

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

October 7, 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. 10/08	7:00 p.m.	Living the Liturgy Series
Tue. 10/09	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC Steel Magnolias SCC Legion of Mary Prayer Shawl Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6 Children's Choir Q&A with the Pastor AA Meeting
Wed. 10/10	9.30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Story Time Parish Counselor Diamonds in the Rough SCC AGIFT Meeting Fruit of the Vine SCC Knights of Columbus
Thur. 10/11	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Painting Class Prayer Shawl Choir Rehearsal Parish Wine Social
Fri. 10/12	7:00 p.m.	Parish Wine Social
Sat. 10/13		Ministry Recombitment Weekend
	10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	AA Meeting Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/14		Ministry Recombitment Weekend
	9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	K-2 Religious Ed. First Reconciliation Parent Meeting 7 & 8 Gr. Religious Ed. Confirmation Penance Service

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 10/08	8:30 a.m.	Bob Jones & David Jones (Barb Jones)
Tue. 10/09	8:30 a.m.	Joe Ryan
Wed. 10/10	8:30 a.m.	Leona Stankiewicz (Joan Pruzenski)
Thur. 10/11	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 10/12	8:30 a.m.	Joanne Smith (Liana Pasquale)
Sat. 10/13	8:30 a.m.	Dolores Dietz (Larry & Carol Rogers)
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 10/14	8:30 a.m.	Paul DeLuca (RoseMarie DeLuca)
	11:00 a.m.	Sal Frontino (Barb Alessie)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 10/08	Gal 1:6-12	/ Luke 10:25-37
Tue. 10/09	Gal 1:13-24	/ Luke 10:38-42
Wed. 10/10	Gal 2:1-2, 7-14	/ Luke 11:1-4
Thur. 10/11	Gal 3:1-5	/ Luke 11:5-13
Fri. 10/12	Gal 3:7-14	/ Luke 11:15-26
Sat. 10/13	Gal 3:22-29	/ Luke 11:27-28
Sun. 10/14	Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/ Mark 10:17-30	

In Loving Memory

We remember **Denny Smith**. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

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 **Tom & Linda Bleil**.



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.

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 with the 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 10:2-16

God created us to be partners of one another. Superiority and dominance have no place between women and men; the two are one body. Jesus became one with us, taking human flesh with all its joys and sufferings, tasting both life and death for our sakes. He is our leader who shows us the path to salvation. He who consecrates and we who are consecrated by him have one and the same Father. Jesus is not ashamed to call us his sisters and brothers.

When we strive to live up to Jesus's ideals, we are beacons of light to those who fail to live with fidelity and commitment. We know well the pain that ensues when we live otherwise: jealousy, bitterness, hostility, separation and divorce are the result of our shortcomings. But Jesus knows our human weakness and how we waver in our resolutions. It is not God's will that anyone divide what God has joined. When we blame ourselves because we are small and weak, Jesus embraces us and assures us of his love. If we want to enter God's reign, we must become like children who trust in the permanence of God's love and have confidence in God's mercy and forgiveness.

For Reflection: *Do I strive to assure the dignity of each human person?*

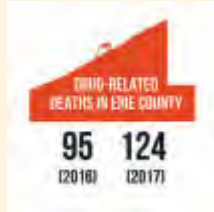


Social Justice Committee

This image indicates the number of drug-related deaths for 2016 and 2017 In Erie County, PA. According to a report this week the County Coroner states that the 2018 Year-to-Date drug related deaths number 66.

The exact reason(s) for the slowing rate of deaths is not known for certain. But one theory is that the increasing availability of Naloxone (Narcan) to first responders and even family members of addicted people has allowed for effective intervention and lifesaving reversal of the effects of opioids.

The public standing order that allows a family member to obtain Naloxone is kept on file at many pharmacies.



Thank You

It is in times of sorrow that we more fully recognize the blessings that we have. We are truly blessed to belong to such a wonderful parish. On behalf of our entire family, we would like to thank Fr. Ritchie, Brandon and the choir, the

Bereavement Committee, the Funeral Luncheon Team, the parishioners who made food and everyone for their condolences. We could not have given Mom a finer farewell.
Gratefully, Pat & Ken Marshall

Parish Counselor Available

Paula DeDionisio is available for one on one counseling for anyone who is in need. You can reach Paula at 814-722-8805. Paula will be at the parish each **Wednesday from 10am to 1pm** to receive walk ins. On **Wednesday Oct. 24** the Family Grace Support Group will begin. This is for people who have a family member diagnosed with a Mental Illness. For questions call Paula or Donna Clark in the parish office.



