

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

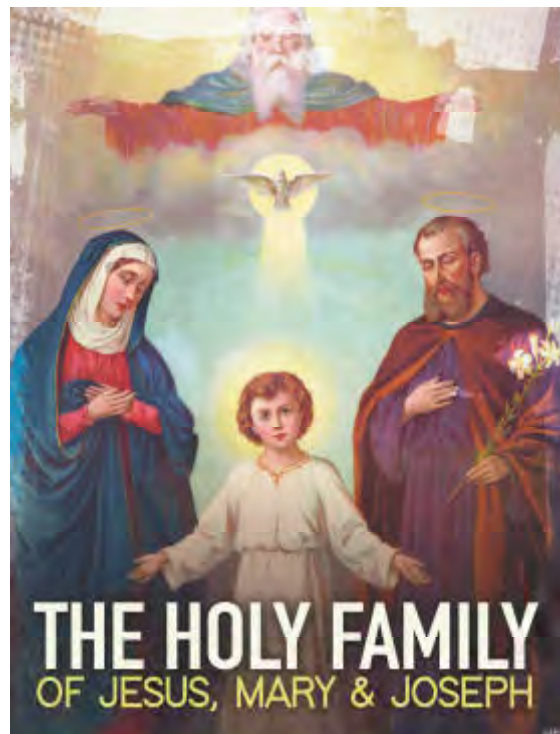
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

December 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

Mon. 12/31	6:00 p.m.	Solemnity of Mary— Vigil Mass
Tue. 01/01		Solemnity of Mary
	10:00 a.m.	Holy Day Mass
	7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
Wed. 01/02	10:30 a.m.	TOPS Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Men's Night Out
Thur. 01/03	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 01/04		
Sat. 01/05	10:00 a.m.	AA Meeting
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 01/06		Epiphany
		Casserole Club Drop Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 a.m.	Rel. Ed. Grade K-2
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	9:45 a.m.	Study on Prayer
	12:00 p.m.	Rel. Ed. Grade 7 & 8

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 Bliel**.



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 12/31	1 Jn 2:18-21	/ John 1:1-18
Tue. 01/01	Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7	/ Luke 2:16-21
Wed. 01/02	1 Jn 2:22-28	/ John 1:19-28
Thur. 01/03	1 Jn 2:29-3:6	/ John 1:29-34
Fri. 01/04	1 Jn 3:7-10	/ John 1:35-42
Sat. 01/05	1 Jn 3:11-21	/ John 1:43-51
Sun. 01/06	Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3, 5-6	/ Matthew 2:1-12

OFFICE NEWS



The office will be closed on December 31 and January 1st in observance of the New Year holiday. The staff at OLM would like to wish you all a safe and happy New Year filled with an abundance of blessings.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 12/31	8:30 a.m.	Marie Wenzel (Family)
Tue. 01/01	10:00 a.m.	
Wed. 01/02	8:30 a.m.	Steve Lion
Thur. 01/03	8:30 a.m.	Robert Naguszewski (John & Irene Abbate)
Fri. 01/04	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 01/05	8:30 a.m.	Helen Markiewicz (Michael Sank)
	6:00 p.m.	
Sun. 01/06	8:30 a.m.	Joan Bowers (Gary & Cindy Miller)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



LUKE 2:41-52

God's words must be put into action in our families by showing mercy, forgiveness, and patience. Our words of instruction to our children must be tempered by humility and kindness. When we do this, we are beloved sons and daughters of God. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus showed us what it means to be a holy family. In this mother and father's house, Jesus had learned the Law of Moses. Now he had to be in his Father's house. When the distraught parents spent three frantic days searching for him, they found him sitting at the feet of teachers who were amazed at the young man's intelligence. Mary asked, "Why have you done this to your father and me?" The first blow of Simeon's sword struck her heart in her son's reply: "Did you not know I had to be about my Father's business?"

Mary and Joseph did not fully understand Jesus's words, but they were open to God's plan for their lives. In turn, Jesus was obedient to them; he returned home to grow in God's wisdom and grace. We too must be submissive to God's words, especially in confusing and painful circumstances. If we are faithful when we return to our eternal home, we will gather with all God's holy family and joyfully sing, "Happy are those who walk in the ways of the Lord!"

For Reflection: Is my family united in peace and love? Are we growing in wisdom and grace?





SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

The Erie Pro-Life community has three events in January 2019 that provide you an opportunity to speak out on behalf of unborn children and the unalienable right to life.

PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST - Saturday, January 12th, 9:00 AM - Erie Bayfront Convention Center, reservations are \$17 or \$9 for children 3-12. Featuring Uju Ekeocha, internationally acclaimed Pro-Life speaker and founder and president of Life Africa.

