

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## July 14, 2019 – 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

### 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*

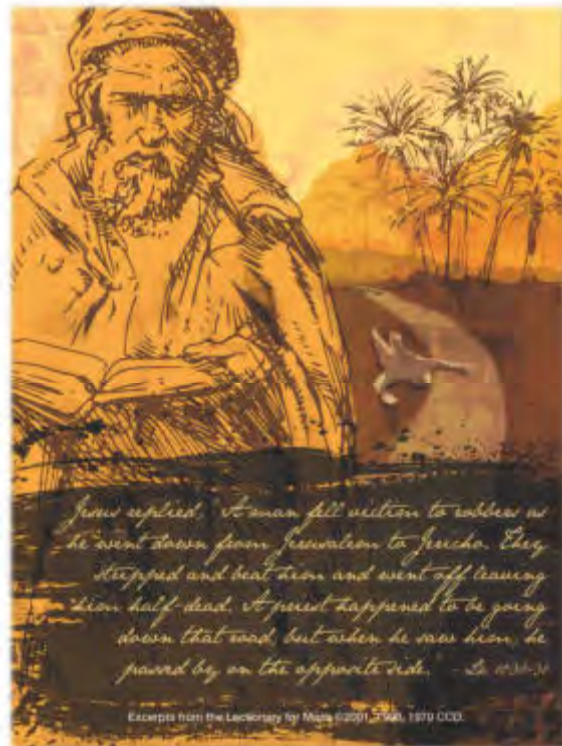
### CONTACT INFORMATION

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. 07/15</b>	6:00 p.m.	Festival Clean-Up
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
<b>Tue. 07/16</b>	9:30 a.m.	Catching Fire: Becoming Flame
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Social Justice Committee
	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	AA
<b>Wed. 07/17</b>	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	12:30 p.m.	Youth Open Gym
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
<b>Thur. 07/18</b>	9:30 a.m.	Summer Playtime
<b>Fri. 07/19</b>		
<b>Sat. 07/20</b>	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 07/21</b>	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

### **For Mercy Sake Deadline**

The deadline for items to be submitted for our August issue of the parish newsletter is

**TODAY Sunday, July 14.**

Please email submissions to

[ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

### **Mark Your Calendar**

Religious Education registration will take place after all Masses the weekend of Aug. 10-11.

## 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. 07/15</b>	8:30 a.m.	Emma Royers <i>(Potter's Clay SCC)</i>
<b>Tue. 07/16</b>	8:30 a.m.	Robert Bujulski <i>(The Extein Family)</i>
<b>Wed. 07/17</b>	8:30 a.m.	Don Chilcott <i>(Ross Peters)</i>
<b>Thur. 07/18</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Fri. 07/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	Agnes Barko <i>(Dave &amp; Marilyn Rinke)</i>
<b>Sat. 07/20</b>	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
<b>Sun. 07/21</b>	8:30 a.m.	Evelyn Seyboldt <i>(Mary Jo Fulton)</i>
	11:00 a.m.	Deceased Member of the Spiegel Family <i>(The Spiegel Family)</i>

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 7 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	106	\$4,760.20
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,901.00
Loose Change:		\$ 201.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$7,862.20</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 07/15</b>	Ex 1:8-14, 22	/ Mt 10:34-11:1
<b>Tue. 07/16</b>	Ex 2:1-15a	/ Mt 11:20-24
<b>Wed. 07/17</b>	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12	/ Mt 11:25-27
<b>Thur. 07/18</b>	Ex 3:13-20	/ Mt 11:28-30
<b>Fri. 07/19</b>	Ex 11:10-12:14	/ Mt 12:1-8
<b>Sat. 07/20</b>	Ex 12:37-42	/ Mt 12:14-21
<b>Sun. 07/21</b>	Gn 18:1-10 / Col 1:24-28 / Lk 10:38-42	

## EVANGELIZATION SHORTS

Share Christian Joy – Smile



## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Luke 10:25-37



During the exile, God must have seemed remote and uncaring. The prophet told them not to look up in the sky nor in the depths of the sea, as though God were mysterious and unattainable. God is very near to those who call. In times of trouble, their prayers will be heard and help will come.

