

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek PA 16421 • www.ourladyofmercychurch.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: **6:00 p.m.**

Sunday: **8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**

Weekday: **8:30 a.m.**

Holy Day of Obligation: **8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Brandon Vogt, *Director of Liturgy & Music*

Marsha MacKinnon McKinley, *Admin. Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 14, 2017



MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Eucharistic, Catholic Christian Community of Communities formed by the Word of God and the teachings of the Church.

We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live the values of Jesus Christ in a prayerful, welcoming and nurturing environment.

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Monday 5/15

- 11:00 a.m. Meditation (Chapel)
- 7:00 p.m. Grief Support Group (Parlor)

Tuesday 5/16

- 12:30 p.m. Meditation (Chapel)
- 2:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl (Conference Room)
- 4:00 p.m. Religious Education (Grades 3-6)
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Core Team Meeting (Library)
- 7:00 p.m. LFF Meeting (Conference Room)

Wednesday 5/17

- 5:30 p.m. Cursillo Set-Up
- 8:30 p.m. Food Pantry Distribution
- 7:00 p.m. OLM Book Group (off-site)

Thursday 5/18

- Cursillo (men's)
- 9:00 a.m. Painting Class (Sperry Hall)
- 1:30 p.m. Meditation (Chapel)
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl (Conference Room)
- 6:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

Friday 5/19

- Cursillo (men's)
- 1:30 p.m. Legion of Mary (Library)

Saturday 5/20

- Cursillo (men's)
- 4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation Room)

Sunday 5/21

- Cursillo (men's)
- 9:30 a.m. Healing Ministry
- 11:00 a.m. CLW



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 5/15.....Easter Weekday

8:30 a.m. Harry Extein—Extein Family

Tuesday 5/16.....Easter Weekday

8:30 a.m. Anthony Portfilio—Audrey Kupnieski

Wednesday 5/17.....Easter Weekday

8:30 a.m. Francis McCammon—Terry & Larry Miller

Thursday 5/18.....Easter Weekday

8:30 a.m.

Friday 5/19.....Easter Weekday

8:30 a.m. Msgr. James E. Sperry

Saturday 5/20.....Our Lady of Fatima

8:30 a.m.

6:00 p.m. Irene Majewski—Bruce & Audrey Kazmaier

Sunday 5/21.....Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Florence Modzelewski—Family

11:00 a.m. For the People of Our Lady of Mercy

Reminder from the OLM Parish Office: All content for any bulletin is due 10 days before the bulletin date.

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, the parish office will be closed on Monday, May 29.

Hearing assisted devices are available for those who have difficulty hearing at Mass. Contact Donna Clark.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon 5/15	Acts 14:5-18	Psalm 115	John 14:21-26
Tue 5/16	Acts 14:19-28	Psalm 145	John 14:27-31a
Wed 5/17	Acts 15:1-6	Psalm 122	John 15:1-8
Thu 5/18	Acts 15:7-21	Psalm 96	John 15:9-11
Fri 5/19	Acts 15:22-31	Psalm 57	John 15:12-17
Sat 5/20	Acts 16:1-10	Psalm 100	John 15:18-21
Sun 5/21	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17	Psalm 66	John 14:15-21



IN LOVING MEMORY

We remember Pastor David Laakso of Faith Lutheran Church. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

PRAYER LINE

9 a.m.—4 p.m. /Call **Donna Smicker** at 899-91089

4 p.m.—9 p.m. /Call **Gerri Extein** at 899-6875

Hospital Visitor for the week: **Andrea Maille**

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

This year we celebrate the 100th Anniversary, of Mary's appearing to three children at Fatima. As we celebrate this anniversary, we call your attention to the painting of Our Lady of Fatima in the Gathering Space. This painting was painted by Lou Ann Nowosielski in 1950, and presented to our parish by Lou Ann.

NEEDED --- SUMMER HELP

Our Lady of Mercy is looking for a young man, high school or college, that would be interested in working at Our Lady of Mercy this summer. The job includes lawn care and summer maintenance. If you are interested or have questions, please, contact Fr. Ritchie.

Newsletter Mailing Party

Help us on Tuesday, May 16 at 9:00 a.m. to prepare the May issue of *For Mercy Sake* for the mail. Please confirm your participation with Irene Lucas at 899-6132.



International Needs Collection

The **Collection for International Needs**, to be taken up in the Diocese of Erie the weekend of May 20/21, is a combination of the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, the Catholic Relief Services Collection and the collection for the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. It offers a concrete way for us to help those forced to leave their homes because of war or famine, children who go to bed hungry and who cannot attend school and immigrants and refugees seeking freedom and hope, as well as those who are persecuted for their faith and those who wish to study for the priesthood, but do not have the means to do so.

