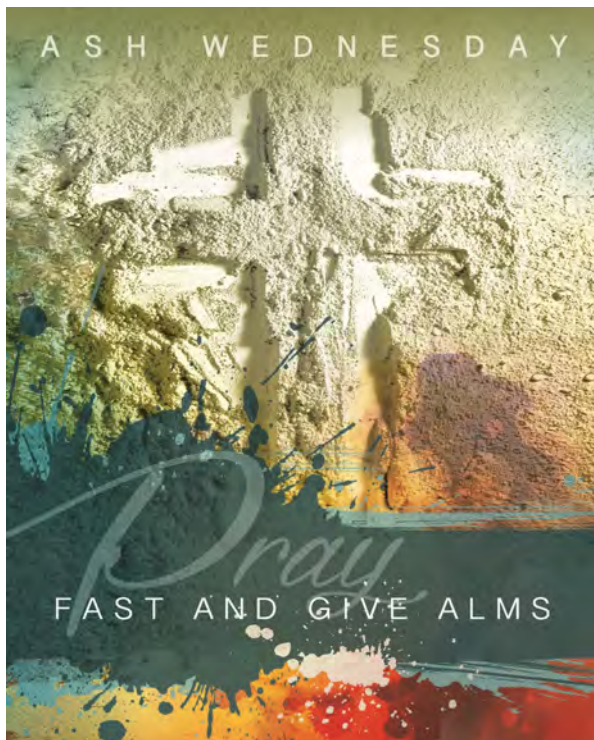


# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

**FEBRUARY 26, 2017—EIGHTH 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.....02/27	11:00 am	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
	6:30 pm	Fruit of the Vine
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Comm.
Tuesday.....02/28	2:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 pm	Kid's Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Ballroom Dance Class
	7:30 pm	AA
Wednesday...03/01	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	
	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	6:00 pm	AGIFT Mtg.
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday.....03/02	9:00 am	Painting Class
	1:30 pm	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus
	7:00 pm	Tech Comm. Mtg
Friday.....03/03	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Saturday.....03/04	10:00 am	AA
	4:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
Sunday.....03/05	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	
	<b>Casserole Club Drop-Off</b>	
	<b>Monthly Food Pantry Collection</b>	
	9:30 am	First Reconciliation Retreat
	9:30 am	Rel Ed K-2
	9:30 am	Healing Ministry
	11:00 am	CLW
	12:00 pm	Cub Scouts
	12:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8

**Pray For...** David Williams, brother of Don Williams; and Theresa Zurawski, mother of Rose Walach. 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** Visitor this week is Florence Voelker.

## Mass Intentions

Mon. 02/27	8:30 am	George Ritchie
Tues. 02/28	8:30 am	Francis Ritchie
Wed. 03/01	8:30 am	Thomas Liebel—Liebel Family
	7:00 pm	
Thu. 03/02	8:30 am	
Fri. 03/03	8:30 am	Mabel Holodnak—Dougherty Family
Sat. 03/04	8:30 am	Marge McFarland
	6:00 pm	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy
Sun. 03/05	8:30 am	Mark Rutkowski—Joanne & Craig Fournier
	11:00 am	Al Buffalari—Al Buffalari Jr.

## Religious Education

**Question-of-the-Week Winner** for the week of Feb. 14 was, Colton Catrabone, Kindergarten, who knew that the Creed is the prayer in which we profess what we believe.

**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.**

**First Reconciliation Celebration** will be **Saturday, March 11 at 1:00 p.m.** Our parish family is invited to celebrate with us. **First Reconciliation practice will be at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 10.**

**First Eucharist Parent Meeting:** There will be a very important parent meeting for families with children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist at OLM in May. **The meeting will be held on Sunday, March 12 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.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults:** Are you an unbaptized 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).

