

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## May 5, 2019 - Third Sunday of Easter

### 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)



### 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. 05/06</b>	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Meeting - <b>Canceled</b>
<b>Tue. 05/07</b>	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Grades 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Children's Choir
	5:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA
<b>Wed. 05/08</b>	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
<b>Thur. 05/09</b>	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Fri. 05/10</b>	5:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus Golf and Sports Raffle
<b>Sat. 05/11</b>	8:30 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 05/12</b>		<b>Mother's Day</b>

*Congratulations to our young parishioners who are celebrating their First Eucharist this weekend.*

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of April 28 was **Alivia Smith, Gr. 6**, who knew that the Easter Season ends on Pentecost.

## HELP WANTED

NEED A SUMMER JOB? Our Lady of Mercy is looking for a high school or college student to work for the summer on lawn mowing and maintenance. You must be 16 yrs or older. The job is approximately 30 hours a week. If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact Fr. Ritchie.

## 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 **Marilyn Garwig**.



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 05/06</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Tue. 05/07</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Jeanne Costa</b> <i>(Janet Smith)</i>
<b>Wed. 05/08</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Lucille Poniatowski</b> <i>(Roger &amp; Pat Urmann)</i>
<b>Thur. 05/09</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Fri. 05/10</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Agnes Barko</b> <i>(Dave &amp; Marilyn Rinke)</i>
<b>Sat. 05/11</b>	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	<b>For All Mothers, Living and Deceased</b>
<b>Sun. 05/12</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>For All Mothers, Living and Deceased</b>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>For All Mothers, Living and Deceased</b>

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### JOHN 21:1-19



The psalmist wrote, "Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning!" Peter and the apostles knew the dark night of fear and dread. They also experienced the glorious light of the Spirit in the face of suffering and persecution. Filled with the Spirit, they boldly proclaimed the name of Jesus and his message of repentance and forgiveness of sin.

John of Patmos could have been in a pit of despair, yet he was encircled by countless voices that proclaimed, "Worthy is the Lamb who is slain!" For a Christian, death is not defeat but victory. All who believe share in Christ's power and wealth, wisdom and strength, honor and glory and praise. With all of creation we cry, "Amen!"

Without Jesus' physical presence, the disciples were discouraged. "I'm going fishing!" Peter declared. "We'll join you," the others answered. But in the fog-shrouded night, they couldn't catch a thing. Then at daybreak they heard a familiar voice calling, "Children, cast your nets to the other side." Their obedient faith brought forth a tremendous haul of fish. In the breaking of the bread, they recognized the risen Lord in their midst. Like them, we are to be Christ's presence by feeding and caring for his flock.

**For Reflection: Who has been a light-bearer to me when I am in darkness? Do my actions help others to see the way?**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 05/06</b>	Acts 6:8-15	/ John 6:22-29
<b>Tue. 05/07</b>	Acts 7:51-8:1	/ John 6:30-35
<b>Wed. 05/08</b>	Acts 8:1-8	/ John 6:35-40
<b>Thur. 05/09</b>	Acts 8:26-40	/ John 6:44-51
<b>Fri. 05/10</b>	Acts 9:1-20	/ John 6:52-59
<b>Sat. 05/11</b>	Acts 9:31-42	/ John 6:60-69
<b>Sun. 05/12</b>	Acts 13:14, 43-52	/ Rv 7:9, 14-17 / John 10:27-30



# Social Justice News



## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments Prevalence of Child Sexual Abuse

Child sexual abuse is a great deal more prevalent than many imagine. Some studies suggest that as many as one in six boys and one in four girls will be the victim of some form of sexual molestation before the age of 18. That means that, directly or indirectly, child sexual abuse will touch most of us during our lifetime. And although we would like to believe that most accusations are false, the facts tell us that children rarely lie about being molested. In fact, they rarely tell anyone at all. An adult study about the prevalence of sexual abuse found that 42% of the men and 33% of the women who were victimized as children had never told anyone. (Source: Sharon Womak Doty, "Refresher from the Protecting God's Children® Program" ) To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit <https://www.eriecnd.org/childprotection/>

## For Mercy Sake Mailing Party



We will be folding newsletters and stuffing envelopes to get the newsletter into the mail on **Monday, May 6 at 9:00 AM.**

If you can lend a hand, call **Irene at 899-6132** or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

## OLM Book Group

It is time to come out of winter hibernation. The OLM Book Group invites you to join us for a glass of wine with wonderful friends over really good book talk. Join us **May 15** at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd., to discuss Plainsong by Kent Haruf. Want to read ahead? In June we will be discussing The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin.



## Cursillo

Are you looking to enhance your relationship with Christ? Maybe get to know Him on a more personal basis? Why not consider making a Cursillo! The next men's Cursillo will be **May 16-19** here at OLM. We ask that you prayerfully consider a Cursillo Weekend, you'll be glad you did! **For more information call Tim or Norma Lynch at 899-2681.**



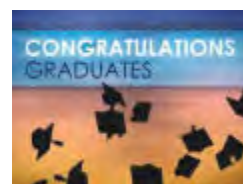
## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **April 28, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	108	<b>\$3,342.00</b>
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	<b>\$2,889.95</b>
Loose Change:		<b>\$ 185.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$6,416.95</b>

## Honoring Graduates

On **June 2**, we will holding our annual Family Pancake Breakfast from **9:30-10:30**. The cost is a suggested \$1 per person donation. We will take this opportunity to honor those graduating from high school or from a post-secondary institution. If you are graduating and plan to be at this breakfast, please call **Irene at 899-6132**. You attend the breakfast free.



