

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

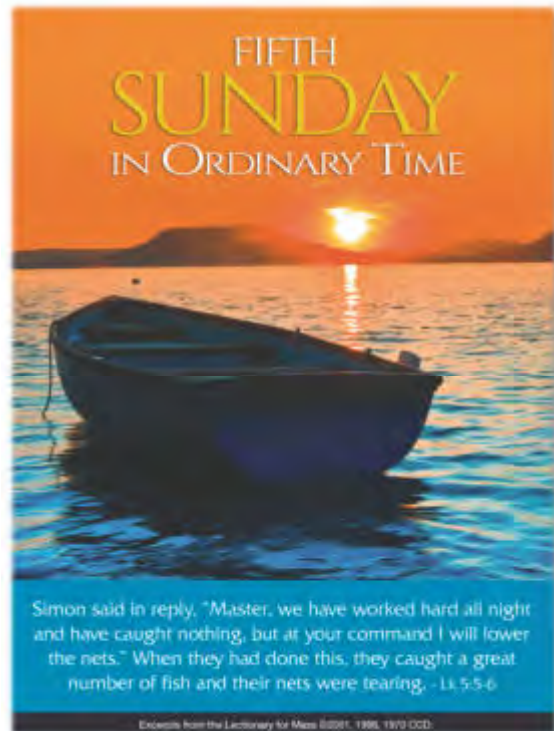
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

February 10, 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

Mon. 02/11	6:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine
Tue. 02/12	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	9:30 a.m.	Story Time
	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.	VBS Planning Team
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
Wed. 02/13	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 02/14	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 02/15	6:30 p.m.	Parish Alive
Sat. 02/16	9:00 a.m.	Parish Alive
	10:00 a.m.	AA Meeting
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 02/17	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	9:45 a.m.	Study on Prayer
	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 **Andrea Maille**.

In Loving Memory

We remember Gertrude Peters. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Feb. 3 was **Maddox Vaughn, Gr. 3**, who knew that we have our throats blessed on the Feast of St. Blaise, Feb. 3.

HEALING MINISTRY UPDATE

There will be no Healing Ministry on **Sunday February 17th** and **Sunday March 3rd**. We apologize for this inconvenience, as a lot of our healers are soaking up some vitamin C in sunny Florida. We will resume on **Sunday March 17th**.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 02/11	8:30 a.m.	Frank Gerlach <i>(Dan & Dawn Schaff)</i>
Tue. 02/12	8:30 a.m.	William Heintz <i>(John & Irene Abbate)</i>
Wed. 02/13	8:30 a.m.	Emma Royer <i>(Potter's Clay)</i>
Thur. 02/14	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 02/15	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 02/16	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 02/17	8:30 a.m.	Ken Burt <i>(Fred & Kay Kaerberlein)</i>
	11:00 a.m.	Yolanda DiRaimo <i>(Family)</i>

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 02/11	Gn 1:1-19	/ Mark 6:53-56
Tue. 02/12	Gn 1:20-2:4	/ Mark 7:1-13
Wed. 02/13	Gn 2:4-9, 15-17	/ Mark 7:14-23
Thur. 02/14	Gn 2:18-25	/ Mark 7:24-30
Fri. 02/15	Gn 3:1-8	/ Mark 7:31-37
Sat. 02/16	Gn 3:9-24	/ Mark 8:1-10
Sun. 02/17	Jer 17:5-8 / 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20	/ Luke 6:17, 20-26

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



LUKE 5:1-11

The prophet Isaiah heard God's call as he offered sacrifice at the altar. Isaiah felt unworthy to speak God's word. But if Isaiah did not respond, whom would God send? Purged of his sins, Isaiah declared, "Here I am, send me!"

Paul experienced God's call when he set out to persecute the Christians. Paul felt that he was the least among the apostles. Yet he learned to accept God's trust in him. By God's favor, Paul steadfastly preached the gospel that he himself received.

Peter heard God's call while Jesus was proclaiming the word of God in his boat. Like Isaiah and Paul, Peter recognized his own sinfulness and begged Jesus to leave him. Instead, Jesus asked Peter to push out into deeper waters. Because Peter obeyed Jesus's words, he caught a great haul of fish, a sign of his future mission.

Flawed and sinful though we may be, we are called to cast our nets and draw others to the Lord. "Do not be afraid," Jesus says as he sends us to preach to good news.

For Reflection: Does a sense of unworthiness prevent me from proclaiming the good news? How can I help my community recognize God's call?

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 is required. To register, use the form at the parish website. For more information, **contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org**.

Parish Mardi Gras

Our annual parish Mardi Gras celebration will change things up this year. It will be held on **Saturday March 2 from 7:00-10:00 PM**. The night will include a Murder Mystery play, a homemade wine and beer taste-off, a taco bar, wine, beer and pop, and a reverse raffle for \$500. Admission tickets for \$10 include all of the above and are on sale after weekend Masses or at the Parish Office. (You do not need to be present to win the raffle.) If you want to enter your wine or beer into the taste-off, please sign the easel in the Gathering Space. Wine/beer taste-off entries receive a free admission ticket.



