

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*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

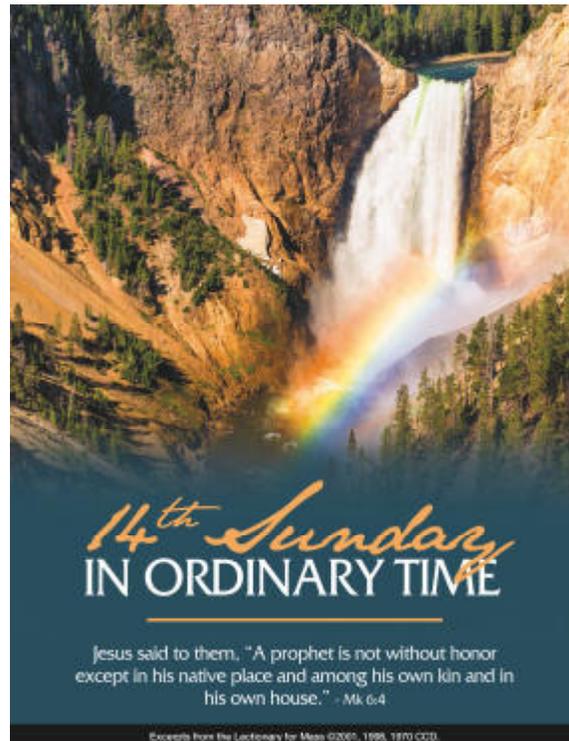
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

July 8, 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. 07/09	7:00 p.m.	Women's Summer Study
Tue. 07/10	10:00 a.m.	Families & Faith Formation Committee
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish committee Mtg
Wed. 07/11	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 07/12	9:15 a.m.	Oremus: Study on Prayer
Fri. 07/13	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Sat. 07/14	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 07/15	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry



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 Donna Smicker.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/09	8:30 a.m.	Helene & Elmer Abahazzi <i>(John & Irene Abbate)</i>
Tue. 07/10	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 07/11	9:30 a.m.	Margaret Gross <i>(Family)</i>
Thur. 07/12	8:30 a.m.	Penny Moore
Fri. 07/13	8:30 a.m.	Jack Rathers
Sat. 07/14	8:30 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Angels in Training
	6:00 p.m.	For The People of OLM
Sun. 07/15	8:30 a.m.	Jim Bucklin <i>(Lorraine Bucklin)</i>
	11:00 a.m.	Nancy Rupp <i>(Jim Guth)</i>

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 07/09	Hos 2:16,17b-18, 21-22 / Matthew 9:18-26
Tue. 07/10	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13 / Matthew 9:32-38
Wed. 07/11	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 / Matthew 10:1-7
Thur. 07/12	Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9 / Matthew 10:8-15
Fri. 07/13	Hos 14:2-10 / Matthew 10:16-23
Sat. 07/14	Is 6:1-8 / Matthew 10:24-33
Sun. 07/15	Am 7:12-15/ Eph 1:3-14 / Mark 6:7-13

OFFICE UPDATES

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.

Hospital Visitation

We don't 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.**

Welcome Katie

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.

Thank you Marsha

We thank Marsha MacKinnon for serving us for three years as our Administrative Assistant. As of July 1 she has moved on to another position. We are grateful for the gifts of organization and attention to detail that helped to keep the parish running smoothly.

THIS SUNDAY'S

REFLECTION

Mark 6:1-6a



It's not easy to be God's prophet. Often people turn a deaf ear to the truth, especially when the one speaking is someone they live and work with or when you are that prophet. Why should they listen to you? You become discouraged and feel like giving up. But the Spirit stands you on your feet and gives you courage to try again. Whether the people listen or not, at least they will know that there has been a prophet among them.

Paul understood how it felt to be mocked by the proud and arrogant. He had to keep his eyes on the Lord, knowing that the power of Christ would enable him to be strong when he was weak. He was confident that God's grace would be sufficient for him. Jesus also endured derision. Why should anyone listen to him - he was only a carpenter! His mother and relatives were their neighbors! Jesus knew that a prophet was never accepted by his own. Since those he knew and loved lacked faith, Jesus could work no miracle among his own people. Without faith, it was impossible to see the sacred in their midst.

For Reflection: Have I proclaimed the gospel of peace today? Am I able to maintain hope in times of discouragement and opposition?

© Kay Murdy



Social Justice Committee News

In our exploration of the theme of peace, we look to Pope Francis, who has spoken about peace innumerable times and delivers a message for peace every New Year's Day. Here is what he said on 12/8/16: *"Peacebuilding through active nonviolence is the natural and necessary complement to the Church's continuing efforts to limit the use of force by the application of moral norms; she does so by her participation in the work of international institutions and through the competent contribution made by so many Christians to the drafting of legislation at all levels. Jesus himself offers a "manual" for this strategy of peacemaking in the Sermon on the Mount. The eight Beatitudes (cf. Mt 5:3-10) provide a portrait of the person we could describe as blessed, good and authentic. Blessed are the meek, Jesus tells us, the merciful and the peacemakers, those who are pure in heart, and those who hunger and thirst for justice."*

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.



Hearing Assisted Sound System

If you have difficulty hearing during Mass contact a staff member who can assist you with getting a receiver and ear piece.

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 11:00 a.m. Mass during the summer. Questions? Call Donna Clark in the parish office.

Congratulations Knights

Congratulations to Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus who are celebrating their 25th Anniversary as Council #11144 in the Erie Catholic Diocese. *Thanks for all you do for us, Your Church Family.*

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 1, 2018

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	124	\$5,607.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,182.00
Loose Change:		\$152.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$8,941.00

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 teaching 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?



