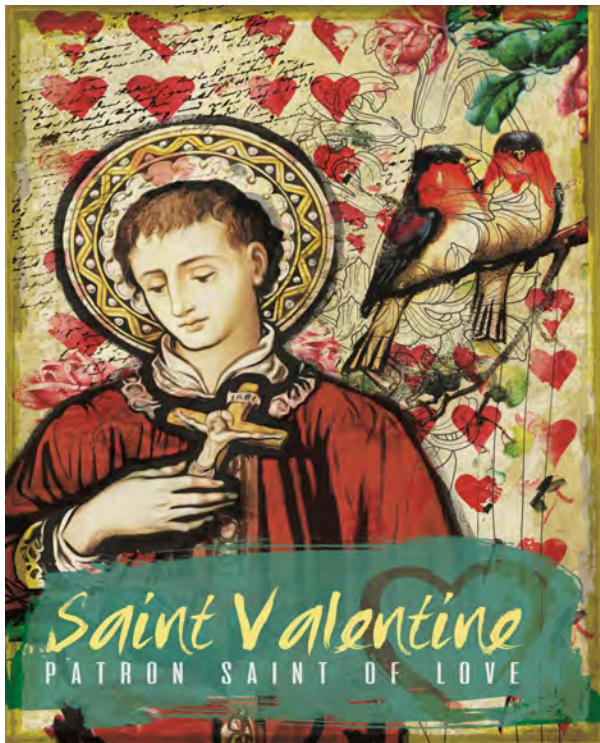


# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, Pennsylvania 16421  
[www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)

**FEBRUARY 12, 2017—SIXTH 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.....02/13	11:00 am	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
	6:30 pm	Fruit of the Vine
Tuesday.....02/14	2:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 pm	AA
Wednesday...02/15	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Food Pantry Distribution</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Men's Night Out</b>
	7:00 pm	OLM Book Group
Thursday.....02/16	9:00 am	Painting Class
	<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Meditation</b>
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday.....02/17	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Parish Alive</b>
Saturday.....02/18	<b>SCC Sign-up Weekend</b>	
	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Parish Alive</b>
	10:00 am	AA
	4:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
Sunday.....02/19	<b>SCC Sign-up Weekend</b>	
	9:30 am	Healing Ministry
	9:30 am	Rel Ed K-2
	11:00 am	CLW
	12:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8

## Pray For...

Florence Modzelewski, mother of Patty Parmenter; and  
Dennis Eisert, cousin of Tim Eisert and Roger Urmann.  
Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

## 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. 02/13	8:30 am	Dori Maille—Sue Haynes
Tues. 02/14	8:30 am	Therese Larson—Family
Wed. 02/15	8:30 am	
Thu. 02/16	8:30 am	
Fri. 02/17	8:30 am	David Ross—Linda Ross
Sat. 02/18	8:30 am	Joan Payer
	6:00 pm	Florence Reske—Family
Sun. 02/19	8:30 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy
	11:00 am	Mary Ann Spiegel—Jim Spiegel

## Religious Education

**Question-of-the-Week Winner** for the week of Jan. 31 was Maddison Ross, grade 3, who knew that we bless throats on Feb. 3, the Feast of St. Blase.

**First Reconciliation Retreat:** Reminder, there is a retreat on **Sunday, March 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** for all children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation at OLM this year.

**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.*

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults:** Are you an un-baptized adult who would like to learn more about the Christian faith? Have you been thinking about the possibility of joining the Catholic Church but need more information? Inquiry Sessions have begun for those who want to explore the Catholic Christian faith. **To learn more, contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).**

**Pastoral Council Seeking New Members:** Every spring the Pastoral Council seeks out parishioners who can help us envision the future of this community. The Pastoral Council engages in the process of pastoral planning and helps to set the direction of the parish community in prayer, leadership, service and pastoral action in consultation with the pastor and staff.

**A nominee must be a parishioner who:**

- Has been baptized or received into the Roman Catholic Church.
- Is a registered member of Our Lady of Mercy Parish.
- By his or her free and consistent choice, contributes to the betterment of the parish community.

We ask your prayerful consideration in nominating either yourself or another member of the parish community. Look for more information in March.

**Food Pantry Board Rep Needed:** The Ella Cochran Food Pantry has an ecumenical board that meets quarterly. The board members communicate with the member churches and help to organize food and supply drives and are liaisons to the community. After three years of service Teresa Shamburg is stepping down. Interested? Contact Donna Clark in the parish office.

**Men's Night Out:** Please join us for **Men's Night Out on Wednesday, February 15 at 6:00 p.m. in Sperry Hall.** We will start with pizza, wings and refreshments followed by the presentation at 7:00 p.m. The talk will be given by our very own Joe Tarquinio and men who are involved with The Maria House Project. It promises to be a very insightful look into the transformation that takes place when we "let go and let God." **Please call the parish office at 899-5342 with your reservation; you can also e-mail me at [knoble@yahoo.com](mailto:knoble@yahoo.com).** I hope to join you in celebrating success through faith! Tim Fuhrman

## Reflections

### PASTORAL PLANNING: Diocesan Parish Restructuring



Next weekend, communities of our diocese will begin a new life. Some will partner and learn to build closer bonds through teamwork and collaboration. Others will merge, one community becoming part of an existing parish community. Each will face change and loss and need our prayers. Each will be challenged. Some may experience for the first time the feeling of being a stranger or an outsider in a new community. Others will be asked to welcome the stranger in their midst.