In Jesus, God's reign is close at hand. Jesus is the image of God. In him, the invisible becomes visible. Jesus is the fullness and completeness of God's revelation. He is God's love, mercy and peace incarnate. Through him, God reconciles a world dominated by the powers of evil. Jesus asks us to love God with everything that we possess—heart, soul, mind, and strength. And he also asks us to love our neighbors in the same way that we love ourselves. Our neighbor is the poor and suffering, people we don't know, or even want to know. When we open our eyes to the wounded Christ in those we meet along our way, we will discover that all of humanity is our neighbor.

**For Reflection:** How have I shared God's care with someone I don't know? Who has been a neighbor to me in my needs?

## Grief Support Group

The next group meeting is **July 15 at 7pm**. Do you know someone who is going through a grief process? Invite them to the grief support group. Come with them if needed. Our group is open to anyone; they need not be a member of the parish. Questions contact Donna Clark



## OLM Book Group



Summer is here! It is time for long days in the sun, perfect for reading. The OLM Book Group invites you to share your reading adventures with a great group of women over a glass of wine and terrific talk. Join us **July 17** at

the home of Bunny Weber, 3752 Harbor Ridge Trail to discuss A Fall of Marigolds by Susan Meissner.

## God does not take a summer vacation

Do you want to deepen your relationship with God? If your small Christian Community takes a break during the summer and you find you are missing the spiritual input try this website. <http://liturgy.slu.edu/index.html> from St Louis University. For each Sunday you will find prayers, spirituality, history, study and music reflections based on the reading for that day. Check it out.



## 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.

## Job for Home Help

Current job available to help with personal care for a senior citizen. Also includes driving to appointments, some light housekeeping and laundry, cooking if able and companionship. First and Second shifts are open. Contact Donna Clark for more information. Part time with possibility for adding other clients.



## OLM Ministries



Our parish website is maintained by a small team from our Tech Committee. Do you have an eye for graphic design? The Tech Committee is always looking for new ideas. Check out the brochure in the ministry display case.

# FUN FOR THE FAMILY

## Youth Open Gym/Field Day

The youth of the parish are invited to an hour of open gym/field day on **Wednesday, June 17th from 12:30-1:30**. The weather will determine whether we hold an Open Gym in the gymnasium or a Field Day outside. Please dress accordingly.

## Summer Playtime!

Are you a parent, grandparent or summer caregiver of children between the ages of 0 and 5? Join us this summer for some playtime at Shades Beach Park! We will meet at the park at 9:30 a.m. for a time of fellowship and allow the little ones to play. Join us on **Thursday July 18th!** If it should be a rainy day, we will still have some fun in the OLM Gym! Older siblings are welcome too! Save the date for our last Summer Playtime event on **August 15th!**

## Vacation Bible School

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE! VBS REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED!** Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! All children between the ages of 4 years and the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us **July 22-26 from 9:00-noon** as we celebrate some "Heros of the Bible". Registration fliers are available in the Gathering Space and at 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.

## Parking Lot Dance

It's summer and there is music in the streets, or at least the parking lots of Harborcreek. **Friday, Aug. 2 at 7:00** is our annual outdoor dance. It is free and open to all, no matter your age. So, bring a friend, put on your dancing shoes, grab a lawn chair and spend an evening enjoying a summer evening with friends at OLM.

## MEN'S NIGHT OUT- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-BASEBALL EXCURSION

Our 7th annual baseball excursion to Cleveland, to see the Central Division Champion Indians play the Kansas City Royals, will take place on **Sunday August 25th at 1:00 PM**. The trip is open to parish men age 21 and over. The cost of \$40 per person includes transportation to the game aboard a school bus, and your ticket to the game. Complimentary refreshments and lunch aboard the bus are also included. **Reservations must be received by Monday July 22nd.** The bus will leave the church parking lot at 9:45 AM, immediately following 8:30 Mass. The trip is open to the first 41 men who sign up. Checks should be made out to Phil Legler, and mailed to his address, 3989 Magnolia Blossom Drive, Erie, Pa. 16510.



## Planning a Visit to Peto, Mexico



The Sister Parish Committee is planning a visit to our sister parish in Peto, Mexico. We will be traveling from Oct. 30-Nov. 6.