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/2NOIZHu>.

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.

St. Lawrence Church Annual Roast Beef Dinner

St. Lawrence Parish of Albion will be holding our Annual Fall Dinner on **Sunday, October 14th, 2018**. We will be serving a buffet style meal from 11:30 am until 3:00 pm at the St. Lawrence Center 129 E. Pearl Street, Albion PA. Please use the Elk Street entrance. Prices are \$10 for adults; \$5 for children (children under 6 years are free); and \$12 for take-outs. Thank you for helping us to make our dinner a success!

ANNULMENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

The Office of the Tribunal and Matrimonial Concerns is once again taking our services on the road and offering information sessions for persons in need of an annulment. We invite anyone in need of an annulment to consider attending a meeting on **October 24, 2018**, at Sacred Heart church, Erie. All sessions will begin at 6:30 PM and will include a presentation on the annulment process and the opportunity to meet one-on-one with members of the tribunal staff to answer individual questions. As always, please also feel free to **contact the tribunal office directly (814-824-1140)** with any questions.

For Mercy Sake Deadline

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



 ☆ **QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER** ☆
 ☆ The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week ☆
 ☆ of Sept 25 was **Addy Mikolajewski**, Gr. 5, who ☆
 ☆ knew that each of us has a guardian angel ☆
 ☆ watching over us. ☆
 ☆  ☆
 ☆*****

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 or call (814) 882-1333 for a registration form. More information also at 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. We would love to show a strong OLM presence out in the community all while having fun and supporting a great cause.

Special need of the Food Pantry

One of our families of five has three members who are **gluten free**. Because we do not get large amounts of gluten free food, we try to give this family a gift card. If you are able, please donate a gift card to Aldi's to the food pantry.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **September 30, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	116	\$3,876.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,113.00
Loose Change:		\$ 201.95
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,190.95



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Code of Conduct

The Diocese of Erie is committed to protecting the children and youth who are entrusted to its care and to ensuring that those in ministry with our young people are in right relationship with the children/youth receiving services. To share in the ministry of Christ is a great privilege as well as tremendous responsibility. The *privilege* is the joy of sharing in the mission of Jesus Himself. The *responsibility* is acting in a way that conforms to the attitude and actions of Christ. In this spirit, the diocese has issued a ministerial Code of Conduct, which can be accessed at <http://www.eriecd.org/pdf/codeofconduct.pdf>. The code is included in the diocesan *Policy for the Protection of Children*, which also includes mandates for creating safe environments. To read the policy, go to <http://www.eriecd.org/pdf/protectionpolicy.pdf> For more information, contact Mrs. Cindy Zemick, at the diocesan offices at 814-824-1195.

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 2nd and 4th 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.



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.

Harvest Fest

Our annual Harvest Fest will take place **today, 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.



Grade 4, 5 & 6 Retreat

There will be a special retreat for all youth in Grade 4, 5 & 6 religious education class on **Tuesday, Oct. 23**. The retreat will begin when the children arrive on the school bus and will conclude at 7:00 PM. Dinner will be served.

Day of Reflection

There will be a special Day of Reflection for all adults in the parish, especially those in ministries of leadership. This day of reflection will take place on **Saturday, Nov. 3 from 9:00-1:00**. Dr. Eric Dart of Gannon Univ., will challenge and inspire us to fulfill Christ's Great Commission, "Go and make disciples of all people". If you plan to participate, please contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or lucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org by Oct. 30 so that we can plan lunch.

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.

Liturgy and Life

'Liturgy is Life', a four-week interactive, educational, and spiritual look at the Mass begins TOMORROW evening, Monday, October 8 at 7p.m. in the chapel. Please consider attending this experience, present by Brandon Vogt. Tomorrow's presentation is "What is Mystery?" and "The Gathering Rite".

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.

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.

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.