I ask you to please give generously. Just as importantly, please pray for our brothers and sisters in need. Be assured of my prayers for you, your families and your parishes.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Lawrence T. Persico
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico,
JCL Bishop of Erie

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 7, 2017

Envelopes sent: 470	
Envelopes returned: 140	\$5,853.00
Faith Direct Deposits: 103	\$2,813.00
Loose Change:	\$324.30
TOTAL OFFERTORY:	\$8,880.30

\$7,136 is needed to meet our regular operating expenses.
(This does not include our CSA or Mortgage Payment)

FAITH FORMATION

Question-of-the-Week Winner

The winner for the week of May 2 was Kiersten Redford, grade 5, who knew that St. Anne and St. Joachim are the grandparents of Jesus.

Scripture Study on the Holy Spirit

On June 4, we will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. But, this famous account is not the first or last mention of the Holy Spirit in Scripture. From the moment of creation to the closing pages of the Bible, the Spirit is being revealed. This study will examine the Scripture for what it can teach us about the Holy Spirit. **Join us on Wednesday mornings May 31—July 19 at 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.** for a cup of coffee, a sweet treat and the chance to deepen our understanding of the Third Person of the Trinity. All are welcome and there is no need to register.

Women's Summer Scripture Study

Mark your calendars for our 3rd annual Women's Summer Scripture Study at 7:00 p.m. on **Monday June 12, 19, 26, July 10, 17 and 24**. We will look at the example of 12 New Testament female disciples to learn from and be challenged by their witness. This is a casual sharing around a cold drink, light snacks in the comfort of a summer evening at the home of Irene Lucas. (We will meet outside if weather permits, bring a lawn chair.) Our discussion will be guided by [Strong Was Her Faith](#) by J. Ellsworth Kalas. There is no need to register and there is NO expectation that you attend every session.

Honoring Graduates

Once again, as our parish gathers for our annual Parish Pancake Brunch, we will recognize those who are graduating from high school or a post-secondary institution. If you are a graduate who plans to attend the June 4 Parish Pancake Brunch, please call 899-6132 or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org to let us know that you will be there. **RSVP deadline is May 28. Please remember that this is a parish event. We hope that our entire parish family will attend this annual event.**

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.

We are excited to welcome John Krahnke into the catechumenal phase of the RCIA today.

Note of Thanks

As another year of religious education classes draws to a close, we want to thank all of the volunteer catechists and aides that made this year a season of blessings for our children and their families. We are so grateful for the time and care you put into this ministry.

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.**

MINISTRY

Grief Support

Monday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. For more information or for one on one ministry contact Donna Clark.

Divorced? Separated? Widowed?

Transitions, a monthly support group for Separated, Divorced and Widowed persons will meet on Sunday, May 21, 2017, from 2 – 4 pm at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. Program includes a short presentation, discussion, followed by refreshments. This month's topic is: "Instructions for a Bad Day." For more information call 814 – 824-1265 or email at: familylife@erieRCD.org. Visit us at: www.erieRCD.org/transitions.htm.

SSJ Information Night on Associate Program

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania will offer an informal information session for anyone interested in becoming an associate of the congregation. The session will be held May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sisters of St. Joseph Community Living Center, 5031 West Ridge Road in Millcreek. Associate membership is open to all Christian men and women, regardless of age, marital status or vocation. For more information, contact Linda Kuhn or Nancy Donnelly at 814-836-4134 or email associates@ssjerie.org.

REFLECTIONS

John 14:1-12

As the church increased in numbers and diversity there were bound to be problems. When the community was ethnically and culturally similar, things were harmonious. When they grew beyond familial bonds, there was dissension— "us" against "them." The Hebrew Christians looked out for themselves, and the Greek-speaking Christians felt slighted. It is the Spirit that enables all peoples to work and pray together. When others see the love and unity of those who believe in Christ, many will be eager to embrace the faith.

Peter says that the church is like a building with Christ as the "cornerstone." Upon him the whole edifice is constructed. Believers are "living stones" built into a sacred temple in which to worship the Lord. Jesus says that there are many 'dwelling places' in God's house, room for one and all. Anyone who wishes to come to God can come through Jesus, the full revelation of God, the "way" to God's "truth" and the fullness of God's "life."