Although the size of our delegation is limited due to housing and transportation on the ground in Mexico, we can add a few more parish members to our group. If you are interested, contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org). We would also like to take some gifts from our parish. If you have an idea for a hand-crafted gift, please contact Irene.

## Mental Health First Aid

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Erie County has been providing mental health education to the community for over 35 years. NAMI now offers free classes that will teach you common risk factors and warning signs and how to identify, understand, and respond to the signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. Mental illness can impact anyone of any age, and mental health issues are very common, approximately 55,000 people in Erie County face a mental health challenge each year. This training will help to increase empathy when talking with your child, learn signs and symptoms to be aware of, and increase your overall communication skills. NAMI of Erie County will offer one 8-hour session, or two 4-hour sessions of Mental Health First Aid. This training is free, but registration is required. To register for the next Mental Health First Aid training, please contact NAMI of Erie County at 456-1773 or visit [NAMIERIE.org/firstaid](http://NAMIERIE.org/firstaid).



## Children's Worship Bulletins



Keep the children engaged with their stories of faith over the summer. Grab the 4-page hand-out of activities based on the Sunday readings each week. They can be found on the bulletin tables near the doors of the church. Children's

Liturgy of the Word will continue through the summer at the 11:00 Mass.

## From Harborcreek Faith Lutheran

You're invited to celebrate the Rev. Dr. Al Gesler's 60th anniversary of ordination! Sunday, August 25 from 5-7 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 5414 East Lake Road. Please bring a covered dish to share; hot dogs, hamburgers, buns "fixings", beverages and paper products will be provided. Please RSVP by Monday, August 19 to [faithleadasst@gmail.com](mailto:faithleadasst@gmail.com)

Faith Lutheran Church in Harborcreek is seeking a part-time Parish Administrator. The Parish Administrator provides overall support and coordination for the office and ongoing ministry of the church. If interested, please submit a cover letter and resume to [faith-lepastor@gmail.com](mailto:faith-lepastor@gmail.com) or mail to 5414 East Lake Road, Erie, PA 16511 by July 22.

## National Needs Collection July 20 & 21



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Without outside assistance, over 80 Catholic dioceses in the United States and its territories cannot offer their people basic pastoral care, provide priestly formation, or organize lay ministry training. These areas of our nation, which struggle with severe poverty, lack of resources and often rugged terrain and sparse populations are known as our "home mission dioceses." The Catholics who live in these places rely on your generous support in the annual National Needs Collection, to be taken up in our parishes this year on July 20 and 21. As members of the church in the United States, we are called to solidarity with our sisters and brothers who need our help to practice their faith right here at home. Please give generously to the National Needs Collection on the weekend of July 20 and 21. May you and your families enjoy a restful and refreshing summer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Lawrence T. Persico

## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments



### Know the Warning Signs of Abuse

Those who abuse children look like everyone else. They don't look like scary people that we should know to avoid. Rather, they live with their families in our neighborhoods. One of the most important ways to ensure the safety of children in our environments is to know the warning signs of adults who present a risk of harm to children. Among these signs are when the person (1) always wants to be alone with children in areas where no one can monitor the interactions, (2) allows children to do things their parents would not permit, (3) is always more excited to be with children than with adults, and (4) discourages others from participating in activities involving kids. For more information and resources visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/>

## A Special Thank You

We are so very appreciative of all the thoughts and prayers and Masses and shower of cards that many of you have sent, both get-well and for the 50th anniversary of our marriage. As we haven't been able to travel home yet, your caring means so much. The OLM family, aka parishioners, "gets" what it means to be church. We love and miss you all.

Thank you, Don and Margaret McCurdy

# YOUR 2019 OLM FESTIVAL GUIDE



**DINNER STARTS AT NOON**

**\$10 for adults**

**\$5 ages 6-12**

**5 and under free**

**The fun doesn't stop after dinner...**

**Use to checklist below to make sure you  
don't miss out on any of the  
FESTIVAL FUN!**

## Festival Checklist

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy a chicken dinner                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Handmade Quilt Raffle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bake Sale                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese Auction       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Prize Raffle<br>\$1 each/ 6 for \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Games of Chance       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50" Flat Screen TV<br>Raffle              | <input type="checkbox"/> 50/50                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> iPad Raffle                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Games      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BINGO                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pony Rides            |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bounce House          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sale             |

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