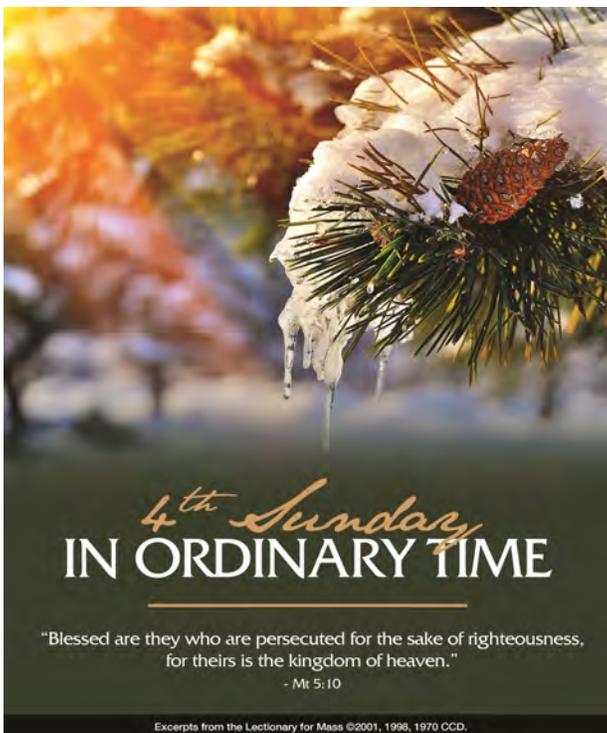


OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

JANUARY 29, 2017—FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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.....01/30	11:00 am	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
	6:30 pm	Fruit of the Vine
Tuesday.....01/31	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
Wednesday...02/01		
Thursday.....02/02	9:00 am	Painting Class
	2:30 pm	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus
Friday.....02/03	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
Saturday.....02/04	10:00 am	AA
	12:00 pm	Cub Scouts Dinner
	4:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
Sunday.....02/05		Casserole Club Drop-Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 am	Healing Ministry
	9:30 am	Rel Ed K-2
	9:45 am	1st Reconciliation Parent Mtg
	11:00 am	CLW
	12:15 pm	Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8

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 Visitor** this week is Geri Gallagher.

Mass Intentions

Mon. 01/30	8:30 am	Pearl Osiecki
Tues. 01/31	8:30 am	Marie Wenzel—Family
Wed. 02/01	8:30 am	Lewis Peters—Patricia & Leo Kosobucki
Thu. 02/02	8:30 am	Leo Brooks
Fri. 02/03	8:30 am	
Sat. 02/04	8:30 am	Jim Payne
	6:00 pm	Leslie Butcher—Mike & Denise Roth
Sun. 02/05	8:30 am	Millie Herrmann—Children
	11:00 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

Religious Education

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Jan. 17 was Isabella Tylman, grade 1, who knew that only men can celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting: There is a very important meeting for parents with children in the First Reconciliation class next **Sunday, February 5 at 9:45 a.m. in Sperry Hall.**

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.*

Question & Answer with the Pastor: Have questions? We have answers. Our next Question & Answer with Fr. Ritchie will be **Tuesday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.** Bring your questions about the Catholic faith or your friend with questions. Share a glass of wine and a light snack. (Participants are welcome to bring a snack to share.) Enjoy an opportunity to learn about your faith in a relaxed setting directed by the issues that are on your mind.

Wine Social: All are invited to a parish social **Saturday, February 11 immediately after the 6:00 p.m. Mass.** Bring a bottle of wine to share, a snack and join us in Sperry Hall for a pre-Valentine's Day celebration. Spend time with the parish community you love and meet new members of our parish family. Stay as long as you like.

Parish Alive: Feeling stressed, tired, like something is missing in your life? Want to come to know God and your parish family better? Need a mid-winter pick-me-up? Want to enter Lent with renewed energy? **Make a Parish Alive weekend 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 17 to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, February 18.** Enjoy inspiring talks, rich prayer, great food and lots of laughter. Registration forms and more details can be found on the bulletin table and on the parish website. God is never out done in generosity. Give God 24 hours and just watch what you will receive in return.

Craft Day Committee Looking for Members: If you would be interested in helping to plan our Craft Days at OLM please contact Teresa Shamburg at 897-8622 or shamtacc@roadrunner.com.

Annual Contribution Statements: Annual contribution statements are available. Please call the parish office at 899-5342 to request your statement. Faith Direct users please go to www.FaithDirect.net for a contribution statement.

NOVA is a one-day marriage preparation program for couples free to remarry in the Catholic Church. Topics include adjustments, blending families, legal issues and others. Contact the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or at familylife@erieRCD.org to register. **Offered only four times per year, the next NOVA is scheduled for Saturday, March 4th in Erie.** Couples preparing for convalidation are encouraged to apply.

*Reflections:
Matthew 5:1-12a*



“Blessed are the poor in spirit.”

Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7) could be called Jesus’ “Inaugural Address.” Jesus goes up the mountain, sits down (as rabbis did when teaching), and begins to teach his disciples who gather round. At the end of the sermon, the people will be “astonished by his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes” (7:28—29). We, too, can sit down and ponder sections of this great teaching.

Jesus begins with beatitudes—statements about the blessedness of our lives. Blessed (makarioi) can mean “fortunate” and is commonly translated as “happy.” It’s a state of being we all seek, but it doesn’t come from the things of this world: power, beauty, riches, etc. It comes from being in right relationship with God.

