

# 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

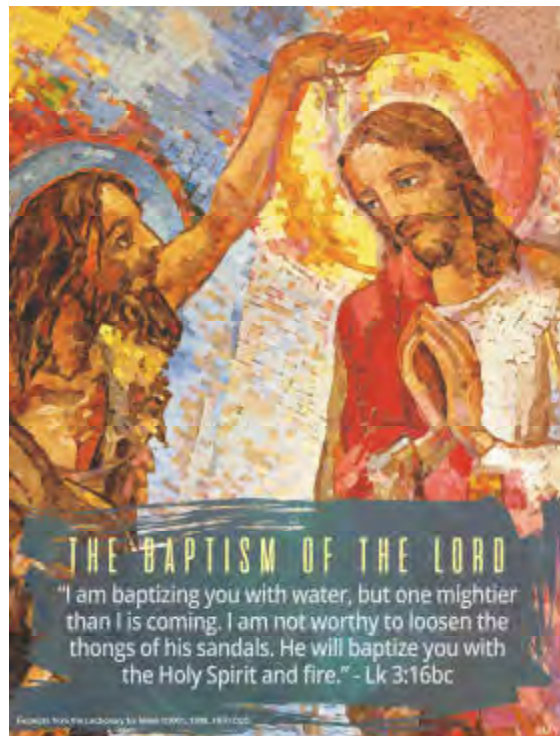
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

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

January 13, 2019



## 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. 01/14</b>	5:00 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Meeting
<b>Tue. 01/15</b>	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Children's Choir
	5:30 p.m.	Social Media Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Core Team Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
	7:00 p.m.	LFF Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
<b>Wed. 01/16</b>	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
<b>Thur. 01/17</b>	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Fri. 01/18</b>		
<b>Sat. 01/19</b>	10:00 a.m.	AA Meeting
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 01/20</b>	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning CAFE
	9:45 a.m.	Study on Prayer
	10:30 a.m.	Gr. 9 Retreat - St. Mark's
	11:00 a.m.	Grade 5 Youth Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 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 **Florence Voelker**.



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 01/14</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Irene Lion</b>
<b>Tue. 01/15</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>David Ross</b> <i>(Family)</i>
<b>Wed. 01/16</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Fredrick Trester</b> <i>(Peter &amp; Faye Froess)</i>
<b>Thur. 01/17</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Fri. 01/18</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Donald Murray</b> <i>(John &amp; Irene Abbate)</i>
<b>Sat. 01/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Christine Kowalski</b> <i>(Fruit of the Vine)</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<b>Marie Ritchie</b>
<b>Sun. 01/20</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Jim Bucklin</b> <i>(Lorraine Bucklin)</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 01/14</b>	Heb 1:1-6	/ Mark 1:14-20
<b>Tue. 01/15</b>	Heb 2:5-12	/ Mark 1:21-28
<b>Wed. 01/16</b>	Heb 2:14-18	/ Mark 1:29-39
<b>Thur. 01/17</b>	Heb 3:7-14	/ Mark 1:40-45
<b>Fri. 01/18</b>	Heb 4:1-5	/ Mark 2:1-12
<b>Sat. 01/19</b>	Heb 4:12-16	/ Mark 2:13-17
<b>Sun. 01/20</b>	Is 62:1-5 / 1Cor 12:4-11 / John 2:1-11	



### First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

There will be a very important parent meeting on **Sunday, Jan. 27 at 9:45** for families with children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation in March.

### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the February issue of the parish newsletter is **Sunday, Jan. 27**. Items can be sent to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or brought to the office.

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LUKE 3:15-16, 21-22



The prophet Isaiah proclaimed the coming of one who would bring forth justice to the nations. The people were full of anticipation, wondering if the voice they heard was that of the long-awaited Messiah. It was John the Baptist, thundering in the desert, announcing the coming of God's reign. Yet there would be one more powerful who would baptize with the purifying fire of the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus stepped into the waters of baptism, a voice was heard that tore the heavens in two, yet the words descended as gentle as a dove: "You are my beloved Son. On you my favor rests." Jesus, God's Son and God's servant, was called to bring forth justice and peace to the people.

Peter learned that God's favor rests on all. For Peter, this message was radically new. All were God's chosen people. All were welcomed in the house of God. Whoever enters the waters of baptism hears the words God spoke to Jesus: "You are my beloved child. On you my favor rests."

**For Reflection:** How do I experience God's voice in my life? Am I living my baptismal call to bring healing and liberation?



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

During the week of **January 6 - 12**, the Catholic Church celebrated its annual National Migration Week #NMW. It's not too late to honor this celebration. We are reminded of Hebrews 13:2 "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Consider how you might show welcome to our migrant and refugee sisters and brothers. Will you write a letter to the editor or to your legislator supporting humane immigration reform? Will you accompany a refugee family or become a foster parent for an unaccompanied minor ([www.usccb.org/fostercare](http://www.usccb.org/fostercare)). We all can say a prayer for migrants, refugees, and all other strangers in our midst, that they may find strength in our concern for justice and feel the warmth of our love. More information: <https://justiceformigrants.org/take-action/national-migration-week/>

### Parish Mardi Gras

The annual parish Mardi Gras is undergoing renovations. This year's celebration will move to a Saturday evening and will feature a wine and beer taste-off. If you brew your own beer or make your own wine and are willing to put it to the test, sign up in the Gathering Space. There will be a cash prize for the winner. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 2 from 7:00-10:00 PM**. Watch the bulletin for more details.