DC MARCH FOR LIFE - Friday, January 18th Annual bus trip sponsored by People For Life. \$55 per seat, \$50 if registered by 12/17

ERIE MARCH FOR LIFE - Saturday, January 26th, 11:00 AM - Begins and concludes at Perry Square Contact People For Life at: www.peopleforlife.life or **882-1333** for information/reservations.

You can also call **Phil Legler at 504-1048 for information.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT

The Men's Night Out Committee and the Knights of Columbus are very excited to announce that the next Men's Night Out event will take place **Wednesday, January 2nd at 6:00pm** in Sperry Hall. Our guest speaker will be President Judge John J. Trucilla! All men of the Parish are welcome as well as anyone you care to bring as a guest. Reservations are encouraged. A free-will offering will be accepted at the door. You can RSVP to **Tim Fuhrman** at knoyle@yahoo.com or text **814-873-5632**. You may also call into the **Church Office at 814-899-5342**. We look forward to seeing you and your friends on January 2nd!



OLM Book Group



The OLM Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 7:00 PM** at the home

of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd. to discuss Educated by Tara Westover. In February our book will be Doc by Mary Dorea Russell.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **December 16, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	100	\$3,556.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,122.00
Loose Change:		\$ 173.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$6,851.00

 ★ QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER ★
 ★ The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Dec. 16 was **Makayla Inthavong**, Gr. K, who knew that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. ★



Parish Alive



Make a New Year's resolution to ignite a deeper relationship with God or deepen your connection to the parish. Make a Parish Alive weekend **Feb. 15-16**. This retreat is open to all parish members over the age of 18. It begins with Friday evening supper and ends with Saturday evening Mass. The retreat is free, but registration by **Feb. 1** is required. To register, use the form in the November issue of For Mercy Sake or use the form at the parish website. For more information, contact **Irene Lucas at 899-6132** or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Our next Sunday Morning CAFÉ will be held **Jan. 20 from 9:45-10:45**. Three years ago, Pope Francis wrote the encyclical *On Care For Our Common Home: Laudato Si*. What does this papal document call us to do? What does it mean to live out *Laudato Si*? What does our faith say about our relationship to the created world? Celebrate *Laudato Si* with Secular Franciscans Mary Nelson, OFS and Chris Zurawski, OFS animators with the Global Catholic Climate Movement as we explore some of these ways with short videos, discussion and prayer.



Ministry Update



This was usually the time of year that we started talking about ministries, as we got ready for sign-ups. Now we share the statistics from our Ministry Recommitment last October. Twenty-six new people signed up for 43 ministries over the course of the 8 months of celebration and recommitment. Parish wide we have 450 parishioners involved in ministry. Many people sign up for more than one ministry so if we add up all the participants within our 50 ministries, counting people as many times as their names show up, it comes to 1285; that is 3 ministries per person. If you have been thinking of joining a ministry, simply visit the ministry brochure stand in the Gathering Space. You will find information and sign-up sheets.

Jubilee Celebration for Clergy and Religious

The Diocese of Erie is honoring the Clergy and Religious who are celebrating Jubilee Anniversaries. Two of the 50 honorees come from Our Lady of Mercy! Please visit <https://www.eriercd.org/news/jubilee.html> to find our very own, Msgr. Ritchie who celebrated his 50th Anniversary this year and Sister Rosemary O'Brien who celebrated her 60th Anniversary! As a Parish, Our Lady of Mercy congratulates them and thanks them for their years of service.



January Birthdays

Jan. 02	Hayley D'Angelo	11
Jan. 05	Kaitlyn Brumagin	3
Jan. 05	Ellie Stauffer	8
Jan. 07	Kayla Shaffer	16
Jan. 08	Grace Galbreath	11
Jan. 08	Brodynn Smith	8
Jan. 11	Makenna Pearson	8
Jan. 12	Nolan Reinsel	17
Jan. 17	Ava Suranofsky	10
Jan. 20	J.T. Martin	16
Jan. 20	Avery Ollinger	14
Jan. 21	Kara Meyer	17
Jan. 23	Aidan Reinsel	15
Jan 25	Ryan Stauffer	6
Jan. 26	Kenslie Inthavong	2
Jan. 27	Madison Rizzo	9
Jan. 28	Lila Bly	10
Jan. 28	Octavio Garnica	14
Jan. 29	Keagon Oler	12



Can you help? Overflow Shelter for the Homeless

Our Neighbors' Place is in need of the following: People (particularly men) willing to be a sub on second or third shifts any time during the January 16 to 29 sessions. You will be called if needed. Sign up for a day or two as sub. Contact: Mary Ellen Lieb 873-1284. In January we will put out a list of items that the shelter will need. We ask you to bring to the church and we will find someone to deliver them to St John's. Money is also a welcome gift. Make checks payable to "St. John the Baptist Outreach." Look for more in the January 6 bulletin. A few slots remain open for the February 27th thru March 12th dates. Mostly first shift. Contact Donna Clark for dates. Or call Mary Ellen.