Celebrating the
Ministries of
Our Lady of Mercy
Ministry Recommitment
October 13 & 14, 2018

*CHRIST has no body but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes
through which His COMPASSION
looks out upon the world.
Yours are the feet
with which He walks to do GOOD.
Yours are the hands
with which He BLESSES all the world.*
-St. Teresa of Avila



Ministry Recommitment

Please take the time
to verify your current ministries.
See the Ministry Lists in the
Gathering Space.

New Ministry Sign-Up

Thinking of joining a new ministry?
See the display in the gathering space
for an informational brochure
and a sign-up sheet.

**These ministries are looking
new people to join them:**

Social Justice
Sister Parish
Tech Committee
AGIFT
Lifelong Faith Formation.

LYNCH
Home Medical Supply
TIMOTHY P. LYNCH
Parishioner, Owner, Certified Orthotic Fitter
Lift Chairs & Scooters • Wound Care • Walkers
Wheelchairs • Commodes & Much More
4020 Main St. • Lawrence Park
899-3636
www.lynychmedical.com

Stans
Where There's Always Something GROWING on!
Jim Skarzenski & Bob Rocky - Parishioners
East
5001 Buffalo Road
Erie, PA 16510
899.5424
West
5341 West Lake Road
Erie, PA 16505
835.6960

HEISE REBUILDING
Starters • Alternators • Electrical
Rewiring • Mechanical Repairs
PA Inspections
899-8186
1291 Walbridge Rd. • Erie, PA 16511
heiserebuilding.com
~ Parishioner ~

OLLINGER
PLUMBING, HEATING
& AIR CONDITIONING
Residential • Commercial
Quality Installations & Service
899-2809

Andy says...
"Write it Up!"
LAKESIDECHEVYBUICK.COM
-Andy Gabler
President
LAKESIDE
CHEVROLET
BUICK

NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA REGIONAL COLLEGE
An Open Enrollment College: Requires a H.S. Diploma/GED
Started College but never finished? \$185/credit hr - Adult
Want to advance your career? \$60/credit hr - Eligible H.S.
Thinking of trying college? Juniors/Seniors
College student home for summer?
www.regionalcollegepa.org
814-230-9010 admissions@rrcnpa.org

PRICHARD
CHIROPRACTIC OFFICES
6095 Buffalo Road
Harborcreek, PA
899-1966
DR. LOREN J. PRICHARD
DR. SCOTT V. PRICHARD

William D. Elkin
Funeral Home
65 South Lake St. • North East
725-4511
Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.
William D. Elkin, F.D.
Pre-Arrangements Available

FIDDLE INN
HARBORCREEK, PA
"Home of the EVERYTHINGS"
6615 Buffalo Road
814-899-9005
www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn

Widget
Financial
widgetfinancial.com

Howard Hanna
Real Estate Mortgage Title Insurance
Cindy Fabin,
Realtor, GPA, RRS, CNHS
Multi Million Dollar Producer, PARISHIONER
FOR OUTSTANDING RESULTS,
YOU NEED AN OUTSTANDING AGENT!
Cell: 814-881-1087 • Office: 814-899-3005
Email: cFabin@howardhanna.com | Erie, PA, 16510

Expect more from your Medicare plan.
UPMC for Life
UPMC Health Plan Medicare Program

DUSCKAS - TAYLOR
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
5151 BUFFALO RD.
ERIE, PA 16510
ROBERT D. TAYLOR, SUPERVISOR
814-315-0911
WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

Foster's
Rose of Sharon
Floral & Gift Shop
Savings of Up To 25%
On Any Silk Items
2703 Buffalo Rd • 814-899-5071

Tony Montefiori
Erie City
MEMORIALS by Ericson
Because Every Life is Worth Remembering
Located just down the road
2515 Buffalo Rd • Erie, PA 16510
(Across from St. James School)
814-898-0709
Indoor and Outdoor Showrooms
Cemetery Memorials • Bronze Markers
Vases • Candles • Pet Urns

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
Contact **Tim Weir** to place an ad today!
tweir@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6568

"Your Computer Professional"
NEW SYSTEMS USED • REPAIRS
"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"
898-8300
Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners
JDLCOMPUTERS.COM

4LPi

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/PA

4LPi
WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
• Full Time Position with Benefits
• Sales Experience Preferred
• Paid Training
• Overnight Travel Required
• Expense Reimbursement
CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers