

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



October 6th, 2019 - 27th 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. 10/07	9:00 a.m.	Acts of the Apostles Scripture Study
	7:00 p.m.	Acts of the Apostles Scripture Study
Tue. 10/08	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Children's Choir
	7:00 p.m.	New SCC
Wed. 10/09	7:30 p.m.	AA
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 10/10	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
Fri. 10/11	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sat. 10/12	10:00 a.m.	AA
Sun. 10/13	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	12:00 p.m.	Family Harvest Fest
	12:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 7&8

Birthday Celebration

Our friend, Fr. Leo Gallina will be celebrating his 80th birthday on October 15. We would like to shower him with cards from his OLM family. You can mail your well wishes to him at 400 East Gore Road, Erie, PA 16509.



For Mercy Sake Deadline



Deadline to submit articles for the November issue of For Mercy Sake is Sunday, Oct. 20.

Send submissions to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 10/07	8:30 a.m.	
Tue. 10/08	8:30 a.m.	Robert Jones (Barb Jones)
Wed. 10/09	8:30 a.m.	Joseph Ryan
Thur. 10/10	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 10/11	8:30 a.m.	Anthony Clemente (Aunt Helen, Uncle Dave)
Sat. 10/12	8:30 a.m.	Joanne Smith (Liana Pasquale)
Sun. 10/13	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
	8:30 a.m.	Paul DeLuca (Rose Marie DeLuca)
	11:00 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 10/07	Jon 1:1-2:2, 11	/ Lk 10:25-37
Tue. 10/08	Jon 3:1-10	/ Lk 10:38-42
Wed. 10/09	Jon 4:1-11	/ Lk 11:1-4
Thur. 10/10	Mal 3:13-20b	/ Lk 11:5-13
Fri. 10/11	Jl 1:13-15, 2:1-2	/ Lk 11:15-26
Sat. 10/12	Jl 4:12-21	/ Lk 11:27-28
Sun. 10/13	2Kgs 5:14-17/2Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19	

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of September 29, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	62	\$2,335.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	116	\$2,948.08
Loose Change:		\$ 274.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$5,557.08

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 Donna Smicker.



Question-of-the-Week

The winner of the Question-of-the-Week Contest for the week of Sept. 23 was Blake Nguyen, Gr. 4, who knew that "Gospel" means "Good News".



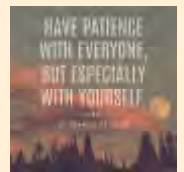
THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Lk 17:5-10

"Increase your faith!" we cry when we see violence and injustice and when God seems indifferent to our appeals. "If today we could hear your voice," we please. Like the prophet Habakkuk, we want a message from God as large as a billboard. They prophet said: "God will not disappoint you. If there is a delay, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not be late."

Paul is a model of the faithful disciple . Persecuted and imprisoned, he wrote with courageous hope and optimism. "Be strong! Be loving! Be wise!" he exhorted. "Stir into a flame the gift of faith God gives you!" Paul teaches us that we are God's servants, not God's masters. We cannot command God to act according to our timetables. Paul reminds us that we have a rich deposit of faith. We can draw from it when we forget that God is faithful and will fulfill what is promised.

For Reflection: How do I respond when things don't go according to my schedule? Does this deepen my trust in God or impede it?



Autumn Scripture Study

The study of the Acts of the Apostles will continue on **Monday, Oct. 7** with both a **9:00 AM and 7:00 PM** session. This week we will be looking at ch. 15-18.



Seeking Silence?



These introductory sessions on **contemplative prayer** are designed to help people incorporate more silence into their prayer lives. Each session will include a short instruction on various techniques that help us move into contemplative silence. The half hour sessions will be from **5:30pm to 6:00pm Oct 16, 30, Nov 6**. Stop in on your way home from work. Interested, but this time does not work for you? Contact Donna Clark in the parish office or try the session on **Thursdays at 1pm (Oct, 17, 31, Nov 7)**.

Confirmation Interviews

Candidates preparing to celebrate Confirmation in November are reminded that they have mandatory interviews **TODAY Sunday, Oct. 6 at 12:15**.



Parish Autumn Harvest Fest



The annual Family Harvest Fest will be held **Sunday, Oct. 13 at noon** with soup sampling, children's crafts and fun for all. We are looking for those willing to make a crock pot of soup for our event. Please sign up on the easel in the Gathering Space if you can donate a crock pot of soup. If you are not donating a pot of homemade soup, please bring a dessert to share.

Widows' Dinner

Monday Oct 14 5:00 pm. Harbor House, 4454 Buffalo Rd. Gather with others who enjoy company with a meal; laughter, love and support. Contact Donna Clark



OLM Book Group



Books might be the only thing that is not sold in pumpkin spice flavor, but the OLM Book Group still enjoys devouring them. Join us **7:00 PM Oct. 16** at the home of Donna Huff, 4517 North Woods Dr., to discuss The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson. Want to read ahead? Our November title will be The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris.

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

There will be a very important meeting for parents with children in the Sunday morning First Reconciliation class. The meeting will be held on **Oct. 20 at 9:45 AM** in the Conference Room.



