

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



MASS SCHEDULE

May 6, 2018

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*

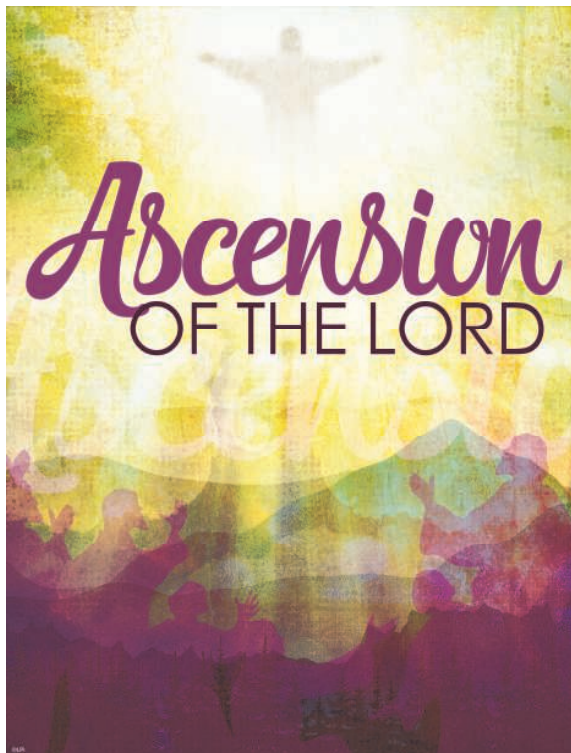
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



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

Mon. 05/07		
Tue. 05/08	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias (SCC)
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Rel Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal
Wed. 05/09	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough (SCC)
	3:00 p.m.	Buildings & Grounds Mtg
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Mtg
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 05/10	8:30 a.m.	Ascension Day Mass
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	2:00 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Ascension Day Mass
	8:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 05/11	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus Golf & Sports Raffle
Sat. 05/12	10:00 a.m.	Mother Daughter Strengthsfinder Retreat
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/13	Mother's Day Pastoral Care Ministries Celebration	

Thursday, May 10th is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/07	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service
Tue. 05/08	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service
Wed. 05/09	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service
Thur. 05/10	8:30 a.m.	
	7:00 p.m.	Msgr. James Sperry
Fri. 05/11	8:30 a.m.	Communion Service
Sat. 05/12	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS /NO SERVICE
	6:00 p.m.	For All Mothers Living & Deceased
Sun. 05/13	8:30 a.m.	For All Mothers Living & Deceased
	11:00 a.m.	For All Mothers Living & Deceased

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/07	Acts 16:11-15	/ John 15:26—16:4a
Tue. 05/08	Acts 16:22-34	/ John 16:5-11
Wed. 05/09	Acts 17:15,22—18:1	/ John 16:12-15
Thur. 05/10	Acts 18:1-8	/ John 16:16-20
Fri. 05/11	Acts 18:9-18	/ John 16:20-23
Sat. 05/12	Acts 18:9-18	/ John 16:23b-28
Sun. 05/13	Acts 1:1-11/ Eph 1:17-23/Mark 16:15-20	

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



Prevalence of Child Sexual Abuse

Child sexual abuse is a great deal more prevalent than many imagine. Some studies suggest that as many as one in six boys and one in four girls will be the victim of some form of sexual molestation before the age of 18. That means that, directly or indirectly, child sexual abuse will touch most of us during our lifetime. And although we would like to believe that most accusations are false, the facts tell us that children rarely lie about being molested. In fact, they rarely tell anyone at all. An adult study about the prevalence of sexual abuse found that 42% of the men and 33% of the women who were victimized as children had never told anyone. (Source: Sharon Womak Doty, "Refresher from the Protecting God's Children® Program") To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Call **Donna Smicker** at 899-9108

4:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Call **Gerri Extein** at 899-6875

The **Hospital Visitor** for the week Florence Voelker.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Mark 16:15-20



At times we do not see Jesus clearly in our everyday lives. When we only look for the glory of heaven we will miss the reality of his presence on earth. We can find him in Word and in Sacrament. He is visible in all who continue his work, loving and serving as he did. We pray that God will open our eyes. We pray that the Spirit will enlighten the darkness of our innermost being and give us the insight to know the great hope to which we are called, the wealth of our heritage.

Jesus commands us to go into the whole world and proclaim the good news. When we do this, the greed for possessions and additions to wealth and power are expelled. Then we can handle the serpents of oppression, refuse to drink the poison of intolerance, and speak one common language of love. Jesus is not beyond our sight. The immeasurable scope of God's power has been revealed on the cross. The dying and rising of Christ is greater than any earthly or cosmic power.