**Baptismal Preparation Session:** The next **Baptismal Preparation Session to be held at OLM will be Sunday, March 19 at 12:15 p.m.** This session is required for all parents desiring to celebrate Baptism with their child. There will not be another scheduled session at OLM until the autumn. If you are expecting to celebrate this Sacrament with your child between April and September, you may want to register for this session. To register, contact the Parish Office at 899-5342.

**Lenten Pastus Series:** Our **Lenten Pastus will begin on Wednesday, March 8 with 5:30 p.m. Eucharist, 6:15 p.m. homemade soup supper and 7:00 p.m. presentation. Our first speaker will be Fr. Michael DeMartinis** who will provide an overview of the Sermon on the Mount. These three chapters of the Gospel of Matthew are among the best well known passages in the New Testament. What is it about these verses that have captured the Christian imagination, produced endless theological books and inspired numerous saints? What can these chapters teach us about our call to follow Christ as disciple? Fr. Michael DeMartinis is well known for his engaging and challenging Scripture Studies and preaching.

**Parish Mission:** **Mark your calendar for our annual Lenten Parish Mission on March 26-28 at 7:00 p.m.** Fr. Tom Hartle, OFM will be our presenter.

*Reflections:  
Living the Paschal  
Mystery*



Our perspective on life, on what matters to us, on what drives our decisions is revealed to us in many ways. We need only to look at our possessions, preoccupations, what motivates us. When we become caught up in serving our social status or image, our acquisition of things, our professional success, even our own self-righteousness, we afflict ourselves with anxieties such priorities always engender. When we choose to serve God—make God the Master-center of our lives—we enter a realm of internal freedom and wealth beyond calculation.

The gospel invites us to turn our attention to what truly matters—the Life only God can give. What is Jesus telling us must be our first concern in life? While being attentive to having the food and clothing, etc. that is normal and necessary, our priority must be what God offers and only God can give: eternal care, eternal Life.

**Reflection:** *I find myself worrying most when...?  
What I worry most about is...? I can turn these worries  
over to God by...?*

**Our Neighbors' Place Donations:** St. John the Baptist outreach is still in need of a few items to help with the homeless overflow shelter for the weeks of March 1 through March 14. Consider donating the following: coffee, hot cocoa, creamer, pop, drink mixes, cereal, and snacks such as potato chips, pretzels, and fresh fruit. Monetary donations are accepted as well. **Contact Mary Ellen Lieb at 873-1284 or [melieb4@gmail.com](mailto:melieb4@gmail.com).**

**Annual Contribution Statements:** Annual contribution statements are available by calling 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.

**Chili/Soup Cook-Off & Mardi Gras:** Join us **TODAY, February 26** for an afternoon of fun and games for every age plus our annual chili/soup cook-off. There is no charge to enjoy this final party before the start of Lent.



**Pastoral Council Seeking New Members:** Pastoral Council members minister to our entire community. They have a unique opportunity to join the parish staff to share a vision of Church family, to understand the activities of our various committees, to participate in long range planning and to grow in knowledge and faith by prayer and sharing with other members.

Council Nominees attend an informational meeting. Then, take time for discernment through personal prayer during the following weeks.

**Nominations start in March.** Nominate yourself or someone else at the display in the Gathering Space.

**Personal Care Supply Drive:** Please fill a bag with personal care products for our **Food Pantry**. When we gather enough products for our 120 families we can give each a bag of supplies that includes shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant. **Pick up a shopping list at the display in the Gathering Space.**

**OLM Book Group:** Join us on **Monday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Marilyn Garwig 1320 Boyer Rd. to discuss *A Gentleman In Moscow* by Amor Towles. Please note that this is a Monday in order not to overlap with our Lenten Pastus. On April 19, we will meet at the home of Irene Lucas to discuss *The Silver Linings Playbook* by Matthew Quick.