## Monthly Grief Support



The Grief Ministry of Our Lady of Mercy Church sponsors a monthly support group for those who have lost a loved one. The journey of grief may become easier when there is someone who walks beside you who understands the struggles. The group meets on the **third Monday of the**

**month at 7pm** in the parish parlor. **The next meeting is May 20<sup>th</sup>**. For more information or for one on one support **contact Donna Clark** in the parish office.

## A Great Treasure to Share

"The Joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew." (Pope Francis from *The Joy of the Gospel*.) Another word for sharing our faith is Evangelization.



## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will make a comeback at OLM this summer, **July 22-26**. Registration fliers will be going home with children on the final class of religious education. You will also find it in the May issue of For Mercy Sake and on the parish website. We will also need lots of help from teen and adult volunteers. If you want to help make this year's VBS a success, please call **Irene Lucas @899-6132** or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org). Adult volunteers will need criminal and child abuse clearances, so volunteer early enough to get your clearances.



## Congratulations!

**Henrick William Spring**, son of Billy and Kayla Spring and **Addilyn Rose Johnson**, daughter of Nick and Courtney Johnson, celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend. The community of Our Lady of Mercy congratulates you and welcomes Henrick and Addilyn into the church.





### Food Drive to Benefit Ella Cochran Food Pantry

On **Saturday May 11** the National Association of Letter Carriers will collect food for both the Ella Cochran Food Pantry of Harborcreek and the Second Harvest Food Bank of NWPA. Please put out a nonperishable food item to help restock the shelves for the summer months. This is the largest drive of the year. If you are serviced by the Harborcreek Post Office, the food comes directly to our local pantry and we make a report to Second Harvest. If you are serviced by the Erie Post Office, the food goes directly to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Then the Ella Cochran Food Pantry will benefit from your donations of food as we place our monthly orders.

### Food Pantry News

Do you ever wonder if people ever move on from needing the food pantry's help? Recently we received a donation with a letter attached. This person explained why she was donating her birthday gift of money to the food pantry and matching this gift with her own funds. This client had been a recipient of the food pantry's generous help in previous years. This client was deeply appreciative of the help and was thankful to be in a position to give back now. Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry ministry. It does make a difference.

### Diapers needed:

If you are able – the food pantry could use diapers, sizes 3, 4 & 5. Thank you.

### Welcoming Visitors and Being a Visitor

It is getting close to the most wonderful time of the year...summer vacation. Our Lady of Mercy being located just miles from busy summer tourist destinations such as Presque Isle and Waldameer Park, may be home to more visitors throughout the warmer months. If you happen to see someone at Mass you do not recognize, please make them feel welcome by: sharing a smile, introducing yourself, introducing them to others around you and showing them around our Gathering Space. Give our visitors the chance to feel that warm, hospitality feeling that our parishioners feel each week. The summer months are a popular time for travel. The kids are out of school, the roads are clear of ice and snow and there always seems to be at least one out of town family event scheduled between May and September. If you find yourself away from Our Lady of Mercy some Sunday, please don't be intimidated to find a place to worship closer to your destination. While visiting another Parish, take the time to introduce yourself to others, including the Pastor. They are likely to be just as excited to have a visitor at their parish as we are to have visitors here at Our Lady of Mercy.



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
COLLEGE KNIGHTS: LEADERS FOR LIFE.

### Knights of Columbus 26th Annual Golf & Sports Raffle

The Knights invite you to attend our 26th Annual Golf & Sports Raffle to be held on **May 10 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at OLM**. This is the last weekend tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Space after Mass. Our Raffle has become the largest in the Erie area thanks to the support of our parishioners and our many ticket sellers. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support youth programs, to provide scholarships for high school seniors and to fund capital improvement projects for the parish. Please help the Knights help OLM.

### Chinese Auction Items Needed

The Knights of Columbus are in need of Chinese auction items for their 26th Annual Golf and Sports Raffle that is taking place on **May 10th**. Please drop auction items off in the Parish Office. It is a fun evening and your donations for this event are very important to make it a great success. Thank you!

### Knights of Columbus Scholarship Opportunity

Scholarship applications from graduating high school seniors are being accepted by the Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus Council. The Scholarship Program began about 25 years ago with the purpose of awarding a portion of the annual Golf and Sports Raffle proceeds to college-bound students, who along with their parents are members of the parish. An application form, brief essay and certified and sealed transcript from the applicants school are required. **The deadline for the application is Friday, May 17**. It is understood that the transcript will only include grades through the most recent grading period. Please remind others who may be interested.

### To: Our Lady of Mercy Family,

*Thank you for all your wonderful prayers, cards, phone calls and visits as we endured the past year. Bringing us the Eucharist is a wonderful service and we thank those who have been here for us. With your faith you have given us a wonderful gift. We feel a part of this fantastic Our Lady of Mercy Parish because of all your thoughts and prayers. We have been homebound (seems like forever), but you have brought us love and smiles. God bless Our Lady of Mercy Family! We hope soon to be able to share the Mass in person. Until then, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers and thank you all, and especially Fr. Ritchie, for living our faith.*

*With Love,*

*John and Roberta Buckel*

**OLM - OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH**

*837 Bartlett (Bartlett & Dutton Roads)*

**BBQ CHICKEN  
DINNER**

**&**

**SUMMER  
FESTIVAL**

**Sunday-JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>**



**Dine in** our Air Conditioned Sperry Hall or  
**Carry Out** from the Air Conditioned Gathering Space

**12:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

**\$10 for adults, \$5 ages 6-12, 5 and under free**

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*Chinese Auction – Bake Sale – Bingo – Children’s Area –*

*Pony Rides – Raffles: \$1000 Grand Prize, Quilt,*

*55” TV, 50/50, iPad, and more!*

**\*\* Join the Chicken Run Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am\*\***

See [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org) for details

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