This week, let us remember to keep in prayer all those who are facing change in their lives due to the parish restructuring in the Diocese of Erie.

#### PRAYER:

*God our refuge, our home is in you. You are greater than any temple, church, or cathedral that can be built by human hands, yet it is in these Houses of Prayer that we meet your Divine Presence. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon all the members of our diocesan family. May we be empowered to unite as one community, committed to serving the needs of our neighbors. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**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](http://www.FaithDirect.net) for a contribution statement.

**Newsletter Stuffers Needed:** Stuffers are needed to prepare our next newsletter for mailing. **Join us on Tuesday, February 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. Please confirm your participation with Marsha in the parish office. Thank you!**

**Chili/Soup Cook-Off & Mardi Gras:** It is almost here, our annual Parish Mardi Gras Party with our Chili/Soup Cook-Off on **Sunday, February 26**. Get your team together and sign up on the list at the decorated table in the Gathering Space. We need your team! We are also collecting NEW items for our Chinese Auction. **Bring donations to the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation by February 22.**



**Freezer Update:** We have now raised \$25,025 for the freezer project. Take a look out behind the garage from Sperry Hall and see the freezer with the beams in place for the roof and walls to protect it. John Madigan and his team have done some impressive work to make this dream a reality.

**OLM Book Group:** Join us on **Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Barb Schlosser, 3933 Leprechaun Lane 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. Want to read ahead? Our March title will be *A Gentleman In Moscow* by Amor Towles.

**Grief Support Group:** **Monday, February 20 at 7:00 pm.** For more information or to arrange one-on-one support, call Donna Clark in the parish office.

**Want More for your Marriage?** A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend offers couples a chance to get away from distractions and reconnect with each other and their relationship. It's a chance to make a good marriage – GREAT! You will work on ways to communicate better with each other and grow in ways you never knew possible. **The next weekend is March 24-26 in the Pittsburgh Area.** Please visit [www.yourmarriageisworthit.org](http://www.yourmarriageisworthit.org) to register or for more information.

**Divorced? Separated? Widowed?** Transitions, a monthly support group for Separated, Divorced and Widowed persons will meet on **Sunday, February 26 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd.** The program includes a short presentation, discussion, followed by refreshments. This month's topic is: "Where is God when I'm hurting?" For more information call 814 - 824-1265 or email at: [familylife@erieRCD.org](mailto:familylife@erieRCD.org). Visit us at: [www.erieRCD.org/transitions.htm](http://www.erieRCD.org/transitions.htm)

**Holy Family School Card Party:** **Sunday, February 19 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Holy Family Gym.** This event benefits the teacher's wish list for supplies. Tickets are \$6.00 and are available at the door or at the school office.

## Weekly Readings

Mon...02/13...Gn 4:1-15, 25/Mk 8:11-13

Tue...02/14...Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10/Mk 8:14-21

Wed...02/15...Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Mk 8:22-26

Thu...02/16...Gn 9:1-13/Mk 8:27-33

Fri....02/17...Gn 11:1-9/Mk 8:34—9:1

Sat....02/18...Heb 11:1-7/Mk 9:2-13

Sun...02/19...Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

## Weekly Collection

**For the weekend of February 5, 2017**

Envelopes Sent: 470  
Envelopes Returned: 134 \$4953.00  
Faith Direct Deposits: 100 \$2,787.50  
Loose Change: \$104.35  
TOTAL OFFERTORY: \$7,844.85

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





## **FOODFAST**

### **Make A Difference In Our World By:**

- Learning why hunger and poverty persist
- Living your faith in solidarity with the poor
- Challenging yourself to fast for 24 hours

### **Take Action & Join Us in Our FOOD FAST!**

**Date:** Friday, March 31– Saturday, April 1

**Time:** Friday-6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy  
Starts with Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.  
Concludes Saturday with 5:00 p.m. Liturgy at St. Mark's

**Location:** Our Lady of Mercy and St. Mark's

**Permission slips:** Will be on the parish website starting February 24 and are due March 19.

For more details contact:

Geri Hadlock at 899-3000 ext. 17 or 323-4188 or [ghadlock@stmarkslp.org](mailto:ghadlock@stmarkslp.org)

**Food Fast** is Catholic Relief Services' hunger awareness program for Catholic youth in the United States.

IT'S NOT ABOUT  
*the*  
*Bunny*  
IT'S  
ABOUT  
*the*  
*Lamb!*



**Join a Small Christian Community this Lent!**  
**Sign-Up Weekend: February 18/19**

Questions?

Call the parish office at 899-5342 or Dave Jacquel at 602-4622