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.

Pastoral Council

This year's Pastoral council consists of the following parishioners: Todd Beckes, Maureen Brainard, Darrell Garwig, Nick Heise, Marge LeFaiver, Margy Luniewski, Bill Matrogran, Nathan Matusiak, Nancy Mowery, David Seyboldt, Mary Beth Smith, Katie Stephenson and Dan Szczesny. A recent Diocesan Pastoral Planning session asked us to consider how we as a parish create an atmosphere of welcoming. Also, how we help people to feel like they belong – that they are of value to the community. The parish council choose these topics to study and then formulate goals based on what we can improve in the areas of welcoming and belonging within the parish.



Study on Prayer



On Jan. 6, we will begin an 8-week series on prayer. This study will use video presentation and guided discussion. It will be held in the

Conference Room from **9:45-10:45 Sunday mornings** (between the Masses). If you have ever wondered how to recognize the voice of God in prayer, struggled with distractions, wished you could pray with more attention or simply wished you knew how to get started with regular prayer, this study is for you. Both those new to a regular prayer life and those who have been faithful to prayer for years will find this study helpful. The study is free and there is no need to register or to commit to every week. All are welcome!



January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	31 Parish Office Closed 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM Solemnity of Mary-Vigil Mass	1 Parish Office Closed SOLEMNITY OF MARY 10:00 AM Holy Day Mass 7:30 PM AA	2 8:30 AM Mass 5:00 PM Mens Night Out	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Potter's Clay SCC 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	4 8:30 AM Mass	5 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
6 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF EPIPHANY Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel. Ed. Gr. K-2 9:45 AM Study on Prayer 12:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7 & 8	7 8:30 AM Mass 3:00 PM Social Justice Committee 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.	8 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Potter's Clay 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias - SCC 9:30 AM Story Time 10:00 AM Families & Faith Formation Committee 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr 3-6 6:00 PM Sister Parish 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	9 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough - SCC 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus	10 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM Tech Committee Mtg	11 8:30 AM Mass	12 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
13 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Rel. Ed. Gr. K-2 9:45 AM Study on Prayer 12:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7 & 8	14 8:30 AM Mass	15 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias - SCC 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Social Media 7:00 PM Core Team 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 7:30 PM AA	16 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough - SCC 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	17 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:30 AM Potter's Clay SCC 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 8:30 AM Mass	19 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
20 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 10:00 AM Gr 9 Retreat-St. Mark 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 9:30 AM Rel. Ed. Gr. K-2 9:30 AM Sunday Morning CAFE 9:45 AM Study on Prayer 12:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr. 7 & 8	21 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	22 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Potter's Clay 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 9:30 AM Story Time 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:30 PM AA	23 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough - SCC	24 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 8:30 AM Mass 4:00 PM Lake Erie Diamonds Fundraiser	26 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS
27 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Rel. Ed. Gr. K-2 9:45 AM First Reconciliation Parent Mtg. 9:45 AM Study on Prayer 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event 12:15 PM Gr. 11 Interviews	28 8:30 AM Mass	29 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias - SCC 1:30 PM Legion of Mary 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Rel. Ed. Gr 3-6 5:30 PM Children's Choir 7:30 PM AA	30 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough - SCC	31 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 6:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	1 8:30 AM Mass	2 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM MASS

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

Stars
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 ~

MELISSA A. BOOZEL
WWW.MELISSABTAX.COM
- Mobile Services
- Signing Agent
- Evening & Weekend
Appointments
6484 Buffalo Road
Harborcreek
814-464-4111

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



THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

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

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

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

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

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

BOWERS FUNERAL HOME
92 SOUTH LAKE STREET
NORTH EAST, PA 16428
725-4505
www.bowersfuneralhome.com

Brevillier Village
5416 East Lake Road
Erie, PA 16511
814-899-8600
www.brevillier.org
Ball Pavilion
Short Term Rehab
Long Term Nursing Care
Barnabas Court
Licensed Personal Care,
Residency & Independent
Living.
Conrad House
Independent Living

Melissa A. Boozel
Business & Notary Services 1040 U.S. Ind.
Accounting, Payroll
Tax Preparation & Notary
www.melissabtax.com
6484 Buffalo Road
Harborcreek, PA
814-897-8755

Valley Beer Company
Michael Hamman & Amber Belson
10655 West Main St • North East
814-725-4644