

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

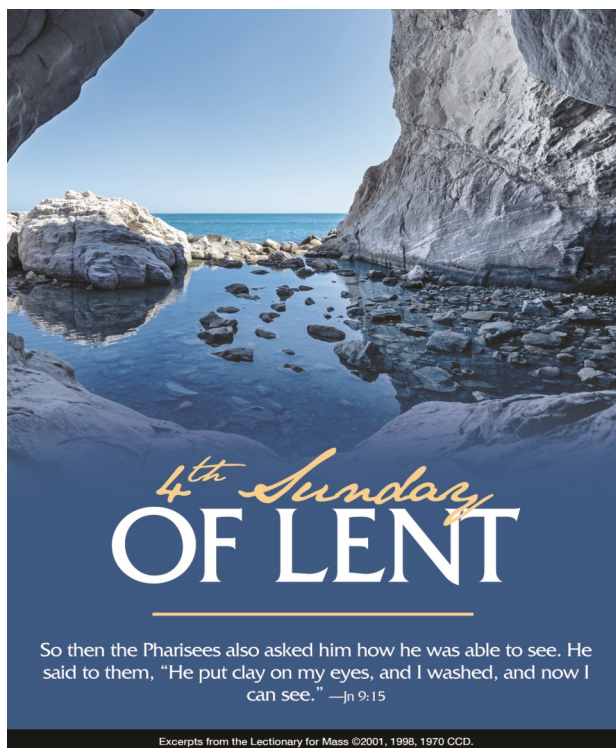
**MARCH 26, 2017—FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

## **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.....03/27	11:00 am	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Parish Mission</b>
Tuesday.....03/28	12:30 PM	Meditation
	2:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Parish Mission</b>
	7:00 pm	Ballroom Dance Class
	7:30 pm	AA
Wednesday...03/29	7:00 pm	RCIA Inquiry Session
Thursday.....03/30	9:00 am	Painting Class
	1:30 pm	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday.....03/31	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
Saturday.....04/01	10:00 am	AA
	4:30 pm	Sacrament of Penance
Sunday.....04/02	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	
	<b>Casserole Club Drop-Off</b>	
	<b>Monthly Food Pantry Collection</b>	
	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
	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Candidate/Sponsor Evening of Reflection</b>

## Religious Education

**Question-of-the-Week Winner** for the week of March 13 was Josie Hicks, grade 5, who knew that at the 12<sup>th</sup> Station of the Cross, we remember Jesus died on the cross.

**Candidate/Sponsor Evening of Reflection:** A reminder to Confirmation candidates in their final year of preparation for Confirmation, **there is a mandatory Evening of Reflection for you and your sponsor on Sunday, April 2 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**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.



**Parish Mission:** Our annual parish mission begins **TONIGHT (Sunday)**. Join Fr. Tom Hartle at **7:00 p.m. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings for an opportunity to refresh your spirit.** Fr. Hartle will also celebrate morning Mass Monday and Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and will give a shortened version of his evening presentation during the homily.

**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). **Our next Inquiry Session will be Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Pilgrimage Through the Symbols of Holy Week:** Join us for our annual prayerful journey through the significant symbols that make up our Holy Week liturgies. **We begin at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 in Classroom #1.** Wear comfortable shoes since this is a walking pilgrimage. Bring a wine glass.

**Counseling Help Available:** Individual and family counseling will be available from an experienced professional counselor. This parishioner will offer her gifts to Our Lady of Mercy faith community in a professional, respectful, and compassionate environment. The counselor will offer three meetings with each person. If four or more sessions are needed then we ask that a person make a small love donation to the church. Counseling meetings are at the church, in a confidential setting. To schedule an appointment, contact Donna Clark at 899-5342.

**Divorce & Separated Ministry:** A monthly support group will start soon. If you are interested, please contact Donna Clark so we can gather information to set a day and time. One-on-one supportive conversations also available.



### Pray for...

Anthony Portilio, brother of Fran Hatheway.  
Please keep him and his family 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 Tom & Linda Bleil.

## Mass Intentions

Mon. 03/27	8:30 am	Harry Plumb
Tues. 03/28	8:30 am	Doris Shade
Wed. 03/29	8:30 am	MarySorth
Thu. 03/30	8:30 am	
Fri. 03/31	8:30 am	Harry Extein—Extein Family
Sat. 04/01	8:30 am	
	6:00 pm	Florence Reske—Family
Sun. 04/02	8:30 am	Florence Modzelewski—Family
	11:00 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

*Reflections:**John 9:1-41**See with His eyes*

God doesn't judge us at face value but looks into the depth of our being. The prophet Samuel was sent to the home of Jesse in Bethlehem to anoint the chosen king of Israel. Samuel scrutinized Jesse's seven sons one by one, but none of them was to be the "anointed one." When David, the youngest son, was presented to Samuel, everyone thought that he too would prove unworthy. But God saw something the others did not see; God looked into David's heart. David the shepherd boy was the Lord's anointed.

