

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

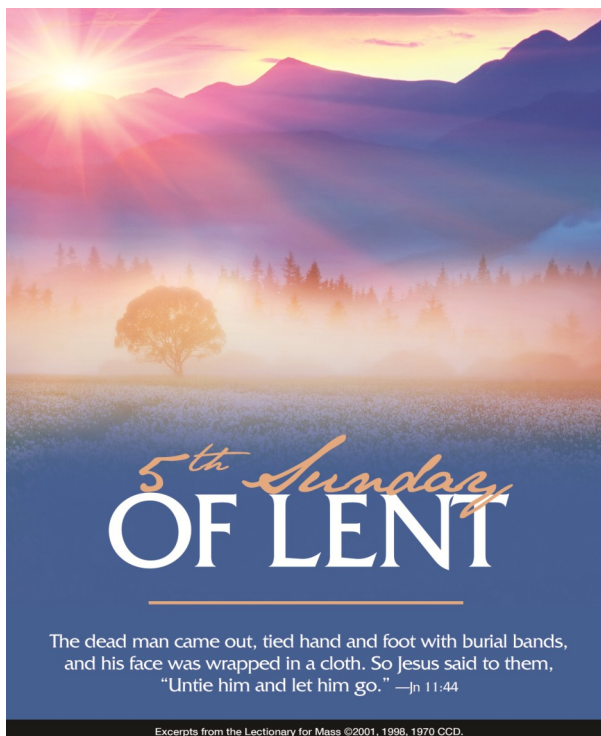
APRIL 2, 2017—FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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.....04/03	11:00 am	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Boy Scouts
	7:00 pm	Pastoral Facilitator Mtg
Tuesday.....04/04	12:30 PM	Meditation
	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
	7:00 pm	Ballroom Dance Class
	7:30 pm	AA
Wednesday...04/05	7:00 pm	RCIA Inquiry Session
Thursday.....04/06	9:00 am	Painting Class
	1:30 pm	Meditation
	6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	K of C
	7:00 pm	Tech Committee Mtg
Friday.....04/07	1:30 pm	Legion of Mary
	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday.....04/08	10:00 am	AA
Sunday.....04/09	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	
	9:30 am	Rel Ed K-2
	11:00 am	CLW
	12:00 pm	Rel Ed Gr 7 & 8
	12:15 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal

Religious Education

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of March 20 was Reagan Andrews, grade 3, who knew that Jesus gave us the Eucharist at the Last Supper.

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 TONIGHT, 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.



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.

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. **Our next Inquiry Session will be Wednesday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m.**

Divorce & Separated Support Group: The initial meeting of a Divorced and Separated Support Group will be **Thursday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m.** Gather in the Parlor. If you are interested and can't make the meeting, please contact Donna Clark in the parish office. We are gathering information on the best time to meet. One-on-one supportive conversation also available.

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.**



Pray for...

Dale Vega, son-in-law of Tomijeane Wuerstle.
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 Visitor** this week is Andrea Maille.

Mass Intentions

Mon. 04/03	8:30 am	Elma Ewiak—Family
Tues. 04/04	8:30 am	Robert Tobin—Butch & Gerri Extein
Wed. 04/05	8:30 am	
Thu. 04/06	8:30 am	John Walsh—Kosobucki Family
Fri. 04/07	8:30 am	
Sat. 04/08	8:30 am	Leonard Towell
	6:00 pm	Leonard Majewski—Bruce & Audrey Kazmaier
Sun. 04/09	8:30 am	Louie DeLuca—Rose Marie DeLuca
	11:00 am	For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

*Reflections:**John 11:1-45**Answer God's call*

The people in exile were as good as dead, like corpses scattered on a battlefield. Yet, the impossible happened; God breathed life into them! Paul said that it isn't "flesh" that animates us but God's Spirit. We may seem dead because of sin, but we are brought to life through the indwelling spirit.

Jesus announced that he was "the reservation and the life." In the raising of Lazarus, Jesus declared that God's glory would be revealed so that all might believe. The raising of Lazarus is a symbol of our own dying and rising in baptism. With the Elect we pray that God will uncover and heal anything in our hearts that keeps us bound and enslaved. We examine our faults to discover what prevents us from receiving the fullness of life and to strengthen all that is life-giving. We have a choice whether to stay in the tomb or come forth like Lazarus, whether to bind one another through bitterness and unforgiveness or to set others free through compassion and mercy.

Reflection: What keeps me from experiencing the fullness of life? What will loosen by bonds and set me free this Lent?

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"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.



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. **On Saturday, April 8, 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.**

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:

Do you want a deeper more intimate relationship with Christ? Then Cursillo could be for you. If you would like more information on Cursillo, please visit the Cursillo website at www.ericursillo.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.**



Catholic Daughters of the Americas invites all women to join them to do charitable works to help the quality of life for people in our community. They meet the third Tuesday of the month in the Arundel Room at St. Andrew's Church, 1116 West 7th Street at 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, contact Mary Vitron, Membership Chair, at 814-838-7270 or email Mary May at Focus11@neo.rr.com.

Weekly Readings

Mon...04/03...Dn 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62/Jn 8:1-11

Tue...04/04...Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

Wed...04/05...Dn 3:14-20,91-92,95/Jn 8:31-42

Thu...04/06...Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

Fri....04/07...Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

Sat....04/08...Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

Sun...04/09...Mt 21:1-11/Ls 50-4-7/Phil 2:6-11/

.....Mt 26:14—27:66

*Weekly Collection***For the weekend of March 26, 2017**

Envelopes Sent: 470
 Envelopes Returned: 117 \$3,972.00
 Faith Direct Deposits: 103 \$2,813.00
 Loose Change: \$231.00
 TOTAL OFFERTORY: \$7,016.00

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



CHINESE AUCTION

The Knights of Columbus are planning a Chinese Auction and would like to have a variety of items and theme baskets.

Could you donate a basket? Do you have an item to donate? Do you know a business that you could ask for a donation?

Any help would be appreciated!

Please drop off your donations by May 7th.

Questions?

Contact Kay Kaeberlein at 899-2770

or Rochelle Edwards at 898-0464



The 24th Annual Knights of Columbus Golf & Sports Raffle is May 12, 2017

Time to Distribute & Sell Tickets



- Due to Palm Sunday on April 9 and Easter on April 16, The Knights will not have tables in the Gathering Space those weekends for ticket sales.

- There will be tickets and posters available on the counter in the parish office.

- Please sign out tickets as you take them so that we can track sales.

- Tables will be set-up in the Gathering Space after Masses on April 23, 30 and May 7.

The Knights of Columbus
thank you for your support!

K of C: "Helping Us Help
The Church"