For Reflection: Am I passively waiting for God to restore the world? Or am I actively participating in its renewal?

© Kay Murdy



Social Justice Committee News

In this month of First Eucharist celebrations, Mother's Day and graduations, this corner will explore the teaching of Scripture and the Catholic Church on the dignity of children.

The Church's social doctrine constantly points out the need to respect the dignity of children. In the family, which is a community of persons, special attention must be devoted to the children by developing a profound esteem for their dignity, and a great respect and generous concern for their rights. This is true for every child, but it becomes all the more urgent the smaller the child is and the more it is in need of everything, when it is sick, suffering or handicapped.

The rights of children must be legally protected within juridical systems. In the first place, it is necessary that the social value of childhood be publically recognized in all countries. No country on earth, no political system can think of its own future otherwise than through the image of these new generations that will receive from their parents the manifold heritage of values, duties and aspirations of the nation to which they belong and of the whole human family. (*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* #244)

Summer Study On Prayer

Do you wish you could pray more faithfully? Do you struggle with being distracted during prayer, with finding the time to pray, with hearing God's voice in your prayer? Whether you want to know how to start a regular practice of prayer or desire to bring your life of prayer to a deeper level, this is for you. Beginning May 31 and continuing for 8 weeks, OLM will hold a weekly course on prayer entitled Oremus. Each session will include a video presentation and facilitated discussion. The course will be held from 9:15-10:15 a.m. and also 6:30-7:30 p.m. (as long as there is interest in either session). A participant workbook is available for \$15, but is not required to attend. **If you would like a participant workbook, contact Irene at 899-6132 by May 25.**



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **April 29, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	404
Envelopes returned:	146 \$3,974.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113 \$2,935.00
Loose Change:	\$170.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:	\$7,079.00

Young Adult Gathering

If you are in your 20s or 30s, single or married, with or without children, you are invited to an informal social from **9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Conference Room Sunday morning May 20 to celebrate Pentecost**. Feel free to bring a bite to share or not, as the Spirit moves you. Parents can bring their children along. No need to RSVP, just drop by.

Family Pancake Brunch

Save the date! Our annual Family Pancake Brunch will be held on **Sunday, June 3 from 9:30-10:30 a.m.** This is a parish event. Cost is \$1.00 per person. **Please RSVP to the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation at 899-6132 by May 27 so we can have enough food on hand.**

Honoring Graduates

When our parish family is all together for our Pancake Brunch, we would like to honor those who are graduating from a secondary or post-secondary academic program. If you are a graduate and will be joining us at this brunch, please let us know when you RSVP to 899-6132.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Children's Liturgy of the Word Ministry is in need of volunteer leaders. If you enjoy working with young children but do not have the time to commit to a weekly RE class, this ministry may be perfect for you. CLW Leaders conduct the Liturgy of the Word on a child's level: reading the Sunday Scriptures, assisting the children to understand their meaning, leading the young people in a Child's Creed and Prayers of the Faithful. Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place during the 11:00 Sunday Mass. CLW leaders **MUST** have required clearances. Training is provided. If you can help, contact Irene at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

The Question-Of-The-Week Contest Winner

The winner for the week of **April 23** was **Isabella Tylman, Grade 2**, who knew that St. Paul wrote most of the letters that make up the books of the New Testament.

For Mercy's Sake Mailing Party

We will be folding the newsletter for mailing on **Monday, May 14 at 9:00 a.m.** If you can lend a hand, please let Irene know by calling 899-6132 or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Are you considering the possibility of joining the Catholic Church? Inquiry Sessions are now beginning. They are scheduled around the availability of the participants. For more information, call Irene Lucas at 899-6132.

Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.

SAVE THE DATE: OLM Festival Sunday, July 8



Each year as we begin to prepare for the festival, we try to make things better than the previous year. This year I would like to hear from you, members of our community, regarding the following: What prizes would you like to see (maybe a Dyson vacuum)? What would enhance our festival? What would you like to do to help make this festival better? What are your concerns about our festival? Please either visit the Our Lady of Mercy Facebook page and answer the questions or send your responses to jaynesuess@gmail.com

If you are a current co-coordinator and have not heard from me, please send me an email with your commitment for another great year! If you are interested in apprenticing for a co-coordinator position, please also let me know. If you would like to continue with the same volunteer job you had last year, please reach out to the coordinator of that area or to me. If you cannot volunteer, please offer prayers for all our co-coordinators!

