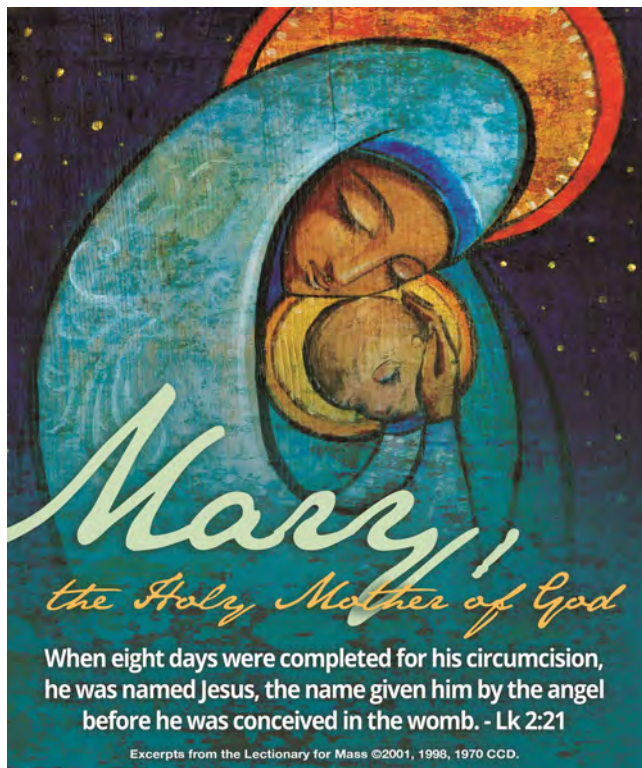


OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

JANUARY 1, 2017—SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Weekdays & Saturdays: 8:30 a.m.
Holy Days: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Parish 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 Lifelong Faith Formation..... Irene Lucas
Director of Liturgy and Music..... Brandon Vogt
Administrative Assistant..... Marsha MacKinnon McKinley
Youth Minister..... Geri Hadlock

The Week Ahead

Monday.....01/02	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
Tuesday.....01/03	2:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Pastoral Council Meeting
	8:00 pm	AA
Wednesday...01/04		
Thursday.....01/05	9:00 am	Painting Class
	2:30 pm	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	6:30 pm	Mardi Gras Planning Mtg
	6:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	K of C
Friday.....01/06	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
Saturday.....01/07	10:00 am	AA
	4:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
Sunday.....01/08		Epiphany
	9:30 am	Rel Ed K-2
	11:00 am	CLW
	12:00 pm	Cub Scouts
	12:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8
	3:00 pm	Epiphany Concert

Liturgies & Events: Season of Christmas

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 8 at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

2nd Annual Epiphany Concert

Sunday, January 8 at 3:00 p.m.

Join the entire Music Ministry, - adult and children's choirs and instrumentalists—to joyfully sing and celebrate the sounds of the season one last time! A reception to conclude the Christmas season will follow.

Religious Education

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Dec. 20 was Seamus Marshall, grade 4, who knew that the Angel Gabriel was sent by God to tell Mary that she would be the mother of God's Son.

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.*



Please Pray for:

Andrew E Eastbourn cousin of Barb Schlosser.



Prayer Line:

Call Donna Smicker at 899-9108 (9 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

OR Gerri Extein at 899-6875 (4 p.m. -9 p.m.)

The **Hospital Visitors** this week are Linda & Tom Bleil.

Mass Intentions

Mon. 01/02	8:30 am	Robert Liebel
Tues. 01/03	8:30 am	Stephen Lion
Wed. 01/04	8:30 am	Irene Lubecki
Thu. 01/05	8:30 am	
Fri. 01/06	8:30 am	Frank Antelak
Sat. 01/07	8:30 am	Pauline Madigan
	6:00 pm	Florence Reske—Family
Sun. 01/08	8:30 am	Francis Ritchie
	11:00 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Gather with us on Sunday, Jan. 15 from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for another in our Sunday Morning CAFÉ series. Joe Yochim will present "Building a Domestic Church: Raising Faithful Children in a Secular World." We want our children and grandchildren to grow into adults solid in their faith, confident in God's love, and committed to the Church. But, we struggle to nurture those seeds in a secular world that counters so much of our efforts. Joe Yochim, a father of 7 ranging in age from 10 years to 6 months and preparing for ordination to the permanent diaconate in May, will give us the tools to build our homes into a domestic church and to foster the faith life of our children and grandchildren.

