

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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—July 1, 2018



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. 07/02
- Tue. 07/03
- Wed. 07/04 **4th of July Holiday**
Parish Office Closed
 8:00 a.m. Knights of Columbus—
 Liberty Run
- Thur. 07/05 9:15 a.m. Oremus: Study on Prayer
 6:00 p.m. **Festival Set-Up**
- Fri. 07/06 1:30 p.m. Legion of Mary
- Sat. 07/07 8:30 a.m. **5K Chicken Run &**
Chicken Little Run
 4:30 p.m. **Sacrament of Penance**
- Sun. 07/08 **Our Lady of Mercy Festival Day**

4th of July Holiday

The parish office will be closed on **Wednesday, July 4**, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

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 is Geri Gallagher.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Mon. 07/02 8:30 a.m. **Dolores Dietz** (*Ramsdell Family*)
- Tue. 07/03 8:30 a.m. **Robert Hesch** (*Diocese of Erie*)
- Wed. 07/04 9:00 a.m. **Frank Abbate**
(Sam & Marilyn Garwig)
- Thur. 07/05 8:30 a.m.
- Fri. 07/06 8:30 a.m. **Roseanne Jobson**
- Sat. 07/07 8:30 a.m. **Alice Walczak** (*James Walczak*)
 6:00 p.m. **Ken Whitney**
(Ed & Carol Pfeiffer)
- Sun. 07/08 8:30 a.m. **All Deceased Knights of Columbus**
 11:00 a.m. **For The People of OLM**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Mon. 07/02 Am 2:6-10, 13-16 / Matthew 8:18-22
- Tue. 07/03 Eph 2:19-22 / John 20:24-29
- Wed. 07/04 Am 5:14-15, 21-24 / Matthew 8:28-34
- Thur. 07/05 Am 7:10-17 / Matthew 9:1-8
- Fri. 07/06 Am 8:4-6, 9-12 / Matthew 9:9-13
- Sat. 07/07 Am 9:11-15 / Matthew 9:14-17
- Sun. 07/08 Ez 2:2-5 / 2 Cor 12:7-10 / Mark 6:1-6a



Thank You Marsha

Marsha MacKinnon will be moving on to a full-time position starting this month. We sincerely thank Marsha for serving us well for three years as our administrative assistant. In particular for her attention to detail. We pray for her success in her new job.

Hospital Visitation

We do not always get accurate reports of who is in the hospital because of the change in policy for the local hospitals. If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital please call the parish office to let us know.



IN LOVING MEMORY

We remember Victor Nieset, father of Sharon Garwig. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Mark 5:21-43



Throughout the ages, God's people have struggled with the problem of suffering. With the psalmist we ask: "What profit is there in my death? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?" There are no simple solutions, but there is hope: God did not make death. God made all things that they might have life. Yet what happens when those dearest to us suffer and die? Do we come to the Lord hopeful yet fearful as we plead for the life of a loved one? Do we come to the Lord feeling unworthy and unclean, desperately reaching out to receive healing and peace? Jesus knows our needs and our longing to be restored to wholeness and life. "Fear is useless! What is needed is trust," he tells one. "Your faith has healed you!" he says to another. Together we praise God for rescuing us from distress and drawing us from the pit of despair. When our suffering is united to Christ, the forces of darkness and evil are defeated.

For Reflection: Do I need Courage to come to Jesus for healing? For whom do I need to intercede today?

© Kay Murdy



Social Justice Committee News

Throughout July, the Social Justice Committee is focusing on the issue of peace. A key theme of Catholic Social Teaching is the protection of the life and dignity of the human person. This teaching guides us to be a people of peace. **From the U. S. Catholic Bishops Conference:** *"The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person."*



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Dangers of Cell Phone Cameras