Healing the Hurt

Within our faith journeys, we may struggle from time to time with our image of God, with our faith, or with the institutional church. Perhaps there was an experience or an exchange of words that stimulated the struggle, which became a hurt and fostered anger, despair or discouragement. If you or someone you know is struggling with their faith or spirituality and would like to talk in confidence, **call 814-303-9282**. This is a google voice number set up to receive calls outside of our regular church channels. **Donna Clark** is the person receiving these private calls.



For Mercy Sake Mailing Party



We need help preparing the parish newsletter for the mail. If you can fold and stuff envelopes on Monday, Feb. 18 at 9:00 AM, please let **Irene Lucas** know by **calling 899-6132** or send a message to **ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org**

Story Time

Calling all preschoolers and their parents/grandparents! Enjoy a morning of music, games, activities and, of course, stories, on **Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 9:30**. All are invited; there is no lower age limit. The event is free and open to all.



First Reconciliation Retreat



Children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation in March are reminded that there is a retreat for the children on **Sunday, March 3 from 9:30-1:00**. The Celebration of First Reconciliation will be held **Saturday, March 9 at 1:00** with practice taking place **Friday, March 8 at 5:00**.

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 **February 18**.



Parish Mission

Save the date! Our annual parish mission will be held **Monday, March 18-Wednesday, March 20**. Fr. Michael DeMartinis will present the mission which will draw us into a deeper encounter with the Persons of the Trinity.



OLM Book Group



The OLM Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 7:00 PM** to discuss **Doc** by Mary Dorea Russell. Our March book will be **Tattoos on the Heart** by Fr. Greg Boyle.



Our Lady of Mercy Young Adult Service Group

Are you 21ish - 40ish years old and interested in doing various service projects throughout the Erie community? Please **contact Katie Stephenson** at **secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org** so you can be added to our email list to stay up to date on when and where our next service project will be.

Young adults welcomed to Theology on Tap

Young adults, ages 21 to mid-30s, are invited to attend a series of Theology on Tap events sponsored by the St. George Parish Catholic Young Adult Ministry. The remaining programs this winter will be held **Feb. 11 and Feb. 25**, each evening from **5:30 to 7 p.m.** at Brewerierie (Union Station) in Erie.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **February 3, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	112	\$4546.20
Faith Direct Deposits:	115	\$3,022.00
Loose Change:		\$ 234.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,802.20

With Thanks...



We would like to thank everyone involved in the funeral luncheon ministry. Thanks to all who have donated and prepared food (which is always outstanding). A special thanks to the wonderful women who spend the day setting up, preparing and cleaning up the dining hall and kitchen.—Judy Mitcheltree



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.



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.

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.



Overflow Shelter Update

Thank you to all who helped make the January session of Our Neighbors' Place at SJB a success. Our next session will run **February 27th thru March 13th**. Our volunteer and meal schedules are full. We are looking for new people willing to learn the 11pm-3am shift and



the 3am-7am shift. If anyone would like to try it, please give us a call/email. We do have a need for some items: Men's underwear and long underwear, warm winter gently used boots, warm winter gloves, sweatpants, hoodies, and t shirts. We do need some perishable food items, please call/email us if you would like to donate. Thank you very much. **Mary Hoffman** 873-2981 mymary14@gmail.com and **Mary Ellen Lieb** 873-1284 melieb4@gmail.com

Women's Conference - save the date

Fifth Annual Catholic Women's conference in Erie is **Saturday, March 30, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm** at Our Lady of Peace Parish For more information and to register visit www.138women.com or call 814-455-7364. This year the theme of the conference is "Live JOY-fully!", relating to Nehemiah 8:10: "The joy of the Lord is my strength."



Help for Heating - LIHEAP



The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was open to help alleviate heating bill stress on low income families. A family of four with a gross annual income of \$37,650, qualifies for a grant. To find out if you qualify based on your household size and income, how to apply and what you need to apply, see the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space.

Interested in being renewed?

How are you taking care of yourself spiritually, physically and emotionally? Find out during Personal Days of Renewal **March 6-8** at the Bethany Retreat Center in Frenchville. Come for a day, stay overnight or for a few days. Daily prayer and Mass are included. Walk the grounds, enjoy home-cooked meals and take the opportunity for reconciliation. A free-will offering of \$80 per night (including meals) is requested. For more information, go to www.bethanyretreatcenter.org, or call 814-263-4855.



Divorced, Separated or Loss of a Loved One?



Transitions is a peer ministry of the Diocese of Erie that provides a safe place for grieving the loss of one's marriage because of divorce, death or separation.

By offering monthly support groups and periodic specialized programs, Transitions offers companionship and hope to all who are currently traveling the journey of grief. Following a short program, participants will have an opportunity for reflection, sharing and discussion. An average of 25-35 women and men of all ages and stages of life attend this support group regularly. Each program includes reflection, sharing, discussion and refreshments. The next meeting is **February 24th**. Follow the bulletin for more announcements.

Domestic Violence Support

Do you know someone who is living through domestic violence? You can help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline for resources and support **800-799-SAFE (7233)** {TTY 800-787-3224} or find help on line at thehotline.org.



FEEELING **HOLLLOW?**



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after 8:30 Mass February 24th**

or

Sign up after Mass February 23rd & 24th

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