Jesus healed a man who had been blind from birth, whose affliction people assumed was the consequence of sin. Sometimes we claim to have insight into the ways of God, but our own blindness is often worse than the blind man's. We need to stand again with the Elect, examine our own spiritual blindness, and turn away from darkness to live as "children of light." With our blindness healed, we will come to a greater awareness that Jesus is the "light of the world." Washed in the pool of baptism, anointed with the chrism of salvation, fed at the table of the Lord, we will say with the blind man, "Once I was blind. Now I can see."

**For Reflection: Am I blind to sin in my life? Am I a source of light or darkness to others? Who or what will open my eyes this Lent?**

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**Holy Hours for Vocations at St. Peter Cathedral**

**During Lent:** Holy hours will be held on Mondays following the 5:15 p.m. daily Mass from 6 to 7 p.m. on March 27 and April 3. Participants will ask Jesus to give courage to young men and women called to be priests, deacons and consecrated men and women.

**CSA 2017 and Faith Direct:** If you indicated you would use electronic Payments in Faith Direct for your CSA please sign into your faith direct account and initiate the payments.

*Weekly Readings*

Mon...03/27...Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

Tue...03/28...Ez 47:1-9,12/Jn 5:1-16

Wed...03/29...Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30

Thu...03/30...Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Fri....03/31...Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Sat....04/01...Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

Sun...04/02... Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

**"Bags of Hope" - Easter Dinner**

**Donations:** Make a monetary donation or fill a bag with food donations for an Easter dinner and return to the church by April 9. Items requested include: canned sweet potatoes, vegetables and fruit, boxed scalloped potatoes and desserts, drink mixes and Easter candy (optional). Hams will be provided to each household served by the food pantry. A shopping list is available in the Gathering Space.



**Meditation Opportunities (new day added):** Mondays at 11 a.m. Tuesdays (new day) at 12:30 p.m. (ongoing). Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. (ongoing) and Thursday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. (normally the second Thursday of the month but moved because of Holy Thursday.)

**OLM Book Group: Join us on Wednesday, April 19** at the home of Irene Lucas 1019 Bartlett Rd for our discussion of *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande. (There are 10 copies in circulation. If you have finished reading your copy, please return to Irene. If you need a copy, please see Irene.) If you want to read ahead, in May, we will discuss *Silver Linings Playbook* by Matthew Quick.

**Ladies—A Cursillo Invitation for You:**

Is a Cursillo weekend right for you? Do you want a deeper more intimate relationship with Christ? Do you want to be more involved in your Christian community? If you answer YES to any of these questions, then Cursillo could be for you. Making a Cursillo weekend is a great way to deepen your relationship with Christ. Most participants feel renewed and refreshed after the weekend and they feel connected to other participants and to God. If you would like more information on Cursillo, please visit the Cursillo website at [www.ericcursillo.org](http://www.ericcursillo.org) or contact Tim and Norma Lynch, parish coordinators, at 899-2681. **The next Women's Cursillo is schedule for April 20 -23 at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Applications are online or from Tim & Norma.**



**Our Neighbors' Place Volunteer Celebration:** This winter, many parishioners from our east side churches answered the call of mercy to volunteer at the overflow shelter, Our Neighbors' Place in January and March. Working together at St. John the Baptist Church, we provided not only a physical shelter from the elements, but a faith based shelter to keep their bodies, hearts and souls safe and warm. **On Saturday, April 8th, we would like all of the people who made ONP a reality to join us in celebration at St. John's 4:00 p.m. Mass followed by a brief reception in Pastors' Hall. If you volunteered, donated, or helped in anyway, please join us in fellowship.**

*Weekly Collection***For the weekend of March 19, 2017**

Envelopes Sent: 470  
 Envelopes Returned: 124 \$4,984.90  
 Faith Direct Deposits: 103 \$2,813.00  
 Loose Change: \$149.00  
 TOTAL OFFERTORY: \$7,946.90

