

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://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

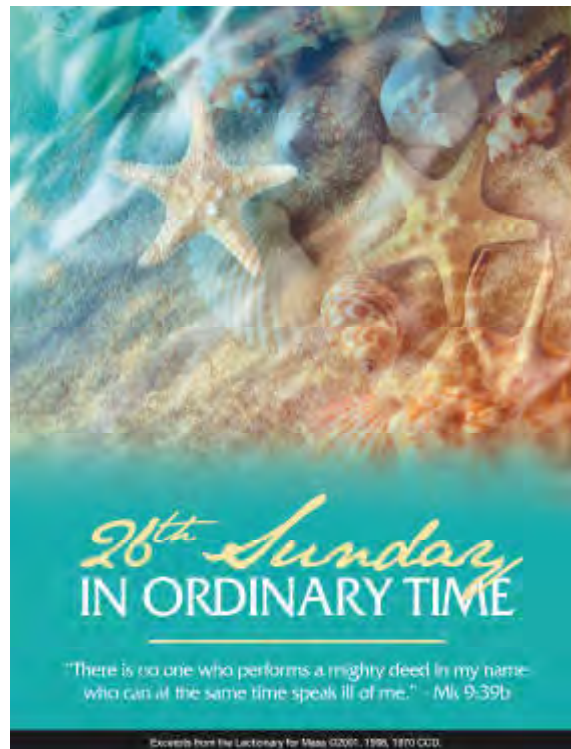
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

September 30, 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](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

<b>Mon. 10/01</b>	1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Ladies Lunch Pastoral Facilitator Meeting
<b>Tue. 10/02</b>	9:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC Prayer Shawl Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6 Children's Choir Pastoral Council AA Meeting
<b>Wed. 10/03</b>	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
<b>Thur. 10/04</b>	7:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	Meditation Instruction Painting Class Prayer Shawl Choir Rehearsal
<b>Fri. 10/05</b>	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
<b>Sat. 10/06</b>	10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	AA Meeting Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 10/07</b>		Casserole Club Drop Off Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 a.m. Healing Ministry 9:30 a.m. K-2 Religious Ed. 12:00 p.m. 7 & 8 Gr. Religious Ed. 12:00 p.m. Family Harvest Fest

## 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

<b>Mon. 10/01</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>David Ross</b> (Family)
<b>Tue. 10/02</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Dolores Dietz</b>
<b>Wed. 10/03</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Thur. 10/04</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Fri. 10/05</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Francis Talerico</b> (Daughter)
<b>Sat. 10/06</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Norbert Walczak</b> (James Walczak)
	6:00 p.m.	<b>Larry Rogers</b> (Family)
<b>Sun. 10/07</b>	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b> <b>Lewis Peters</b> (Carole Peters)

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 10/01</b>	Jb 1:6-22	/ Luke 9:46-50
<b>Tue. 10/02</b>	Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23	/ Matthew 18:1-5, 10
<b>Wed. 10/03</b>	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16	/ Luke 9:57-62
<b>Thur. 10/04</b>	Jb 19:21-27	/ Luke 10:1-12
<b>Fri. 10/05</b>	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5	/ Luke 10:13-16
<b>Sat. 10/06</b>	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17	/ Luke 10:17-24
<b>Sun. 10/07</b>	Gn 2:18-24/Heb 2:9-11/ Mark 10:2-16	

## In Loving Memory

We remember: **John Kelley**, step-father of Laura Merritt and **Joan Bowers**, mother of Pat Marshall; Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

### First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

There is a very important meeting for parents of children in the First Reconciliation Sunday morning RE class. The meeting will be held on **Sunday, Oct. 14** in the Conference Room while the children are in class.

### Harvest Fest

Our annual Harvest Fest will take place **Sunday, Oct. 7 from noon to 2:00 PM**. There will be a feast of homemade soups, crafts and games for the children, a day to celebrate the blessings of the season. We need people willing to make and donate a crockpot of soup for our feast. Sign-up lists for soup are in the Gathering Space. Thank you in advance.



