

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



July 21, 2019 – 16th 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



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. 07/22	9:00 a.m.	VBS
	6:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
Tue. 07/23	9:00 a.m.	VBS
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 07/24	9:00 a.m.	VBS
Thur. 07/25	9:00 a.m.	VBS
Fri. 07/26	10:00 a.m.	VBS
Sat. 07/27	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 07/28		

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUPERHEROES OF THE BIBLE

Just a reminder that VBS: Superheroes of the Bible is taking place this Monday—Friday from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. We can't wait to see you there!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 07/22	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17	/ Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Tue. 07/23	Ex 14:21-15:1	/ Mt 12:46-50
Wed. 07/24	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15	/ Mt 13:1-9
Thur. 07/25	2 Cor 4:7-15	/ Mt 20:20-28
Fri. 07/26	Ex 20:1-17	/ Mt 13:18-23
Sat. 07/27	Ex 24:3-8	/ Mt 13:24-30
Sun. 07/28	Gn 18:20-32 / Col 2:12-14 / Lk 11:1-13	

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.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/22	8:30 a.m.	
Tue. 07/23	8:30 a.m.	Betty Steadman <i>(The Gallagher Family)</i>
Wed. 07/24	8:30 a.m.	Alfonce Bucheral <i>(Dan Ott)</i>
Thur. 07/25	8:30 a.m.	Sam Garwig <i>(Liana Pasquale)</i>
Fri. 07/26	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 07/27	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Gert Peters <i>(Msgr. Joe Wardanski)</i>
Sun. 07/28	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Lewis Peters <i>(Carole Peters)</i>

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 14, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	111	\$4,384.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,901.00
Loose Change:		\$ 125.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,410.00

EVANGELIZATION SHORTS

Share Christian Joy – Smile



Mark Your Calendar

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

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Luke 10:38-42



Abraham, the great “father of faith,” did not ignore the strangers in his midst. He ran to greet them, offering them water and food to refresh them on their journey. Abraham and Sarah were servants of God, willing to wait on those in need. Their generosity did not go unrewarded. New life would be born from their old and lifeless bodies.

Although Jesus was often ignored and rejected, he found a home among friends—Martha and Mary of Bethany. But Martha was too busy with all the needs of hospitality to offer him the attention he needed. Her sister, Mary, knew what their guest wanted most—someone with a listening heart. We may complain that we are worn out from caring for others’ needs and have no time to spend with the Lord. Or we can be faith-filled servants who sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to his words.

Like Abraham and Martha, we need to serve the guests who come to our homes. Like Sarah and Mary, we must allow God to fill us with new life so that we can bear the good news to others. When we do this, we will discover the mystery of Christ within us.

For Reflection: How do I treat those who come to the door of my home or my church? Do I neglect them, or do I greet them with open arms and heart?

Ladies Lunch



If you live alone and would like to share a good time with others join us **Monday, July 29** at Harborview Grill, 3730 Harbor Ridge Trail at 1:00pm. Pray for good weather so we can eat on the patio.

For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

We will be preparing the newsletter for the mail on **Monday, August 5** at 9:00 AM. If you can lend a hand, contact Irene Lucas at

ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or call 899-6132.



Widows Dinner

Wednesday **August 7** at 5:30 join a small group of women for dinner at Ricardo's, 2112 East Lake Road.

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.



Sister Parish Committee Selling Daffin's Candy Bars

The Sister Parish Committee is selling Daffin's candy bars to help with the cost of the delegation this October. Candy bars are \$1. They are available in the Gathering Space. Leave your money in the bucket.



OLM Ministries



A small team from our Tech Committee maintains our parish website. 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

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.

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.

Divorced? Separated? Widowed?

Transitions, a monthly support group for Separated, Divorced and Widowed persons will meet on **Sunday July 28, 2019, from 2 – 4 pm** at St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 E. Grandview Blvd. Please join us for our annual summer picnic (rain or shine). Please bring a dish to share, meat and beverages are provided. Please RSVP by **July 24, 2019** by calling 814-824-1265 or email at: jdurney@erieRCD.org for more information, Visit us at: www.erieRCD.org/transitions.htm



Rosary March



The Erie Curia of the Legion of Mary has scheduled its annual Rosary March on **Saturday, August 17** at St. Casimir's church, Erie. Bishop Persico will celebrate Mass at noon with the March to follow. The Rosary will also be recited in the church for those unable to walk. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the March.

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 NAMLerie.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.



Faith Direct and Special Collections

To donate to a special or second collection through Faith Direct simply sign into your account and choose a onetime gift. Then choose "Special Collection/ Second Collection. Enter the amount of the donation and the name of the collection in the notes line. For example, Mission Cooperative Program or National Needs. Verify the date you would like to have the money withdrawn.



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

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 or mail to 5414 East Lake Road, Erie, PA 16511 by July 22.

Festival Thank You

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and to those who donated to help make the OLM 2019 Festival the BEST FESTIVAL EVER! The donation of your time, gifts and hard work is appreciated and the very reason for another successful Festival season.

Festival Winners

Grand Prize - Amy Smith
iPad - John Schook
TV—Shaun McCausland
Restaurant Cards - Linda Erickson
Lottery - Patty Parmenter
50/50 - Mark Silka
Quilt - Bob Cornman
Afghan - Joe Tarquinio

Congratulations to all of our prize winners!

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.

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.



Hospital Visitation



We don't always get accurate reports of who is in the hospital because of the change in policy for the local hospitals. If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital please call the parish office to let us know.

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.

The National Domestic Violence
HOTLINE

Smile for Our Lady of Mercy



To link to our Amazon Smile charity listing visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1563277>. If you shop Amazon please consider using Amazon Smile and naming "Our Lady of Mercy – Harborcreek" as your charity.

CARE FOR CREATION IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!

Turn your yards into pollinator gardens. Pollinators (bees, butterflies, beetles, flies) are necessary for three-quarters of our major food crops, and they are in trouble due to exposure to parasites and pesticides, and loss of floral abundance and diversity due to increased land-use. We can help pollinators by creating garden areas specifically designed to attract and feed them.

Learn how here: https://www.faithcommongood.org/pollinator_gardens

OR

Turn your lawn into a meadow. Penn State has some great ideas:

<https://extension.psu.edu/meadows-and-prairies-wildlife-friendly-alternatives-to-lawn>

Sometimes we need to be a little radical and suggesting we say goodbye to our lush, green lawns may be seen as “radical”. However, lawns are tough on the environment.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/another-downside-to-your-classic-green-lawn-22716743/>

If you need to maintain a grassy lawn, consider reducing or eliminating the use of herbicides and fertilizer and limit watering. Here at OLM, we do not use fertilizer and rarely water the grass.

Information provided by the Catholic Climate Covenant

Our Lady of Mercy 4th Annual Parking Lot Dance

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2019

7PM—10 PM

DUTTON ROAD PARKING LOT BY PICNIC PAVILLION



*BYOB *CHAIR OR BLANKET
* BUG SPRAY *BRING A SNACK TO CHASE
AWAY THE HUNGER FROM DANCIN'



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