

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • www.ourladyofmercychurch.org



May 12, 2019 - Fourth 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



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. 05/13	4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Board
	6:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Isaiah SCC
Tue. 05/14	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	5:30 p.m.	Children's Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Council Information Session
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 05/15	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 05/16		Men's Cursillo
	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
Fri. 05/17		Men's Cursillo
Sat. 05/18		Men's Cursillo
	8:30 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/19		Men's Cursillo
		Painting Display
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/13	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Irene Ritchie
Tue. 05/14	8:30 a.m.	Frank Gerlach <i>(Tim & Cathy Merski)</i>
Wed. 05/15	8:30 a.m.	Dolores Dietz <i>(Family)</i>
Thur. 05/16	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith <i>(Slip & Erma Geris)</i>
Fri. 05/17	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters <i>(Carole Peters)</i>
Sat. 05/18	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	Larry Rogers <i>(Carol Rogers)</i>
Sun. 05/19	8:30 a.m.	Msgr. James Sperry
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/13	Acts 11:1-18	/ John 10:1-10
Tue. 05/14	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26	/ John 15:9-17
Wed. 05/15	Acts 12:24-13:5	/ John 12:44-50
Thur. 05/16	Acts 13:13-25	/ John 13:16-20
Fri. 05/17	Acts 13:26-33	/ John 14:1-6
Sat. 05/18	Acts 13:44-52	/ John 14:7-14
Sun. 05/19	Acts 14:21-27	/ Rv 21:1-5 / John 13:31-35

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 **Geri Gallagher**.



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 10:27-30



Though success and disappointment alternately accompanied the apostles' mission, they did not boast in times of triumph nor did they cower in times of failure. Filled with the joy of the Spirit, they refused to listen to the voice of discouragement, obeying the voice of the Lord: "I have made you a light to all nations, a means of salvation to the ends of the earth!"

When we are downcast, the Spirit invites us to lift our eyes to catch a glimpse of a heavenly throng. These are the people from "every nation and race, people and tongue" dressed in white baptismal garments and waving palm branches of victory. These martyrs survived a great period of trial. Never again would they suffer and mourn, hunger and thirst, for the Lamb was their shepherd who led them to the font of life-giving water.

"My sheep hear my voice and follow me," Jesus tells us. Though we will not always be shielded from adversity, Jesus has a firm grip on those placed in his care. Nothing or no one can steal them away. "We are his people, the flock that he tends," we rejoice in God's faithfulness, which endures for all generations.

For Reflection: Am I able to hold fast to God's grace in times of affliction as in times of good fortune? In what ways do I experience the guidance of the Lord?

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.**

Painting Display

On **May 18th and 19th** the Painting Class from OLM will have an exhibit in the Gathering Space. Notecards and paintings will be for sale. All proceeds go to Our Lady of Mercy. Come check out the local talent!



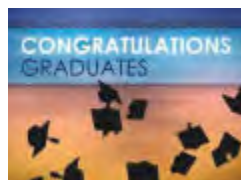
Monthly Grief Support

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 20th.** For more information or for one on one support **contact Donna Clark** in the parish office.



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.



Save the date

Women's Luncheon **May 28 at 1pm**. More to come.

All Ladies of the Parish...

Save the date, **Wednesday, May 29th at 6 pm** for a special event sponsored by the Men's Night Out Committee and the Knights of Columbus. Stay tuned to the bulletin for further information.



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**. Adult volunteers will need criminal and child abuse clearances, so volunteer early enough to get your clearances.

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.



Would You Like to Join the Catholic Family?



Do you know someone who has been considering the possibility of joining the Catholic faith? Maybe you or your spouse has watched the other members of the family receive Communion and have felt that pull. Now is the perfect time to begin the conversation. To learn more, contact **Irene at 899-6132** or

ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Relic To Visit Erie

The incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney will be on display for veneration at St. Peter Cathedral all day **June 6**. Mass will be celebrated at **6:30 AM, 12 Noon and 7:00 PM** with the opportunity for personal prayer and veneration throughout the day. This event is open to all people.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **May 5, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	118	\$4,668.20
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,889.95
Loose Change:		\$ 317.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,875.15

Spam Warning
Please know that Fr. Ritchie will NOT text anyone for a contribution of any kind.



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.