Ministry Sign-Ups

This week you will receive an OLM ministry book in the mail. Take some time in prayer and discernment to see how God is calling you to share your gifts. It is our hope that each member of the parish be involved in one ministry. For help or for questions about ministry sign up please contact Donna Clark in the parish office. Return forms Jan. 14/15 during annual ministry sign-up.

DIVORCED?

The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide (CDSG) 12-week group begins on **Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.** at St. Luke School Library in Erie. Cost of \$15 per person includes "Personal Survival Guide" and all materials. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic teachings. Call St. Luke at 825-6920, the Family Life Office at 824-1250, email familylife@eriercd.org, or visit www.eriercd.org/cdsg.htm for more information.

Reflections: Luke 2:16-21



God's reign has arrived in the person of Jesus. It is truly a new year, a new era, the beginning of our salvation. All of history and time is suspended as the Son of God comes to dwell among us. Because Mary was chosen to bring God's Son to the world, the divine light shines on all, and the age-old promise is fulfilled: "He will save his people from their sins." Since Mary was obedient to the word of God, we are adopted sons and daughters, children of God united in baptism. God's word is formed in each one of us. Together we cry out with Jesus, "Abba!" "Father!"

As Mary's spiritual children, we join in her mission to bring forth the one who saves us. Like Mary, we ponder all that we have seen and heard. We treasure God's word in our hearts and raise our voices in thanksgiving and praise. With her, we are "Christ-bearers" to the world.

For Reflection: Pray the blessing of Aaron for each member of your family: "The LORD bless you and keep you, the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace." (Nm 6:24-26 NRSV)

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Update on the Freezer Fund: We have been receiving money consistently for the freezer fund from a variety of sources. In the last week alone we made a freezer fund deposit of \$4,250 – \$1,020 of which was in memory of Lewis Peters. Total donations to date are \$15,195.00 Total needed \$24,000. Weather has been uncooperative which has caused a delay in getting the freezer operational. We hope to have it up and running by January.



We have 3 chest freezers and one upright freezer to find new owners for. Contact Donna Clark if you would like a freezer in exchange for a donation to the freezer fund.

Meditation: There are three different times to connect to a meditation session. Each Monday at 11:00 a.m., except January 2 (Centering Prayer), Thursdays at 2:30 p.m. (Guided Meditation) and the second Thursday of the month, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. (Centering Prayer). All Meditation sessions are in Mary's Chapel. For more information contact Donna Clark.

Soup Supper Coordinator Needed: Interested, intrigued? Contact Donna Clark for more info. Basically the job is to coordinate all the people who sign up to help.

Volunteer Needed: After many years running our Birthday Card ministry, Kim Novosel is moving on to other activities. We need someone willing to send out parish birthday cards. This is a perfect ministry for someone who wants to serve from home.

Mardi Gras: Our parish Mardi Gras/Chili Cook Off will be held on Sunday, Feb. 26. **We need some new volunteers to coordinate various activities this year.** In particular, we are looking for someone to coordinate the Children's Game Area. If you are willing and able to help make this Mardi Gras a success, please contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org. **Plan to attend an organizational meeting on Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish library.** We also need donations of **NEW** items for our Chinese Auction. If you receive any unwanted gifts this Christmas, please consider donating them to our Mardi Gras. Donations for the Chinese Auction can be brought to the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation.



OLM Book Group: Join us on **Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Irene, 1019 Bartlett Rd. to discuss **Fingersmith** by Sarah Waters. Winter is the perfect season to cuddle up with a great book before the fire or in PJs under the covers. And a book group with great ladies is a perfect excuse to get out of the house on these cold, dark winter nights. Want to read ahead? Our February book will be **The Boston Girl** by Anita Diamant.

People for Life's Annual Pro-Life Breakfast will be held on January 14 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center. The main speakers is Ruth Graham, daughter of Evangelist Billy Graham. For more information or to pay by credit card, call (814) 882-1333 or go online to www.peopleforlife.life/january2017.

Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed on **January 4 at 9:00 a.m. to stuff the ministry booklets for mailing.** Please contact Marsha to confirm your participation. Thank you!

For Mercy Sake Newsletter Deadline: Items for the **February issue of the parish newsletter must be submitted no later than January 22.** Newsletter articles can be emailed to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or brought to the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation.

Looking for a way to Simplify? Try electronic giving through Faith Direct. Visit our parish website and follow the Faith Direct link. Credit Cards accepted.

Weekly Readings

Mon.. 01/02...1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
 Tue...01/03... 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Jn 1:29-34
 Wed...01/04...1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
 Thu...01/05...1 Jn 3:11-21/Jn 1:43-51
 Fri....01/06...1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11
 Sat....01/07...1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 2:1-11
 Sun...01/08...Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Weekly Collection

For the weekend of December 25, 2016

Envelopes Sent: 470
 Envelopes Returned: 158 \$5,725
 Faith Direct Deposits: 100 \$2,787.50
 Loose Change: \$1,403
 TOTAL OFFERTORY: \$9,915.50

\$7,136 is needed weekly to meet Regular Operating Expenses.
 This does not include CSA or Mortgage Payment.

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Solemnity of Mary <u>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS</u> Casserole Club Drop-Off Food Pantry Collection New Year's Day 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 11:00 AM CLW 11:00 am Baptism— Baker</p>	<p>2 Parish Office Closed 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>3 8:30 AM Mass 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting 8:00 PM AA</p>	<p>4 8:30 AM Mass</p>	<p>5 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM Mardi Gras Planning Meeting 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM K of C</p>	<p>6 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary</p>	<p>7 Epiphany of the Lord 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>MASS</u></p>
<p>8 Epiphany of the Lord <u>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS</u> Ministry Discernment 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Cub Scouts 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8 3:00 PM Epiphany Concert</p>	<p>9 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.</p>	<p>10 8:30 AM Mass 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM Sister Parish Com. Mtg. 7:00 PM Tech Com. Mtg. 8:00 PM AA</p>	<p>11 8:30 AM Mass 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting</p>	<p>12 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary</p>	<p>14 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>MASS</u></p>
<p>15 <u>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS</u> Ministry Commitment 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 9:30 AM Sunday CAFE 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8</p>	<p>16 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 4:00 PM Food Pantry Board Meeting 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Grief Support Group</p>	<p>17 8:30 AM Mass 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Core Team Mtg. 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 8:00 PM AA</p>	<p>18 8:30 AM FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP</p>	<p>19 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary</p>	<p>21 8:30 AM MASS 9:00 AM Day of Reflection (Leadership Ministries) 9:00 AM OLM Craft Day 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>MASS</u></p>
<p>22 <u>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS</u> 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8</p>	<p>23 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:00 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine</p>	<p>24 8:30 AM Mass 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA</p>	<p>25 8:30 AM Mass</p>	<p>26 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary</p>	<p>28 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>MASS</u></p>
<p>29 <u>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS</u> 9:30 AM RE Family Faith Event 11:00 AM CLW 12:15 PM Youth Event Gr 7 & 8</p>	<p>30 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>31 8:30 AM Mass 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Q & A with the Pastor 8:00 PM AA</p>	<p>1 8:30 AM Mass</p>	<p>2 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM K of C</p>	<p>3 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary</p>	<p>4 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 12:00 PM Cub Scouts - Blue & Gold Dinner 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>MASS</u></p>



January 2017



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1



Ryan Whitman-14
Hayley D'Angelo-9

2

Dylan Forsythe-5
Ellie Stauffer-6

3

4

5

6

7

Kaylee Shafer-14

8

Brodynn Smith-6
Grace Galbreath-9

9

10

11

12

13

14

McKenna Pearson-
6
Nolan Reinsel-15
Jacob Zemanek-17
Emma Whiteman-
14



15

16

17

18

19

20

21



Avery Ollinger-12
J.T. Martin-14

Kara Meyer-15

22

23

24

25

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28

Megan Hedlund-17
Aiden Reinsel-13
Cassandra Johnson-
14
Ryan Stauffer-4

Madison Rizzo-7

Jennifer Krull-18
Octavio Garnica-12
Lila Bly-8

29

Keagon Oler-10
Zachary Cassidy-18

30

31