### Homebound Ministry needs help

We are looking for a few people who can mail or drop off a bulletin to 3 of our homebound people. Locations: near the Shurfine, near the old Waterfall Restaurant, near Pennbriar Athletic Club. **Contact Donna Clark.**



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	108	\$3,762.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,122.00
Loose Change:		\$ 159.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$7,043.00</b>

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **January 6, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	133	\$5410.20
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,122.00
Loose Change:		\$ 108.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$8,640.20</b>

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Jan. 6 was **Eoin Eighmy**, Gr. 2, who knew that the Magi brought Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



### 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.

### Study on Prayer

It is not too late to join the 8 week study on prayer which is holding its second session **today, Jan. 13**. The group meets **Sunday from 9:45-10:45 AM** in the Conference Room.



### 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.

### 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)**.



### OLM Art Class



"Every artist was first an amateur" – Ralph Waldo Emerson. If you feel drawn to the world of art, please join the OLM Painting Group on **Thursday mornings at 9am** in Sperry Hall. You will receive direction from our very own, Marilyn Garwig. This is open to everyone, regardless of your level of experience. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Electric Wheel Chair

If you or someone you know is in need of an electric wheel chair in good condition please **contact Donna Clark** in the parish office.





### Hospital Visitation



If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital, please **call the parish office** to let us know. We are unable to obtain accurate hospital reports because of the HIPPA laws.

### Calling All Cheerleaders

The Mercyhurst Prep Cheerleaders are having a 2-Day Camp and Game Day for students in Preschool through 8th Grade in February! For further information, please contact **Coach Tina Asmus** at [tinampieri@gmail.com](mailto:tinampieri@gmail.com).



### To Report Abuse



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.

### Grief Support

The grief journey is different for each person. For one-on-one support **contact Donna Clark** who can match you with someone from the grief ministry. Our Monthly support group meets on the **third Monday of the month at 7pm** in the parish parlor. The next group meeting is **January 21**.



### Hearing Assistance



Hearing assisted devices are available for anyone who has trouble hearing in the church. You can be assigned one to take with you or leave it at the church. **See Donna Clark.**

### Eucharist for the Homebound

If you notice that someone has not been in their usual space at Mass for a number of weeks let us know. Perhaps this person cannot get out any more or they have stopped driving or recovering from surgery. Our community has a number of Eucharistic ministers who visit the homebound. If you would like to bring Eucharist to the homebound please **contact Donna Clark.**



### Room for Wandering Toddlers

When Toddlers start running or fidgeting and you want a space to let their energy flow but don't want to miss Mass then try our Toddler/Nursery room. It is located in the classroom area just past the parish parlor. (To the right as you come in the front doors.) There is closed circuit TV of the church. There are rocking chairs for nursing mothers and toys to occupy a little one. And best of all you can close the door.



### 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.



## Can you help? Overflow Shelter for the Homeless



### The Overflow Shelter is in need of the following:

#### Shift Work:

Subs for second (11pm to 3) am and third shift (3 am to 7am) any day; Jan 16 to 29 or Feb 27 to March 12 (Looking for male subs. Will be called when needed) Can you offer to be on call for a day or two?

#### Personal Grooming Needs:

Toothbrush, paste, foot powder, travel sized deodorant.

#### Clothing:

Men and women's underwear (all sizes), gloves/hats, sweats and hooded sweatshirts, jeans, winter boots, flip flops.

#### Facility Supplies:

Laundry soap, pods, fabric softener, disinfectant (Lysol spray).

#### Money:

Make checks out to "St. John the Baptist Outreach." A portion of the monetary donations will be used to provide bus tokens to the Shelter clients.

#### Food:

Soft fruits (bananas, grapes or halo oranges), bottles of pop, juice (apple and orange juice) and breakfast bars.

### The Overflow Shelter is in need of volunteers for the February dates to cover these shifts:

#### Meals:

Coverage for 7 dinners from Feb. 27-March 12.

#### Breakfast helper :

A female willing to work 3am-7am during March session.

#### Shift Worker:

1st shift helper single openings on March 2, 4, 11 & 12.

**Please drop off all donations to the display table in the Gathering Space.**

**If you are able to volunteer your time to this ministry, please call Mary Ellen Lieb at 873-1284, or Donna Clark in the Parish Office at 899-5342.**

### Gluten Free Hosts

Gluten free hosts are available! If you are gluten intolerant, please **talk to Fr. Ritchie** about receiving gluten free hosts.





# YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

## PRIZE BASKET BINGO

\$20.00 FOR 15 GAMES

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019**

**12:00 PM-4:00 PM**

St. James Place

2622 Buffalo Rd.

Doors Open at 11:00



Food and Games of Chance available for purchase.

Tickets will be sold by mission team members or are available at the Parish Office.

*To the Our Lady of Mercy Parish,*

*On behalf of Operation Assisting Santa, I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank everyone who helped make our 2018 project a huge success.*

*Because of wonderful people such as yourselves, along with many other fine groups and individuals we were able to help 78 Veteran families along with gifts for 241 of their children.*

*We look forward to working with you again in 2019.*

*May the Spirit of Christmas warm your heart.*

*God Bless,  
Mooch Zielewski  
Coordinator Operation Assisting Santa*

JOY  
NOEL  
ANGEL  
JESUS  
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WISEMEN  
CHRISTMAS  
BELIEVE FAITH  
PRINCE OF PEACE  
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