For Reflection: *Is my parish a community of love and unity or of alienation and division? How can I help show the way to truth and life.*

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Parish Pancake Brunch:

It is time for our annual Parish Pancake Brunch June 4 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Come and join us for pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. Suggested donation \$1.00 per person. While we are together for a meal, we would like to recognize our new members to our parish and our parishioners who are graduating from high school or a post-secondary institution. Please RSVP by Sunday, May 28 to let us know how many people will be coming. You can RSVP by calling the parish office at 899-5342 or by signing the list which will be in the Gathering Space May 20-28.



OLM Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17 at the home of Sue Haynes on Bartlett Rd. to discuss Silver Linings Playbook by Matthew Quick. Our June title will be A Girl Named Zippy by Haven Kimmel.

DAVID HAAS and MARTY HAUGEN in Concert

David Haas, Marty Haugen and guitarist Steve Petrunak will present a concert at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Fairview on Friday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. Don't miss this rare treat: a chance to hear these popular and prolific composers, who will perform their own music both familiar and new. Besides their music, these composers will also share what they are "up to" and the direction of their creative lives. Tickets are \$15 and are available through Brandon Vogt after weekend Masses.

Rummage Sale Save the Dates: June 2 & 3

The OLM Rummage Sale is set for Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3. Items can be brought to the OLM GYM starting Saturday, May 27 through June 1. Items NOT accepted: furniture, large appliances, food items, televisions and computers. If you would like to help organize and sort, please call Judy Mitcheltree at 899-2527.

OLM Festival: Sunday, July 9, 2017

It is that time of year again! Our coordinators for the festival this year are Jayne Suess and Ed Fialkowski. If you have any questions or suggestions to improve the festival this year, please contact Ed at mused60@gmail.com or Jayne at jaynesuess@gmail.com. We are currently seeking coordinators for the following areas: Food Ordering, Bake Sale, Prize Ticket Sales, Teen Games, and Restaurant Gift Card Tree. If you are interested, please email Jayne or Ed. We are excited to be adding several games for teenagers this year. We have a need for Chinese Auction donations and Sweet Breads. Please start baking sweet bread now for delivery later in June. Feel free to bring in Chinese Auction items to the parish office.



World Wide Marriage Encounter

As Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of marriage and family, why not take this opportunity to enrich your marriage and family life by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is June 23-25, 2017. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Registration and information can be found by visiting: www.yourmarriageisworthit.org.

The Loving Search for God Weekend Retreat

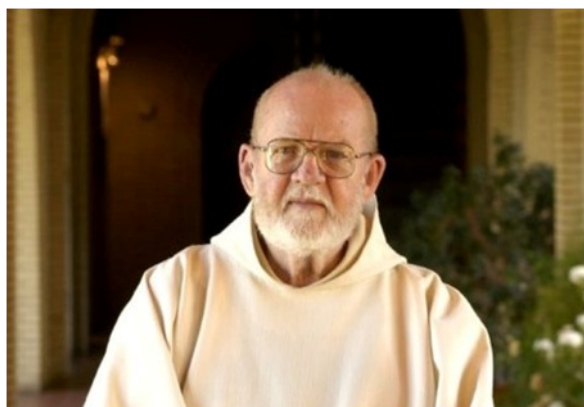
Presented by Father William Meninger, OCSO

Friday, September 15 and Saturday, September 16, 2017

Friday 4:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Saturday 8:30 am - 8:30 pm

Location: Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie PA 16511

Price: \$95.00 (includes program and four meals)



Father William Meninger, a Trappist monk, prolific author, master retreat leader, and one of three principal architects of the Contemplative Prayer movement, comes to Erie in September 2017. Although Fr. Meninger is primarily in residence at St. Benedict's Monastery in Snowmass, CO, he presents at occasional retreats.

Registrations Begin on May 15, 2017

Limited to 120 participants

For More Information: <http://www.stgeorgeerie.org/news/weekend-retreat>

To Register for the Meninger Retreat: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/782>

Questions? Contact Donna Clark at 899-5342

An Invitation to You

Spend time on retreat with Fr. Meninger as he guides us to an elevated sense of love, insight and experience of God.

In a monastery library Fr. Meninger rediscovered the ancient 14th century book *The Cloud of Unknowing* and together with his colleagues, Fr. Basil Pennington and Fr. Thomas Keating, reintroduced it to the world. Fr. Meninger integrates the loving

instructions and guidance from *The Cloud of Unknowing* and the New and Old Testaments in his own book, *The Loving Search for God*. Fr. William will talk about the “three levels in the growth of the child of God as she or he matures in the loving search: the purgative way, the illuminative way, and the unitive way.”

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