

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



August 11, 2019 - 19th Sunday in 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. 08/12	6:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
Tue. 08/13	1:00 p.m.	Social Justice Committee
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Young Adult SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 08/14	12:30 p.m.	Youth Open Gym
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 08/15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	8:30 a.m.	Holy Day Mass
	9:30 a.m.	Summer Playtime
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Day Mass
Fri. 08/16		
Sat. 08/17	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/18	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	7:00 p.m.	Sunset Beach Mass

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us for Holy Day Mass on Thursday August 15th at 8:30 a.m. or at 7:00 p.m.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/12	Dt 10:12-22	/ Mt 17:22-27
Tue. 08/13	Dt 31:1-8	/ Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wed. 08/14	Dt 34:1-12	/ Mt 18:15-20
Thur. 08/15	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab / 1Cor 15:20-27 / Lk 1:39-56	
Fri. 08/16	Jos 24:1-13	/ Mt 19:3-12
Sat. 08/17	Jos 24:14-29	/ Mt 19:13-15
Sun. 08/18	Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 / Heb 12:1-4 / Lk 12:49-53	

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/12	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters <i>(Carole Peters)</i>
Tue. 08/13	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 08/14	8:30 a.m.	Ronald Decker <i>(Charles & Anna DuShole)</i>
Thur. 08/15	8:30 a.m.	Girolama & Antonia Abbate <i>(John & Irene Abbate)</i>
	7:00 p.m.	
Fri. 08/16	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith <i>(Ron & Cindy Bielanin)</i>
Sat. 08/17	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Gert Peters <i>(Ross Peters)</i>
Sun. 08/18	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Chaz Magouirk <i>(Lindsay Magouirk)</i>

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 4, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	101	\$4,070.20
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,901.00
Loose Change:		\$ 331.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,272.20

We Remember...



Mark Carney, brother of Tom Carney; and Ron Hodges, brother of Charlene DeDionisio.

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

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 Florence Voelker



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Luke 12:32-48

Those things that happened to God's people in the past continue to happen to us today. Their story is our story. Throughout salvation history, the people of God walked by faith with confident assurance in things unseen. Abraham went forth not knowing where the road would take him. As a nomad wanders the earth, Abraham walked with faith in the one who called him. Like Abraham, we have a choice. We can go back to the place from which we came, or we can continue to go forward as we seek God's homeland.

Life's journey has a destiny, and we must always love at God's command. Like our ancestors in faith, we seek a home whose builder is our God. Though we cannot see it, the eyes of faith lead us to the place God has prepared for us. At the same time, we must diligently work to build the city of God here on earth. Do we mistreat our fellow servants, or do we treat them with honesty and justice? If we are fair in all our dealings on earth, we will be ready to greet the one who leads us to our heavenly home.

For Reflection: Am I ready and waiting for the coming of God's reign? What have I done to prepare myself?



Sunset Beach Mass

The annual Sunset Beach Mass at Glinodo Center is next **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. This Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation.



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.

Our Communities Are Growing Again!

We are forming at least one new Small Christian Community this fall! Are you interested in joining a community? Have you been in a community but are looking for a change? Are you just curious about our parish communities and would like to learn more? Join us at noon on Sunday September 8 in the picnic pavilion. Enjoy a grilled hot dog, find answers to your questions, and help us kick-start a few new communities this fall. Bring a dish to share, or just come and join us. See you there! Interested but can't make it? **Call Katie in the office 899-5342 or Dave 602-4622**



Festival Update:

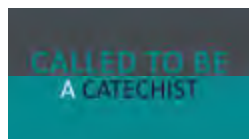


Thank you to everyone for helping to make our Festival the: "Best Festival Ever!" Our Chinese Auction and Bake Sale were phenomenal. We are seeking feedback from everyone. Please stop in the gathering space and provide suggestions to keep making

our Festival better. Please also share thoughts on new big raffle prizes for next year!

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.



Religious Ed Registration

Religious education registration is taking place after all masses this weekend, **Aug. 10-11**. If you missed registration weekend, please stop by the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation during normal working hours to register your child. All new and returning children intending to participate in the religious education program during the 2019-2020 school year must be registered by a parent signature on the appropriate forms. We are looking for a volunteer to teach the Junior High Class Sunday from noon to 1:15 and for general aid during the Sunday morning program. If you can help, **contact Irene in the Faith Formation Office at 899-6132**.

Catechist Organizational Meeting

There will be a meeting for all volunteer catechists on **Sunday, August 25** between the 8:30 and 11:00 Masses. Meet in the /Conference Room at 9:45 for an hour of prayer, planning and fellowship.

Social Justice



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states "The Catholic Church in the United States is an immigrant Church with a long history of embracing diverse newcomers and providing assistance and pastoral care to immigrants, migrants, refugees, and people on the move... In Christ, the human race is one before God, equal in dignity and rights."

The USCCB references scripture before providing three principles to guide the policy making on immigration. The scriptures include:

- Lv. 19:33-34. You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; have the same love for him as for yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt.
- Mt 25:35. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me.
- Gal 3:28. There is neither Jew nor Greek . . . for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Three Principles espoused by the USCCB:

- People have the right to migrate to sustain their lives and the lives of their families.
- A country has the right to regulate its borders and to control immigration.
- A country must regulate its borders with justice and mercy.

For more information visit <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/immigration/>

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.

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.



Annual CROP Walk scheduled in September



"To feed the hungry" is a work of mercy. Millions of people are hungry in our world, our country, our city. You can help! Hundreds of Erie residents will join in the annual CROP Walk Sept. 15 at

Presque Isle State Park. Twenty-five percent of money raised remains in Erie. Several Catholic parishes and organizations regularly participate, and groups such as Emmaus Soup Kitchen, St. Patrick's Food Pantry and the SSJ Neighborhood Network reap benefits on a yearly basis. For more information on CROP Walk, please call Barbara Roseborough at 814-882-5972, or go to <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/eriepa/> to register or donate online.

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.



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.



Young Adult Small Faith Group

Tuesday, August 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

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

Youth Open Gym/Field Day

The youth of the parish are invited to an hour of open gym/field day on Wednesday, August 14th 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 August 15th! If it should be a rainy day, we will still have some fun in the OLM Gym! Older siblings are welcome too!

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 17/18. Verify the date you would like to have the money withdrawn.

Anniversary Celebration

The 2019 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held on Sunday, August 25, at 2:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart in Erie. To register, please go online to <https://www.eriecld.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.



Sunset Mass

Sunday, Aug. 18 @ 7:00 PM

This Mass counts for your Sunday commitment.

Glinodo Conference Center

Off of East Lake Road just east of Mount St. Benedict

Please do not drive on the grass

Bring a chair and bug spray

Cookies and punch fellowship to follow

(Could you bring a plate of cookies to share?)

Church in Latin America Collection

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As you know, many of our southern neighbors are experiencing serious crises. Nearly every day we hear dramatic stories about the migrant crisis on our southern border. In recent months the news has also been filled with stories about the economic collapse of Venezuela. The annual collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA) allows us to help.

The CLA helps provide lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation as well as marriage and family life programs to the millions of Catholics in Latin America who would otherwise have no access to them.

Today I ask you to renew your support for our brothers and sisters in Latin America. I invite you to pray for them and to support this year's Church in Latin America Collection, which will be taken up in the parishes of the Diocese of Erie on the weekend of **August 17-18**. Together we can make a real difference in the lives of our fellow Catholics throughout Latin America. Please know my gratitude for your generosity and be assured of my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico
The Most Reverend
Lawrence T. Persico
Bishop of Erie



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