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



# APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM <u>MASS</u> <b>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Rel Ed K-2 <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary <b>6:00 PM Youth Dinner &amp; Mission - Hall</b> <b>7:00 PM Parish Mission</b>	<b>27 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>7:00 PM Parish Mission</b>	<b>28 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>2:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>4:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 3-6 <b>5:30 PM</b> Children's Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:00 PM Parish Mission</b> <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>29 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>7:00 PM</b> RCIA Inquiry Session	<b>30 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>9:00 AM</b> Painting Class <b>1:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>6:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>31 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary <b>7:00 PM Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>1 8:30 AM</b> MASS <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>4:30 PM</b> Sacrament of Penance <b>6:00 PM</b> <u>MASS</u>
<b>2 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM</b> <u>MASS</u> <b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</b> <b>Casserole Club Drop Off</b> <b>Food Pantry Collection</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Healing Ministry <b>9:30 AM</b> Rel Ed K-2 <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW <b>12:00 PM</b> Cub Scouts <b>12:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8 <b>5:00 PM</b> Candidate/Sponsor Evening of Reflection	<b>3 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.	<b>4 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>2:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>4:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 3-6 <b>5:30 PM</b> Children's Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Pastoral Council <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>5 8:30 AM</b> Mass	<b>6 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>9:00 AM</b> Painting Class <b>1:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>7:00 PM</b> K of C <b>7:00 PM</b> Tech Committee Mtg.	<b>7 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary <b>7:00 PM Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>8 8:30 AM</b> MASS <b>8:00 AM</b> Rummage Sale - Tentative <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>6:00 PM</b> <u>MASS</u>
<b>9 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM</b> <u>MASS</u> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Rel Ed K-2 <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW <b>12:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8 <b>12:15 PM</b> Children's Choir Rehearsal	<b>10 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>7:00 PM Parish Seder Meal</b>	<b>11 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Music Rehearsal <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>12 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>7:00 PM Pilgrimage through the Symbols of Holy Week</b>	<b>13 HOLY THURSDAY</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Mass of the Lord's Supper <b>9:00 PM Night Prayer</b>	<b>14 GOOD FRIDAY</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Morning Prayer <b>1:00 PM</b> Outdoor Stations of the Cross <b>7:00 PM</b> Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	<b>15 HOLY SATURDAY</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Morning Prayer <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>11:30 AM</b> Blessing of Easter Foods <b>9:00 PM</b> The Great Easter Vigil
<b>16 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM</b> <u>MASS</u> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Healing Ministry <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW	<b>17 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> Grief Support Group	<b>18 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>2:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>4:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 3-6 <b>6:00 PM</b> Sister Parish Mtg <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Core Team Mtg. <b>7:00 PM</b> LFF Mtg. <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>19 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>8:30 AM</b> <b>FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> <b>Cursillo Annual Men's Reunion - Chapel</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> OLM BOOK GROUP	<b>20 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>CURSILLO (women)</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Painting Class <b>1:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>7:00 PM</b> Centering Prayer	<b>21 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>CURSILLO (women)</b> <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary	<b>22 8:30 AM</b> MASS <b>CURSILLO (women)</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>4:30 PM</b> Sacrament of Penance <b>6:00 PM</b> <u>MASS</u>
<b>23 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM</b> <u>MASS</u> <b>CURSILLO (women)</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Rel Ed K-2 <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW <b>12:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8	<b>24 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>6:30 PM</b> Fruit of the Vine (SCC)	<b>25 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>2:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>4:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 3-6 <b>5:30 PM</b> Children's Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>26 8:30 AM</b> Mass	<b>27 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>9:00 AM</b> Painting Class <b>1:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>6:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal	<b>28 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary	<b>29 8:30 AM</b> MASS <b>8:45 AM</b> Eucharist Retreat <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>12:30 PM</b> Youth Event <b>4:30 PM</b> Sacrament of Penance <b>6:00 PM</b> <u>MASS</u>
<b>30 8:30 &amp; 11:00 AM</b> <u>MASS</u> <b>9:30 AM</b> Rel Ed K-2 <b>11:00 AM</b> CLW <b>12:00 PM</b> Sundae Sunday Family Event	<b>1 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>11:00 AM</b> Meditation <b>7:00 PM Q &amp; A with the Pastor</b>	<b>2 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>12:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>2:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>4:00 PM</b> Rel Ed Gr 3-6 <b>5:30 PM</b> Children's Choir <b>7:00 PM</b> Dance Class <b>7:00 PM</b> Pastoral Council <b>7:30 PM</b> AA	<b>3 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer & Potluck -SCC Large Gathering	<b>4 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>9:00 AM</b> Painting Class <b>1:30 PM</b> Meditation <b>6:00 PM</b> Prayer Shawl <b>6:45 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7:00 PM</b> K of C	<b>5 8:30 AM</b> Mass <b>1:30 PM</b> Legion of Mary	<b>6 8:30 AM</b> MASS <b>9:00 AM</b> <b>First Eucharist Practice</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> AA <b>4:30 PM</b> Sacrament of Penance <b>6:00 PM</b> First Eucharist <b>6:00 PM</b> <u>MASS</u>