Cell phone cameras are a mixed blessing. Forget your camera? Whip out the cell phone, and your toddler's first step, friend's goofy mishap, or fender-bender is captured for posterity. But cell phones are also being used in a sinister way – to silently take pictures of unsuspecting children, adolescents, and adults in compromising positions and without their consent. Plus, digital photos can be placed on the internet very quickly – within minutes of taking the photo – and distributed around the world. In fact, some web sites have been created for the sole purpose of posting photos taken surreptitiously with camera phones. Be aware of anyone using a cell phone in an awkward way, such as not holding it up to his or her ear or facing his or her mouth in a walkie-talkie style. Be especially cognizant of any suspicious cell phone use in areas where people could be in various stages of undress or where children are gathered. If you see someone using a cell phone in a way that appears suspicious, don't be afraid to ask what he or she is doing or to alert someone in a position of authority about your concerns. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of June 24, 2018

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	113	\$3,910.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,935.00
Loose Change:		\$211.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,056.00

Women's Summer Study

Once again, we will have a Monday evening gathering for women in the parish. Gather at the home of Irene (1019 Bartlett Rd.) at 7:00 p.m. **July 9 and July 16.** Weather permitting, we will meet on the patio. Extra lawn chairs appreciated. We will discuss the teachings of 4 distinguished female saints. . In the remaining weeks, we will look at the lives and teachings of St. Teresa of Avila and St. Therese of Lisieux. What might these holy and creative women have to teach holy and creative women of our day?



Children's Worship Bulletins

Religious education classes may have concluded for the school year, but children continue to need to be encouraged in their life of faith. Help the young child in your life to engage with the Sunday readings by using the Children's Worship Bulletins which can be found on the bulletin tables. Each weekly 4-page booklet has activities related to the Sunday readings designed for young children.

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 a.m. Sunday Mass. **CLW leaders MUST have required clearances. Training is provided.** If you can help, contact Irene at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Nursery

The Nursery is open for use by any parent during Mass or other parish events. It is located in the classroom area. (Go down the hall to the right as you come in the doors off Bartlett Road.) There is no schedule of parents staffing the nursery during the 11:00am Mass during the summer. Questions call Donna Clark in the parish office.

Counseling Available

Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy are offering their professional skills as counselors for adults, teens or family counseling. Counseling meetings are at the church, in a confidential setting. To schedule an appointment, contact Donna Clark, 899-5342.

Welcome

We welcome Katie Stephenson onto the staff of Our Lady of Mercy as Receptionist and Administrative Assistant. Katie has been a member of the parish for over 24 year. She has been involved in various ministries so she may seem familiar to you when you walk into the parish office this week. Please make her feel welcome.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the summer issue of *For Mercy Sake* is Sunday, July 15. Items can be emailed to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Spiritual and Prayer Ministry Sign up

If you would like to sign up for any of the Spiritual and Prayer Ministries see the display in the Gathering Space. These include: Healing Ministry, Legion of Mary, Prayer Line, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Stewardship Committee, and Small Christian Communities.

Grief Support

Often we don't talk about our experience of grief because we think what we are going through is abnormal. Yet when we do have a chance to share with someone who is also experiencing the loss of a loved one we find that our experiences are very similar. Knowing that we are not along goes a long way toward the healing process. Join us for the monthly grief support on **Monday, July 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor**. Questions? Call Donna Clark.

One-on-One Grief Support

Our Companions in Grief Ministry also meets with people one-on-one. If you would like to speak with someone please call Donna Clark in the Parish office.

Divorced & Separated Ministry

Our Lady of Mercy has a ministry to the divorced and separated. This one-on-one ministry allows those experiencing divorce or separation to talk to another person who has been through it. This person can provide support during a difficult time. Contact Donna Clark.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

The 2018 Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating milestone anniversaries of 25, 50 or 60 or more years of marriage in 2018 will be held on **Sunday, August 5, 2018 at St. George Church, Erie at 2:00 p.m.** To register call the OLM Parish Office at 899-5342 or go online to <https://www.eriecld.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>. Register before July 27, 2018.

Parish Quilt

New parish families are encouraged to decorate a quilt square for our parish quilt that hangs on the back wall of the worship space. You may find a square in the basket on the table next to classroom #1. After you decorate your family square please return it to the parish office.