### Confirmation Penance Service

On **Sunday, Oct. 14 at 6:00**, there will be a Penance Service for all those to be Confirmed at the end of the month along with their sponsors and their families. The entire parish is invited to join us to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at this time.

### Question & Answer w/t Pastor

Our next Q&A with Fr. Ritchie will be **Tuesday, Oct 9 at 7:00** in the Conference Room. Do you have questions about Church practices, traditions or teachings? Do you have a friend who has questions that you can't answer? This is a perfect opportunity to get those answers in a relaxed environment. Join us for snacks, drinks and conversation. You are welcome to bring a snack to share, but don't feel obligated.



## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

**Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48**



When Moses became exhausted by the constant demands and complaints of the people on their wilderness journey, God poured out gifts on the community, and 70 elders began to prophesy! But two "outsiders" also spoke God's words, and Joshua insisted that they be stopped. Moses confronted this man who would one day lead the people to the Promised Land. Was Joshua jealous on account of Moses or for his own sake? Moses opposed him saying, "Would that the Lord might bestow his gifts on them all!" The psalmist pleads, "Cleanse me from my unknown faults."

James challenged the hidden sin in every community, the powerful who lived in luxury and withheld just wages from the harvesters of crops while the poor had no power to resist. The sins committed against them reach the ears of the Lord of justice.

Jesus had stern words for those who hoarded power for themselves. He vigorously expelled the demons of pride and greed from among them: "If your hand is in someone else's pocket, take it out! If your foot is on someone's neck, get it off! If your eye lusts after what does not belong to you, tear that eye out!" if we want to enter God's reign "whole" and "holy", we had better eradicate such sins from our midst.

*For Reflection: Have I examined myself for remnants of pride, greed, and jealousy?*

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER**

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Sept 18 was **Monty Vero, Gr. 6**, who knew that the patron saint of Our Lady of Mercy parish is the Blessed Mother.



**#ThinkAboutItOLM**

This week's Social Media "Think About It" is: **What is your favorite OLM event and why?**

Due to privacy settings on Facebook, we are unable to see some of your #ThinkAboutItOLM posts. Please continue to share on your personal Social Media page, but we are now asking that you post your response directly to the #ThinkAboutItOLM Our Lady of Mercy Facebook post too. This way we can all stay connected!

**Parking at OLM**

Some of our older parishioners are looking for parking spaces closer to the door, especially for the 6pm Saturday Mass and the 11AM Sunday Mass. Although they are not officially listed as handicapped they are unable to walk great distances. If you can walk easily, please consider parking a little further away from the doors to leave a few non-handicapped spaces open for our older parishioners who come just before Mass. This would be particularly helpful especially during the winter months.



**Women's Luncheon**

On **Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 1pm** we will gather at Haborview Grill. (3730 Harbor Ridge Trail). If you live alone and are looking for companionship and laughter please join us. Questions? **Call Donna Clark** in the parish office.

**Life Run 2018**

Timed 5K and 10K Races and Fun Walk will take place Saturday, October 13 at Burch Farms Country Market and Winery, corner of Moorheadville & Sidehill Roads (between Harborcreek and North East, just 17 minutes from Peach & I-90) Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m. Races and Walk begin at 9 a.m. Free t-shirt if registered by October 1, free child care, free refreshments, door prizes, free wine tasting. Register online at [www.peopleforlife.life/runinfo](http://www.peopleforlife.life/runinfo) or call (814) 882-1333 for a registration form. More information also at [www.Facebook.com/LifeRunErie](http://www.Facebook.com/LifeRunErie). Your \$25 registration (\$15 for ages 7-15, free under 7) will support the pro-life educational work of People for Life in the Erie area. Advance registrations appreciated; same-day registrations welcome.