We need you, our faith community, to help in the following areas:

- **Community Advertisers:** Please tell your friends about our festival and plan to attend! Flyers to post at your work will be available starting in May.
- **Selling of Raffle Tickets:** Raffle tickets will be available in June! Help us by selling to your friends and family!
- **Volunteers, volunteers, and more volunteers!** Sign-ups will be posted during the last Sunday in May
- **Chinese Auction** (items, baskets, and completed baskets)
- **Restaurant gift cards** (All donations are appreciated)
- **Sweet Breads** (Calling all parish bakers! Bake now, freeze and we will be collected starting the first of July)

Free Online Correspondence Course

The Missouri Knights of Columbus and the Vincentian Community have developed a Catholic Home Study Service. The Catholic Home Study Service offers free correspondence courses on the Catholic Faith. A list of the courses may be found at Catholic Home Study. When people enroll (either by mail or via the Internet), you will receive the requested book and workbook for the course. Call 573-547-4084 to order materials by phone. Students may give answers to the workbook questions over the Internet or by mail. When they finish a course, they receive a certificate of completion and may take other courses.

Knights of Columbus 25th Annual Golf & Sports Raffle



The Knights invite you to attend our 25th Annual Golf & Sports Raffle to be held on **May 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at OLM.** Tickets will be on sale in the **Gathering Space after Masses on the weekends of April 22, 29 & May 6.** Tickets and posters will also be available in the parish office during the week. Our raffle has become the largest in the Erie area thanks to the support of our parishioners and our many ticket sellers. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support youth programs, to provide scholarships for high school seniors and to fund capital improvement projects for the parish. Please help the Knights help OLM.

Chinese Auction for May 11

The Knights of Columbus are looking for a variety of Chinese Auction items and theme baskets for the May 11th Golf Raffle. Any help would be appreciate. Questions? Contact Kay Kaeberlein at 899-2770.

Knights of Columbus OLM Scholarships

Applications are available on the OLM website or in the parish office. Along with an application, a brief essay is required and a certified, and sealed, transcript from the applicant's school. The transcript does not need to include the final grading period. The scholarships are open to college-bound, graduating high school seniors who, along with their parents are members of OLM. **The deadline for the applications is Friday, May 18.**

OLM Book Group

The days are getting longer. Time to come out of hibernation. Why not spend an evening around great book talk with a glass of wine. Whether you are interested in joining a book group or just want to talk about one particular title, the door is open to you. On **Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.,** we will gather at the home of Irene (1019 Bartlett Rd) to discuss Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate. Our June title will be Pachinko by Min Jin Lee.

Cooking for Crowds

This workshop is a volunteer's guide to safe food handling and will be held on Wednesday, June 13 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Albion Volunteer fire Department, 19 Smock Ave., Albion, 16401. The cost is \$25 for an individual, \$50 for a group of four people and \$5 each for any additional registrants. Register by calling 1-877-345-0691 or online <http://extension.psu.edu/cooking-for-crowds>

Fundraiser for the Malinowski Family

Colton Malinowski has been diagnosed with a rare, severe and progressive type of muscular dystrophy. Prior to becoming ill, Colton was an active artist/welder, involved in the artistic creations of multiple sculptures located in Erie. A fundraiser to help with medical expenses and home renovations will be held on **Sunday, June 3** from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Perry Hi-Way Hose Co., 8281 Oliver Road. A suggested donation of \$10 includes food, music, Chinese Auction and bake sale.

CALLING ALL TEENAGE GIRLS

Find out how God has gifted you. A special workshop for teenage girls and their support person (mother, father, older sibling, etc.) offers an opportunity to help you recognize the unique gifts God has given you that will help you be successful in life.



SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

10 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

AT OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 BARTLETT RD. HARBORCREEK

DISCOVER HOW GOD HAS GIFTED YOU

Pick-up a **Strengthsfinder** book and take the online survey before the class. Bring your printed report with you. For more information, contact Peggy Williams at 490-5504 or Donna Clark at 899-5342.

"You cannot be anything you want to be—but you **can be a lot more of who you already are.**" Don Clifton

Celebrating the Ministries of Our Lady of Mercy

We continue to celebrate the ministries of the Parish. On May 12 & 13 we will recognize all those involved in the **Pastoral Care Ministries** of our parish.



Bereavement Ministry
Divorced and Separated Ministry
Funeral Meal Ministry
Grief Ministry
Eucharistic ministry to the Sick and Homebound
Homebound Ministry
Hospital Visitor
Nursery
Nursing Home Visitors
Peer Ministry
Welcome Ministry

If you are part of one of these ministries, please wear **Violet** to Mass on May 12 & 13. We will have a special blessing of the ministers this weekend. We will have informational brochures available and there will be an opportunity to sign-up for any of these ministries if you feel God is calling you to share your gifts in this way. We are looking for people from these ministries to be at a table in the Gathering Space after Mass to answer any questions. Questions? Contact Donna Clark.

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