June 30- July 1 Paper Towels or Baby Cereal

Please leave all donations in totes in gathering space marked ECMYC.

THANK YOU!

LIVING THE WORD

JOHN 17:11B-19

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one. When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me, and I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you. I speak this in the world so that they may share my joy completely. I gave them your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

All of us have friends. Some are mere acquaintances, people whom we casually know through work or the neighborhood, with whom we get along and can have fun at the company picnic or local block party. Then there is that closer circle of friends: people we may invite to a party, or folks with whom we golf or get together with for some other activity. Finally, there are our closest friends, the two or three individuals in whom we confide almost everything about our lives. If you are on Facebook, you may have a hundred of the first kind. Some of those you may barely know because they are really friends of friends. On the other hand, your closest friends may not be friends on your Facebook account at all.

In the Gospel today, Jesus prays for his disciples at the Last Supper. He had just washed their feet and had finished speaking to them about the fellowship that was theirs through the gift of the Holy Spirit. He spoke about his disciples not as servants, but as his friends. And now he prays for them. In his prayer, Jesus asks his Father in heaven to protect his followers, to guard them and to keep them safe. Jesus prays that they may be united as one, just as the Father and he are one. At the Last Supper, this prayer of Jesus is a moment of deep and abiding intimacy with his disciples, bringing them to the Father in prayer.

The prayer of Jesus for his friends raises the issue of our own experience of friendship. In what ways do we value the friendship and intimacy of those who are close to us? God has placed these individuals in our lives and has given us the opportunity to enjoy some deep relationships. This might be the time to give thanks to God for friendship, and to pray for those who are our friends.

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"Whatever will come my way, whether good or bad, may I accept it calmly, and always give thanks to God, who has ever shown me how I should believe in God, unfailing and without end."

St. Patrick

Weekly Readings

Monday	05/21	Acts 19:1-8/John 16:29-33
Tuesday	05/22	Acts 20:17-27/John 17:1-11a
Wednesday	05/23	Acts 20:28-38/John 17:11b-19
Thursday	05/24	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/John 17:20-26
Friday	05/25	Acts 25:13b-21/John 21:15-19
Saturday	05/26	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/John 21:20-25
Sunday	05/27	Acts 2:1-11/1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Galatians 5:16-25/John 20:19-23 or John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

WALK FOR ELLA COCHRAN FOOD PANTRY

Enjoy Presque Isle State Park and walk to help the Food Pantry at the same time. Highmark Walk For A Healthy Community is scheduled, rain or shine, for **Saturday, June 9**. Registration at the park starts at 7:45am. The 5K will begin at 9am and the One-Mile Fun Walk begins at 9:15am. To register at: www.walkforahealthycommunity.org. More information 866-620-walk (9255) or wfhacerie@highmark.com.

CHILD-PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Instruct your children to never give out personal information online. This includes their address, telephone number, the name or location of their school, or their parents' names. They also need to be careful of any photos they might post. A simple picture of your daughter in a cheerleading uniform, standing in front of your house, could provide enough information for a stranger to physically locate her. Online predators have ways to innocently ask simple questions over a period of time that gives them enough information to know who children are and where they live. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to keep children and youth safe, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/procteyouth.htm>

CHICKEN DINNER

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Erie, in cooperation with St. Martin Center's Catering on Parade, will hold its annual (and only) chicken dinner fundraiser on Saturday, June 2 from 12-5 p.m. The new location for the dinner will be Holy Rosary Parish's Hastings Hall, 1028 E. 28th St. in Erie. The dinner includes baked or roasted chicken, scalloped potatoes, green beans almondine, cole slaw, dessert and beverages. Take-outs are available. Tickets are available at the door only: \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Theme baskets will also be raffled.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Second Harvest Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help glean crops when the farmers are done harvesting. Gleaning opportunities extend throughout the summer and fall. To get on the list to help pick, just call Second Harvest with your name and phone number and we will call you when the opportunities arise. If a group is interested please make that known. Thank you! Thank you! Please contact Mariana Skonieczka 459-3663 ext 109.

ERIE COUNTY FOSTER CARE

Learn more about becoming a foster parent Thurs., May 31 at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 3 State St. from 6-8pm. There will be a PowerPoint presentation at 6:30pm. RSVP by calling 451-6627 or jwilson@eriecountydhs.org.

Family Perspectives - Jesus was worried about his disciples and he turned to prayer. No matter how much time we spent trying to "guard and protect" our children, each day they become less dependent on us and we must let go and let God. Prayer and parenting go together.

Weekly Collection

For the weekend of: May 13, 2012

Envelopes sent:	565
Envelopes used:	187
Amount in envelopes:	\$5,798.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$6,010

\$5,900 is needed weekly to meet Regular Operating Expenses. This does not include CSA or Mortgage Payment.