Transitions: A Peer Support Group



Are you Widowed, Separated or divorced? Consider attending Transitions, a peer support group offered monthly at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. **Call 814-824-1265** or email:

familylife@erieRCD.org for more

information. The next meeting is **Sunday, May 19, 2019 from 2 – 4 pm**. This month's topic is: "Easter Hope: Faith in Times of Transition" with guest speaker, Sr. Carmen Maldonado, SSC Visit our website at: <https://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/transitions.html>



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.

Hospice volunteers needed

The Waterford-based Aseracare Hospice is in need of volunteers to provide compassionate companionship and emotional support to people in hospice care in the area. For information or to sign up to volunteer, **contact Sheryl Sweeney**, volunteer care coordinator, at **814-853-2856 or 814-440-0123 (cell)**.



Presented by Holy Cross Church Music Ministry

CONCERT DAVID HAAS
CONCERT " I WILL BRING YOU HOME"
Songs of Prayer, Stories of Faith. At the Holy Cross Church, 7100 West Ridge Road, Fairview, Pa 16415 On **Sunday, May 19 at 7 PM**, doors open 6:30 PM. Advance Tickets \$10, Children 12 & under Free. \$12 at Door. Questions/To Reserve Tickets, Use Email haasconcert@holycrossfairview.org (Haas CDs and Books available at concert, cash or check only.)

Senior, caregiver fair/lunch offered at three parishes

Three Erie parishes are presenting a senior and caregiver fair and lunch in June. Experts will offer ways to get personal affairs in order. There also will be health and fitness assessments, presentations about finances, wills, funeral planning, medication management and full home care. The fairs will be held from 9:30 a.m. to noon, followed by lunch, at the following locations, dates:

St. Jude the Apostle, 2801 W. 6th St., Erie, **June 7**

St. George, 5145 Peach St., Erie, **June 11**

Blessed Sacrament, 1626 W. 26th, Erie, **June 12**

A suggested donation to attend is \$20, with a \$15 discount for members of a faith community. Lunch is included in the donation. The events are supported by LECOM Institute for Successful Aging. Tickets can be purchased in the rectory offices of each parish. For complete details, see the attached flier, and/or **call St. George Church at 814-864-0622.**



CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

WHAT IS CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING?

“Catholic social teaching is a central and essential element of our faith. Its roots are in the Hebrew prophets who announced God’s special love for the poor and called God’s people to a covenant of love and justice.” ([http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/ what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/)) Catholic Social Teaching is the body of Church doctrine that describes how

Catholics are called to transform the world by proclaiming and living the Gospel. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops identifies Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching, and four are especially important in the face of climate change. Over the course of the Spring and Summer, we will explore these four teachings one by one. And in the Fall, our newly formed Care for Creation Team will begin meeting monthly. Consider joining us!

“Humans are uniquely created and called to exercise responsible stewardship over creation on behalf of the loving Creator” (S67-68). Quote from Laudato Si
- Pope Francis’ Encyclical on Climate Change

LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

“The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching.” The consequences of climate change—food and water scarcity, climate migration, and more frequent severe weather events—compromise human life and dignity. The World Health Organization estimates that climate change already causes 150,000 annual fatalities, and warns that further climate change could cause an additional 250,000 deaths each year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress. We can see the effects of climate change on the health of individuals locally, as well. According to the Erie Times-News, the recent record-breaking annual precipitation in Erie has led to an increase in insects such as ticks and mosquitoes. The presence of these insects leads to more cases of Lyme Disease and West Nile virus. To live the Catholic value of protecting human life and dignity, we must address climate change.

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.lynmhmedical.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 ~

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

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

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

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
With a home security system monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a Homeowners Insurance discount.
CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501

catholicmatch
Pennsylvania
CatholicMatch.com/PA

UPGRADE TO A VIBRANT ad
Contact us for details • 800-477-4574

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

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -

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

ICHIBAN ALL YOU CAN EAT
ORDER TO MAKE BUFFET
SUSHI & ASIAN CUISINE
4041 Buffalo Rd, Erie • 814-616-6352

Nicholas L. Heise Carpentry
Interior/Exterior: Rough & Finish
Furniture Restoration
Windows & Doors
Remodeling
Decks
Tile
814-392-6517
www.nicholasheisecarpentry.com

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

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

Melissa Boozel Business & Notary Services 1040 U.S. 1170
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