**24 Hours for the Lord:** On **March 17-18, the Diocese of Erie will celebrate 24 Hours for the Lord**, an initiative of our Holy Father with an emphasis on adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, will have its doors open for the entire 24 hours, with adoration and confession available during that time. As Bishop Lawrence Persico indicated in his statement on immigration [Feb. 3, 2017], this year's 24 Hours for the Lord will be devoted to prayer for peace and unity in our country, as well as for immigrants and refugees, in addition to a prayer for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

*Weekly Readings*

Mon...02/27...Sir 17:20-24/Mk 10: 17-27  
 Tue...02/28...Sir 35:1-12/Mk 10:28-31  
 Wed...03/01...Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6  
 Thu...03/02...Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25  
 Fri....03/03...Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15  
 Sat...03/04...Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32  
 Sun...03/05...Gn 2:7-9,3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19/Mt 4:1-11

*Weekly Collection*

For the weekend of February 19, 2017

Envelopes Sent: 470  
 Envelopes Returned: 115 \$4,326.90  
 Faith Direct Deposits: 100 \$2,787.50  
 Loose Change: \$181.00  
 TOTAL OFFERTORY: \$7,295.40

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










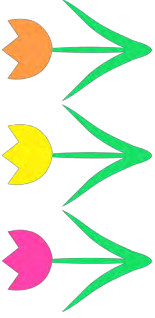
# March 2017

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday																					
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) 6:30 PM Stewardship Committee	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 7:30 PM AA	1 Ash Wednesday 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM AGIFT Meeting 7:00 PM Mass 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	2 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM K of C 7:00 PM Tech Com. Meeting	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	5 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club Drop-Off 1st SUNDAY OF LENT Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM First Reconciliation Retreat 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Cub Scouts 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	6 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.	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 7:00 PM Dance Class 7:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting 7:30 PM AA	8 8:30 AM Mass 5:30 PM Mass 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	9 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:30 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 5:00 PM First Reconciliation Practice 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	11 8:30 AM MASS 10:00 AM AA 1:00 PM First Reconciliation 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS - Anointing of the Sick	12 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Anointing of the Sick at all Masses 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 9:45 AM First Eucharist Parent Mtg 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) 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	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 7:00 PM Dance Class 7:30 PM AA	15 8:30 AM FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION 8:30 AM Mass 5:30 PM Mass 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	16 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	18 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 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 9:30 AM Sunday CAFE 11:00 AM CLW 12:00 PM Baptismal Prep Session 12:00 PM Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	20 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 7:00 PM Grief Support Group 7:00 PM Taize Prayer	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. 7:30 PM AA	22 8:30 AM Mass 5:30 PM Mass 6:15 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	23 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:30 PM Meditation 3:00 PM Social Justice Committee 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	25 8:30 AM MASS 9:00 AM OLM Craft Day 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS	26 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 9:30 AM Rel Ed K-2 11:00 AM CLW 12:15 PM Youth Event Gr 7 & 8 1:30 PM Legion of Mary Event 7:00 PM Parish Mission	27 8:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Meditation 6:30 PM Fruit of the Vine (SCC) 7:00 PM Parish Mission	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 Parish Mission 7:30 PM AA	29 8:30 AM Mass	30 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:30 PM Meditation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 8:30 AM Mass 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross



# March 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Jared Anderson-16  <small>Lent Begins Ash Wednesday</small>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Dominick Scarpino-11 Kyle Scarpino-18	<b>4</b> Caleb Mandel-16
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Bailey Haislip-6	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Noah Sacco-13 Nicholas Sacco-13 Lynzey Reinsel-11	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> Timothy Gallagher-16
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Justin Tersigni-12	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Will Lunger-8	<b>17</b> Leah Corey-11 	<b>18</b> Eric Morris-14
<b>19</b> Carley Estok-10	<b>20</b> Alexis Manna-18	<b>21</b> Ryan MacGurn-17 Charles GianbroneIII-13	<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> Ben Meyer-18	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Paul Bowers-18	<b>31</b> Antonio Hodzic-4 