Hair Care Done in Your Home

Specializing in seniors and disabled, Annette will come to your home. She can do perms, shampoo and sets, haircuts, manicures, coloring and barbering. For more information or to get in touch with Annette please call 814-616-6946.

Special Thanks

A special thank you for the recognition at the Knights of Columbus Mass on June 24. It was a complete surprise to receive this honor and I want to thank my brother Knights and the parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy for all their support these past 25 years. Thank you once again!

Sincerely, Gus Manna

OLM Festival Sunday, July 8

Festival Set-Up is Thursday, July 5 at 6:00 p.m. Thanks to everyone for picking up prize tickets! Prizes will also be awarded for all tickets with a "seller" name listed on all winning tickets, so help us to sell more tickets! **We are in great need of Chinese Auction items.** Please deliver them to the parish office. Don't forget about baking sweet breads and bake sale items. Drop them off starting on July 1. We also need children games prizes. **Volunteer sign-ups have been posted. We NEED your help! We are also still in need of a clean-up coordinator and a teen game coordinator.** Thank you for the many hands that have been very busy with the preparations! If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact Jayne Suess at [REDACTED] or Ed Fialkowski at 814-456-0943.



5K Chicken Run & Chicken Little Run

Get your **5K Chicken Run and Chicken Little Run** applications in the Gathering Space. Cost is \$15 if you are pre-registered, **\$20 day of the race**. Kids 10 and under no charge and will receive a free t-shirt if they are pre-registered. **The 5K Chicken Run/walk begins at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 7 at OLM.**

OLM Book Group

Summer is here. Time for a book at the beach or on the porch. And time to sip wine and discuss that book with a great group of ladies as you enjoy a beautiful Erie sunset. All are welcome to join us at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 18** at the home of Pat Marshall, 4159 Ridge Pkwy, to discuss *Rise and Shine* by Anna Quindlen. Want to read ahead? Our August book will be *The Burglary* by Betty Metsger.

Men's Night Out—Baseball Excursion

The Knights of Columbus 6th annual baseball excursion to Cleveland to see the Indians play the Los Angeles Angels will take place on **Sunday August 5 at 1:00 p.m.** The trip is open to parish men age 21 and over. The cost of \$39 per person and includes; school bus transportation, game ticket, complimentary refreshments and lunch on the bus. **Reservations must be received by Monday July 8.** The bus departs from the church at 9:45 a.m. The trip is open to the first 41 men who sign-up. Checks payable to: Phil Legler, and mailed to his address, 3989 Magnolia Blossom Drive, Erie, Pa. 16510.

Parking Lot Dance

It's summer in Harborcreek and there's dancing in the streets. OLM will host its 3rd annual Parking Lot Dance on **Saturday, July 21 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.** This is a parish event for the entire family. Dance to the music of DJ Pete Colliss. There will be games, snacks and lots and lots of fun! Bring your own lawn chairs and bug spray. The event is free but a donation will be accepted to cover the cost of the DJ. We will also be painting rocks for OLM's version of Rock Out Erie. Come and Learn more.



CALLING ALL BAKERS—THIS IS THE WEEK TO BAKE!



**THE PARISH FESTIVAL IS NOW
COLLECTING SWEET BREADS!
THE GOAL: 225 SWEET BREADS**

**DROP OFF TO THE SPERRY HALL KITCHEN STARTING JULY 1
& WE'LL FREEZE THEM.**

WE NEED A VARIETY OF SWEET BREADS.

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS: Call Marge LeFaiver at 899-5261

The Parish Festival is Sunday, July 8, 2018



United Way's 2-1-1 Information and Referral Service Now Available

2-1-1 is the social service equivalent of 9-1-1, connecting people in need with the vast array of health, human and social services available in Erie County.

2-1-1 service specifically addresses the 2016 Erie County Community Health Improvement Plan which concluded the lack of a central information and referral system as one of the "overarching challenges" impacting the health of Erie County residents.

Think 2-1-1 for social services much like people now think 9-1-1 for emergency services.

CALL 2-1-1

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