

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## August 4, 2019 – 18th 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)

Mon. 08/05	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
Tue. 08/06	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 08/07	5:30 p.m.	Widow's Dinner
Thur. 08/08		
Fri. 08/09		
Sat. 08/10	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
	7:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Registration
Sun. 08/11		Religious Ed. Registration

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 28, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	100	\$2,714.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,901.00
Loose Change:		\$ 234.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$5,849.00</b>

## Religious Education

Religious education registration will take place after all masses the weekend of Aug. 10-11. We are looking for a volunteer to serve as a general aid during the Sunday morning program. If you can help, contact Irene in the Faith Formation Office at 899-6132.

## 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or call 899-6132.

## We Remember...



Paul Sorth; and Tom Marshall, brother of Ken Marshall. Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/05	Nm 11:4b-15	/ Mt 14:13-21
Tue. 08/06	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14	/ 2 Pt 1:16-19
		/ Lk 9:28b-36
Wed. 08/07	Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35	
		/ Mt 15:21-28
Thur. 08/08	Nm 20:1-13	/ Mt 16:13-23
Fri. 08/09	Dt 4:32-40	/ Mt 16:24-28
Sat. 08/10	2 Cor 9:6-10	/ Jn 12:24-26
Sun. 08/11	Wis 18:6-9	/ Heb 11:1-2, 8-12
		/ Lk 12:32-48

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/05	8:30 a.m.	Richard Smith (Janet Smith)
Tue. 08/06	8:30 a.m.	Florence Martin (Butch & Gerri Extein)
Wed. 08/07	8:30 a.m.	Sam Garwig (Marilyn Garwig)
Thur. 08/08	8:30 a.m.	Chris Plonski (Barb Jones)
Fri. 08/09	8:30 a.m.	Joseph MacKrell
Sat. 08/10	8:30 a.m.	Rev. John Frase (Sheri Noyer)
	6:00 p.m.	Tom Rinke (Linda & Doug Poust)
Sun. 08/11	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Stephen Brainard (David & Shelia)

## PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Call Donna Smicker at 899-9108

4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

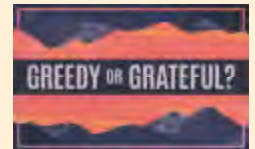
Call Gerri Extein at 899-6875

The Hospital Visitor for the week is Andrea Maille.



## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Luke 12:13-21



What is to be gained when laborers toil in the heat, with worry and anxiety gripping their hearts and minds? What profit is there for landowners who work with knowledge and skill if, when they die, their property is left to others who have done nothing to deserve it?

For answers to such questions, we must lift our vision above this world and its trials. We have been raised with Christ in baptism; therefore, we must put to death our worldly thoughts and put on the life of Christ. Material goods are illusory and do not guarantee the happiness we seek. Jesus illustrates this in a story of a rich man who had a good harvest but did not have enough bins to store all his grain. If he built larger ones, he could relax and enjoy life for years to come. But before he could finish the job, his life was taken. Who would inherit his wealth? Who would benefit from his labors? We too must ask ourselves hard questions. Are we rich in the eyes of the world, or in the sight of God?

**For Reflection: How does my life in Christ affect the way I live? How will it affect the way I die?**

### Widows Dinner

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



### Sunset Beach Mass



Mark your calendars. The annual Sunset Beach Mass at Glinodo Center will be **Sunday, Aug. 18 at 7:00 PM**. Cookie fellowship will follow. Bring your own lawn chair, a plate of cookies to share (if you wish), and invite a friend. This is a beautiful way to celebrate the blessings of summer and to share the joy of our faith with others.

### Diocese free e-newsletter

Have you subscribed to the *Diocese of ErieE-news*? It is easy to do and it's free. To receive your email edition each week, simply visit [nwpaCatholic.com](http://nwpaCatholic.com), click on the "subscribe" button, and provide a few lines of basic information. Every Monday morning, you will receive headlines and photos with links to diocesan, national and Vatican news. You will also see a tweet sent out from Bishop Lawrence Persico or from the diocese. Sign up today and stay in the know!



### 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

August 21 at the home of Donna Huff, 4517 N. Woods Dr., to discuss The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende. Our September title will be Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens.

## From the Sister Parish Committee

### 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.

### Sister Parish School Supply Collection

The Sister Parish Committee is also collecting school supplies to bring to Peto: pencils, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, rulers. We can not take notebooks, paper, or crayons. Our supply list is limited to small, light-weight items that we can carry down and that won't melt in the heat. School supply donations can be placed in the basket under the candy bar table.