**Calling all OLM Runners and Walkers**

If you are interested in joining the Life Run with a group of OLM Parishioners, please **contact Katie in the Parish Office at 899-5342** or by email: [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org). We would love to show a strong OLM presence out in the community all while having fun and supporting a great cause.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Offertory for the weekend of **September 23, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	57	\$2,100.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,113.00
Loose Change:		\$ 196.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$5,409.00</b>

**Ministry Recommitment and Showcase Oct 13 & 14**

During Mass on this weekend, everyone will have an opportunity to recommit to their current ministries or join a new ministry. The recommitment ceremony will be during Mass. After Mass we will have a Ministry Showcase in Sperry Hall. There you can sign up for a new ministry. These ministries are looking new people to join them: **Social Justice, Sister Parish, Tech Committee, AGIFT, Lifelong Faith Formation.** Start now in prayer to discern how best to use your gifts. At any time you can contact your ministry leader to make a change or contact Donna Clark in the parish office. 899-5342

**Counseling for Abuse**

If you or someone you know is in need of counseling, you may contact our parish counselor, Paula DeDionisio, directly at 814-722-8805. Paula is a trained professional counselor specializing in trauma. Counseling assistance is also available for victims and/or their families through the diocesan victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Robert Nelson at 814-451-1521. You may approach any member of the staff of Our Lady of Mercy who will assist you in finding the appropriate help. Victims or concerned individuals can report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the Dioceses of Erie: [ErieRCD@KLGates.com](mailto:ErieRCD@KLGates.com). People are also welcome to contact the diocese directly at 814-451-1543 or call the PA ChildLine at 800-932-0313.



**Making a Connection: The Caregiver Journey**

If you are a primary provider of care and support for a loved one with dementia please join us for our caregiver conference on **Thursday Nov 15th, 2018 8:45am-2:30pm** at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel on 55 W Bay Rd Drive, Erie, PA 16507. This event is FREE and will leave you feeling empowered with practical tools for caregiving! Questions? **Contact Debbie at 814-456-9200 x5101.** To register please visit: <https://conta.cc/2N0IZHu>.

**Stressed Out?**

Need to Slow Down? Learn about relaxation techniques that can work well before entering into quiet prayer. Instruction will be giving on **Wednesday October 3 at 7pm.** These techniques also work during times of stress or other agitation. Then for those who wish, we will follow with instruction on meditation/contemplative prayer.



**Do you use a cell phone for your main communication?**

Would it be helpful if the parish had your cell phone number? Please **text 814-566-7593** to let us know or email [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org). Tell us your name and cell phone number.

**OLM Day of Service**

Our Lady of Mercy is organizing a day to assist the elderly and/or disabled in our parish to complete their yard work in preparation for winter. If you are or you know a parishioner in need of help raking, putting away the lawn furniture, pulling out annuals, etc., please contact Irene at 899-6132 with name, address and description of the work that needs to be done. Our Service Day will be Saturday, Nov. 10 from 9:00-noon. In October we will be asking families to sign up to serve those parishioners who are in need.



# October Birthdays

James Lucas	18	Oct. 2
Conner Barber	6	Oct. 2
Allison Dorosch	18	Oct. 3
Jacob Ramalho	15	Oct. 4
Aidan McLaughlin	14	Oct. 4
Shaela Nelson	15	Oct. 7
Emma Skelly	7	Oct. 7
Gavin Bleil-Tersigni	6	Oct. 8
Sienna Blood	6	Oct. 8
Casey Smith	16	Oct. 8
Cody Smith	16	Oct. 8
Lily Juhas	1	Oct. 9
Domonic Viscuso	18	Oct. 12
Parker Nguyen	12	Oct. 13
Julia Chludzinski	10	Oct. 13
Anthony Bly	6	Oct. 17
Luca Burick	4	Oct. 20
Lillian Festa	8	Oct. 21
Anthony Viscuso	15	Oct. 22
Alex Nowak	18	Oct. 23
Jacob Rzodkiewicz	12	Oct. 23
Matthew Dorosch	16	Oct. 25
Logan Buczynski	16	Oct. 29
Kevin Juhas	2	Oct. 31
Zoe Redford	9	Oct. 31



## Children's Liturgy of the Word

There has been a request to have Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 8:30 Mass. We can only make this possible if we have 4 volunteer leaders willing to be on a rotating schedule. If you are interested in being part of this ministry at the 8:30 Mass, **contact Irene to learn more at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)**.