Catechists Needed

The start of religious education is only two months away. It is time to begin praying about God's call to become involved in the religious education ministry. For the coming academic year, we need a Jr. High catechist (12:00-1:15 p.m. Sunday afternoon), several Confirmation Home Session leaders for Gr. 9 (time of choosing) and a Sunday morning general aide (9:15-10:45 a.m.). All volunteers who work with youth must provide current background checks and view an online training for child safety. Training for the ministry of catechism will be provided. If you would like more information, contact Irene Lucas at 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 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.

Children's Worship Bulletins

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.

Youth Group Mission

On Sunday July 15, 25 youth and 7 adults will be leaving St. Mark's following 10:30 a.m. Mass for our annual mission trip. Thank you for being such supportive parishes. We ask that you please keep us in your prayers for the week: *"Heavenly Father, thank you for calling each of this team to step up and serve. We ask for guidance for them each day as they show the Face of Christ to those they serve. May they be grateful for all who have supported their efforts. Give them courage to follow through as they depart and while they are on their mission of service. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen."*



OLM Festival Sunday July 8

The Festival is this Sunday! If you missed volunteer sign-ups, please contact Jayne Suess. We still need volunteers! Special thanks are going out to all of the individuals who have been instrumental in making the Festival ... "The best festival ever!" If you choose not to volunteer, please attend and support our church! There are some great prizes and fund things for the kids to do! Oh, and John and the crew have once again cooked some amazing chicken! **Thank you so much for your support!**



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 alone 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 divorcee 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.

Smile for Our Lady of Mercy

To link to our Amazon Smile charity listing visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1563277>. If you shop Amazon please consider using Amazon Smile and naming "Our Lady of Mercy - Harborcreek" as your charity.

Traveling for the Summer?

If you would like to keep up regular donations to Our Lady of Mercy during the summer when you are traveling. Please consider signing up with Faith Direct - our e-giving program. Go to our parish website and click on the "Faith Direct" button on the left side of our home page. You can use it only for the summer if you would like. You can have money taken directly from a checking or savings account or use a credit card.

Are you a person with a disability and looking for more in your Faith Life?

Are you someone with a disability or do you know someone with a disability who wants more out of their Faith Life? The Office of Disabilities and Deaf Ministry has a number of groups that will provide the faith-filled social interaction you're looking for. Call the Deaf and Disabilities Director at 814-824-1257 or email at d&dministry@erieRCD.org for more details. You can also learn more about our ministry on the diocesan website www.ErieRCD.org under Catholic Charities Disability Ministries.

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.

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 evening, July 21 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.** This is a parish event for the entire family. In addition to the DJ, 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.



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 9.** 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.

Local Mission Work Camp Seeks Help

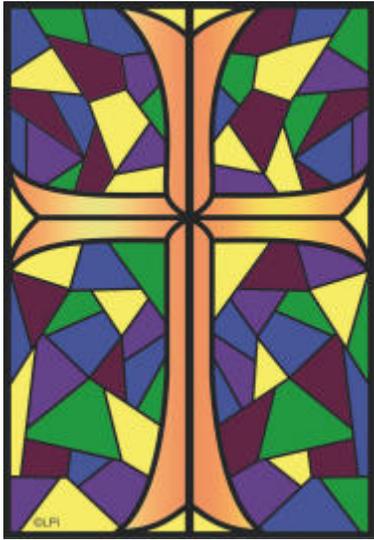
As we send our youth off to work camp next week, we have an opportunity to help a youth work camp that is coming to Lawrence Park the week of July 15. Ways to help the campers who are staying at Iroquois High School: snacks, cookies, cut up watermelon, bagged chips, pretzels, etc., and popsicles for the worksites and of course monetary donations. **Drop off donations starting Sunday, July 15 in the parish office.** Thank you.

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.

Special Thanks

With a heartfelt thank you to from family, friends and the community of Our Lady from the family of Tim Eisert. A special thank also to all the wonderful people who helped in the kitchen and prepared the funeral lunch and all the generous friends who donated food. The extent of your generosity was overwhelming. All of your wonderful gifts were greatly appreciated.
Thank you again, Marty Eisert.



Celebrating the Ministries of Our Lady of Mercy

August 4 & 5 is the celebration of the **Administrative Ministries**.

These include:

Finance Council

Tech Committee (Digital Communication)

Library

Newsletter and Parish Mailings

Office Help

Pastoral Council

Scrip Gift Card Program

On this weekend, please wear **yellow** if you are in one of these ministries. There will be an opportunity to learn more about each of these ministries and sign-up if the spirit is drawing you to participate in a ministry.

Why are we celebrating the ministries at Mass?

The stewardship committee wanted to draw more attention to the ministries within the parish; honor and bless those people involved in the ministries and give more information about each ministry so newer members of the parish can discern how God is calling them to share their gifts within a ministry. Once a month we are celebrating a different group of ministries.

Are you new to the Parish?

If you are new to the parish you will have an opportunity to learn more about our ministries in the monthly celebrations. You can sign up during that month or if you want to take some time to discern then sign up in October.

If I am already involved in a ministry when do I sign up again?

In October, we will have a ministry recommitment ceremony at Mass. Everyone will recommit to their ministries, join a new ministry or indicate that they wish to retire.

What do I do if I want to sign up for a new ministry?

You may sign up during the month that we celebrated the ministry (see chart below) or wait until October during the ministry commitment weekend.

What do I do if I want to retire from a ministry?

Simply contact the person who coordinates that particular ministry and tell them you wish to retire. If you do not know who that person is, please contact Donna Clark in the parish office at 899-5342.

Coming up:

September 8 & 9: Outreach (indigo)
October 14: Ministry Celebration & Recommitment



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