### 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.

### Ministry in the Parish

The best way to know something is to teach it. Do you like talking about God? Do you want to help pass faith onto the children of the parish? Then perhaps the Ministry of Religious Education Teacher, a Catechist, is right for you. Hesitant? Then sign up to be a substitute teacher and test the waters. Get more information from the brochure in the ministry display rack.



### 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.

### Shopping at GFS for that family reunion picnic?

Don't forget to mention Our Lady of Mercy at Checkout. We get points for each dollar spent and the Funeral Meal Ministry uses those points to buy food for the Parish.



### 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, **Church in Latin America on Aug 10/11**. Verify the date you would like to have the money withdrawn.

**Save The Date**  
**3rd Annual**  
**Knights of Columbus Dance**  
**Friday, October 4th**  
**7 to 11 pm**  
 at Our Lady of Mercy  
 Featuring THE GROOVE  
 Hope to see you there



## 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.

## Bringing the Gifts of the Community to the Altar

Bringing the gifts of bread and wine to the altar defines who we are as a Eucharistic People. Reminiscent of a time when people brought bread and wine from their own homes to the Eucharist celebration, this procession of our gifts (mostly money now) still retains its force and spiritual significance. Along with the bread and wine, it is an offering "for the relief of the needs of the Church and of the poor. . . . It is a symbolic expression of the gathered assembly's participation in the Eucharist and in the social mission of the Church." (The Mystery of Faith, Lawrence J. Johnson, p.62) Say yes the next time you are asked to represent the community's generosity and love for God. Better yet, speak to one of the coordinators at Mass and offer to bring up the gifts next week. Seek out Carol Sutton at 6pm, Sandi Matts at 8:30am or Darlene Piotrowski at 11:00am



## 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.

## Summer Spirituality

For spiritual reflection on the Sunday readings, check out this website from St Louis University <http://liturgy.slu.edu/index.html> For Each Sunday you will find prayers, spirituality, history, bible study and music reflections based on the reading for that day.



## Young Adult Small Faith Group


Tues, Aug 13, 6pm, Parlor  
Join us as we wrap up our study on Islam and transition into Judaism. Contact Nick for details



## Young Adult Holy Hour

Fri Aug 30, 7pm, Sanctuary  
Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition, Sacrament of Confession, silence and song. Optional dinner afterwards.

## 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](http://thehotline.org).

## Anniversary Celebration

The 2019 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held at two locations in the diocese: **Sunday, August 4, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.** at St. Catherine of Siena in DuBois and **Sunday, August 25, at 2:00 p.m.** at Sacred Heart in Erie. To register, please go online to <https://www.eriecnd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Marriage and Family Life Office (814) 824-1265 or (800) 374-3723 ext. 265.



## Hearing Assisted Sound System

 If you have difficulty hearing during Mass contact a staff member who can assist you with getting a receiver and ear piece.

## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments



### Documentation for Safety

All employees, volunteers and clergy in the Diocese of Erie who work with children must undergo criminal record checks. The diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth screening guidelines and abuse prevention training programs emphasize the importance of knowing the employees and volunteers who have access to children in our schools and parishes. Parents should remain vigilant in insisting that those with access to their children have gone through an application process and obtained the required clearances and trainings before being granted access to their children. To see what documentation and training is required in the diocese, visit <https://www.eriecnd.org/childprotection/>

### WARNING!

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information – including a request for gift cards of any type – exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.

# CARE FOR CREATION

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING, PART 2

LAUDATO SI  
4TH ANNIVERSARY

2019

Celebrate Laudato Si! *Go outside!*  
We live in a living world! Take your shoes off and walk on the grass. Take a deep breath. Look at the sky. Watch the flight of a bird. Listen to bird songs. Smell a flower. Admire a tree. Feel the warmth of the sun or gaze in awe of the stars. For at least 10 minutes do nothing but experience and delight in the goodness and richness of creation and give thanks to God. Praise Be-Laudato Si'!

As was stated in Part 1, "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". Several parts of that teaching directly relate to our Care for Creation. Today we consider the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

"A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring." The effects of climate change disproportionately harm poor and vulnerable people. People who are living in poverty don't have the resources needed to recover from a devastating hurricane, or the resources needed to build new irrigation systems as rainfall patterns change. This is particularly unjust because, on a global scale the poor are often least responsible for contributing to the causes of climate change. To live the Catholic value of caring for poor and vulnerable people, we must address climate change.

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.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife: How to build a pollinator garden in seven steps. <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/news/PollinatorGarden.html>



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