To be “poor in spirit” doesn’t mean that we seek poverty. In Jesus’ world, no one should live in poverty. Justice calls us to eliminate poverty! The late William Barclay in his commentary on Matthew says that one who is poor in spirit realizes that “things mean nothing...God means everything.” Happy are those who put God first in their lives. What a challenging opening statement for us to ponder!

Reflection: *What do I usually count among my blessings? Is poverty of spirit at the top of the list? How can this kind of poverty become a gift in my life?*

©Little Rock Scripture Study

Ministry Commitment: Still praying about committing to a ministry? When you are ready you can find a form on the parish web site (scrolling new events on left column) or in the parish office. Share your gifts with the community.

Natural Healing Workshop: Understand how our beliefs and behaviors affect our bodies and our health. This healing workshop on Saturday, February 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. will give us a basic understanding of chakras, energy healing and the parallels to our call to discipleship and imitation of Christ. Pre-registration requested along with a \$15 donation for materials. Contact Donna Clark. Class size limited.

Mardi Gras: Our parish Mardi Gras/Chili Cook Off will be held on Sunday, February 26. We need donations of **NEW** items for our Chinese Auction. If you received 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. Sign up sheets will appear in the Gathering Space next weekend. Get your Chili/Soup Cook-Off team together and add your name to the list. If you are not a cook, please sign up for one of the various areas that make our Mardi Gras such a success.



OLM Book Group: Join us on **Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m.** to discuss **The Boston Girl** by Anita Diamant. 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.

Ministry to the Divorced: If you are looking to start a process of healing after a divorce/separation the Family Life Office is sponsoring a 12-week program starting Wednesday, February 1st from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the library of St. Luke School, 421 E. 38th St., Erie. This ministry is for men and women who have suffered the pain of divorce or separation and are interested in support during the healing process. For more information pick up a brochure on the bulletin tables; visit www.ErieRCD.org/cdsg.htm, or call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261.

The Divine Mercy Encounter Retreat Program is inviting applications for their upcoming retreat February 10, 11, & 12. The retreat will be held at Saint Joseph Church in Erie. Anyone 16 years of age or older is welcome to apply. To find more information or to apply online, go to www.divinemercyencounter.com

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.

Winter Heating Assistance Available: The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is open for those who qualify through March 31, 2017. Many of us know family, friends, neighbors and co-workers who would benefit from this federally funded program but who many not know that they qualify. To learn more call the LIHEAP Hotline at 1-866-857-7095 or online at www.LIHEAPhelps.com.

Weekly Readings

- Mon...01/30...Heb 11:32-40/Mk 5:1-12a
- Tue....01/31...Heb 12:1-4/Mk 21-43
- Wed...02/01...Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Mk 6:1-6
- Thu....02/02...Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40
- Fri..... 02/03...Heb 13:1-8/Mk 6:14-29
- Sat.....02/04...Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Mk 6:30-34
- Sun....02/05...Is 58:7-10/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

Weekly Collection

For the weekend of January 22, 2017

Envelopes Sent:	470
Envelopes Returned:	108 \$3,811.90
Faith Direct Deposits:	100 \$2,787.50
Loose Change:	\$182.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:	\$6,781.40

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

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM RE Family Faith Event 11:00 AM CLW 12:15 PM Gr. 11 Interviews 12:15 PM Youth Event Gr 7 & 8	30 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation	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	1 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Project	2 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:00 AM painting project 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM K of C	3 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary	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 MASS
5 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club Drop-Off Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 9:45 AM First Reconciliation Parent Mtg 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	6 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator Meeting	7 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 Mtg 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting 8:00 PM AA	8 8:30 AM Mass 3:00 PM Buildings & Grounds Mtg. 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting	9 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 Centering Prayer	10 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary	11 8:30 AM MASS 9:00 AM Healing work shop 9:00 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS 7:00 PM Wine Social
12 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	13 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine (SCC)	14 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	15 8:30 AM FOOD PANTRY DI STRIBUTION 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Men's Night Out 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	16 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:00 AM St. George Tentative 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM PARI SH ALIVE	18 SCC Sign-up Weekend 9:00 AM PARI SH ALIVE 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
19 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS SCC Sign-up Weekend 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	20 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	21 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 Dance Class 7:00 PM Core Team Mtg. 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 8:00 PM AA	22 8:30 AM Mass	23 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 2:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary	25 MARDI GRAS WEEKEND 8:30 AM MASS 9:00 AM Mardi Gras Setup 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
26 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM Baptism - Juhas 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Mardi Gras	27 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine (SCC)	28 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 Dance Class 7:00 PM Tech Comm. Mtg. 8:00 PM AA	1 Ash Wednesday 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Mass	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	3 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	4 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS



February 2017



Sun

Mon

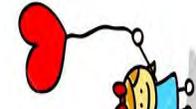
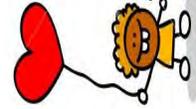
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1



2

3

Emily Gowen-18
Kathryn Lucas-14

4

5

Cassidy Hall-16

6

Hunter Martin-15

7



8

Jillian Mazzaresse-12

9

Cooper Benson-7

10

Hunter Shoop-12
Brennan Murphy-12

11

12

Jacob Rose-16

13

14



15

Abigail Bohrer-18

16

17

Eileen Rosa-17

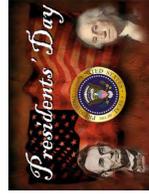
18

Patrick Gotham-15
Sydney Kistel-11

19

Jaden Rocco-13
Ziek Moreno-14

20



21

22

Michael Gabler-17

23

24

Colin Gerrans-2

25

26

Jennifer Mazzaresse-10
Blake Nguyen-7
David Gallagher-15

27

Maddie Ross-8
(29th)

28