## Baptismal Preparation Session

Our next session for parents and godparents will be **Sunday, Oct. 21 at 12:15** in the Conference Room. If you have or are expecting a baby and hope to celebrate baptism with the child in the next 6 months, you need to attend a preparation session. To register for this class, **call the Parish Office at 899-5342**.



## 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**. Annette recently moved back to Erie and joined Our Lady of Mercy.

## 24th Annual Rosary March

Fatima's 101 year anniversary, **Sunday October 14, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.** at the St. Peter Cathedral on 10th and Sassafras. Please come join us and pray the Rosary. Sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima. For those unable to march, the Rosary will be recited in the Cathedral while the March is taking place. For more information, please **call John Walsh at 868-1100**.

## Grief Support

On **Monday, October 15 at 7pm**, we host a monthly grief support group. The journey through grief can be confusing and frustrating. Nothing seems normal. Sometimes talking about it helps, especially when sharing with people who can understand. For more information, **contact Donna Clark** in the parish office.

## Book Group

Longer autumn nights and cooler, wetter autumn days are the perfect excuse to get lost in a good book. And a good book is made even better by sharing it with friends. All are invited to join us on **Wednesday, Oct. 17** at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd., to discuss **The Rent Collector** by Camron Wright. Want to read ahead? Our November book will be **Rose Kennedy: The Life and Times of a Political Matriarch** by Barbara Perry.

## Autumn Scripture Study

All are invited to a 4 week Scripture Study on 1 Samuel **beginning Nov. 1**. The sessions will be held Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:30 in the Conference Room. Nov. 1 - Samuel, Nov. 8 - Saul, Nov. 15 - David, Nov. 29 - David. There are no books to purchase, no need to register. All are welcome.

## OLM Wine Social

Our Lady of Mercy is a warm community of wonderful people who truly care about each other. But Sunday morning does not always give us the time to visit, especially with those we do not know well. So, it is good to be able to get together on occasion just to be with each other, to meet parishioners we do not know and to visit with the ones we rarely get to spend time with. Join us **Friday, Oct. 12 at 7:00** for a Wine Social. Bring your favorite bottle of wine and a snack to share. All are welcome.



## Verify Your Ministries

Starting this weekend, please check the ministry lists in the gathering space. Please verify that you are still participating in the ministries for which we have you listed.

## Story Time

There is something new for pre-school children and their parents! It is our Wednesday morning Story Time: music, games activities, snack and stories guarantee a fun-filled hour for all. We meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday mornings at 9:30** under the skylight in the classroom area. All are welcome. Bring a friend. There is no cost. Our next session is **Oct. 10**.



## For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the November issue of For Mercy Sake is **October 21**.



# Liturgy <sup>is</sup> ~~and~~ Life

encountering the mystery of the Eucharist

presented by **Brandon Vogt**

**FOUR WEEKLY SESSIONS IN OCTOBER:**

**Monday evenings in the Chapel:**

**October 8, 15, 22, 29**

**7:00 p.m.**

Note: the Thursday morning sessions originally announced in the newsletter have been cancelled.

**“The liturgy is the privileged place for catechizing the People of God”**

*(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1075)*

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*Brandon Vogt is Our Lady of Mercy’s Director of Liturgy and Music.*

*He also attends the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago, where he is a candidate for a Master of Arts in Liturgical Studies.*

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