Baptismal Preparation Sessions for Parents



Parents desiring to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with their child are asked to attend a preparation session by the Diocese of Erie. The next Baptismal Preparation Session for Parents and Godparents at OLM will be held **Sunday, Oct. 20 at noon** in the Conference Room. Please call the Parish Office at 899-5342 to register prior to the class.

Canning Jars Needed

The Religious Education ministry is looking for canning jars (any size or style, no lids needed) for a project. If you have any you want to donate, bring them to the Rel. Ed. Office before **Oct. 20**.



Question and Answer with the Pastor

Join Fr. Ritchie on **Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 7:00** in the Conference Room for a conversation around your questions about the Catholic faith. Enjoy a cold drink, some snacks and a chance to ask the pastor your questions about the Catholic faith. There is so much we did not learn as children. Now is the time to continue our education. All are welcome, including friends and family members not part of the parish. If you like, bring a snack to share.



Hands of Mercy

The annual ministry recommitment is **Oct 26/27**. Verify your ministries starting next week. Pray about joining a new ministry. The Discover Your Strengths Workshop is **Oct 26**.



Looking for a fulfilling Life?



Find out how on **Saturday October 26 at 9:00am**. *The Discover Your Strengths* workshops help people to understand their God-given talents and use them in everyday life. Wondering what Ministry God is calling you to? Find out how God has blessed you and you will know how to serve Him. *For this workshop you need to pick up a book in the parish office and take the online survey before coming to the class.* Questions Donna Clark, 899-5342 or dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Help Needed

The homebound ministry is looking for help to deliver handmade wreaths to our homebound. Can you help? Contact Donna in the parish office.



Tractor For Sale



Our Building & Grounds is selling our 1969 Farmall 140 Tractor. It runs well, has a mower deck, 3 PH; for \$3,500. If interested please contact the Parish Office at 899-5342 or by email at secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Mark Your Calendar for the Parish Mardi Gras!

Mardi Gras might feel like it is a long way off, but the Sister Parish Committee has begun to plan. This year, in addition to the home brew and wine taste-off, there will be a homemade salsa taste-off. As you are turning those garden tomatoes into salsa, think about putting some aside to enter into the taste-off. This year's Mardi Gras will be Saturday, Feb. 22.



Used Medical Equipment?

Chosen International Medical Assistance will take used medical equipment. The cleaned, refurbished equipment is given to those in need, both at home and abroad. Wheelchairs, walkers, transfer benches, shower chairs, canes, hospital beds, etc. They also collect diabetic and other medical supplies in their original packaging. Rolling walkers are in great demand. Questions about what is accepted contact



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 **October 17-20** and the next women's Cursillo will be **November 21-24**, both right 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.

Question Box

Do you have a question about prayer, the Bible, Church practices, moral teachings, or some other aspect of the Catholic faith? Place your question in the box in the Gathering Space and Fr. Ritchie will answer your question in the next issue of *For Mercy Sake*. This is a great way to learn together.



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



Code of Conduct

The Diocese of Erie is committed to protecting the children and youth who are entrusted to its care and to ensuring that those in ministry with our young people are in right relationship with the children/youth receiving services. To share in the ministry of Christ is a great privilege as well as a tremendous responsibility. The privilege is the joy of sharing in the mission of Jesus Himself. The responsibility is acting in a way that conforms to the attitude and actions of Christ. In this spirit, the diocese has issued a ministerial **Code of Conduct**. The code is included in the diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children, which also includes mandates for creating safe environments. To read the policy, go to <https://www.eriecd.org/images/sections/childprotection/pdf/CURRENTPolicy.pdf> For more information, contact Mrs. Cindy Zemcik, at the diocesan offices at 814-824-1195.

Laudato Si' seminar



A seminar on Pope Francis' environmental encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, on **Oct. 19 from 1 to 3 p.m.** hosted by St. George Parish, 5145 Peach St., Erie. Tom DiVecchio, senior meteorologist for WJET-TV, is the featured presenter, speaking on climate change from a meteorologist's point of view. To make a reservation, call Chris Zurawski at 814-679-4102.

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.



Vigil for Immigrant Children

Please join a coalition of local Catholic groups for a prayer vigil for immigrant children in detention on **Friday, October 11 from 4:30 to 5:00 PM** at the Federal Courthouse, 17 South Park Row. The vigil is in conjunction with a Catholic Nonviolent action for Immigrant Children in El Paso, TX. The El Paso Action is the third action and part of the "Stop the Inhumanity" campaign designed to increase pressure on the US government to end child detention. Contact: Michelle Knight, 202-997-5069, michellem.knight@gmail.com



SOCIAL JUSTICE



October has been designated as "Pro-Life" month. It is also the month that prepares Americans for local and national elections. Our Social Justice Corner will look at Church teaching on these issues through the lens of racial justice.

The injustice and harm racism causes are an attack on human life. The Church in the United States has spoken out consistently and forcefully against abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, and other forms of violence that threaten human life. It is not a secret that these attacks on human life have severely affected people of color, who are disproportionately affected by poverty, targeted for abortion, have less access to healthcare, have the greatest numbers on death row, and are most likely to feel pressure to end their lives when facing serious illness. As bishops, we unequivocally state that racism is a life issue. Accordingly, we will not cease to speak forcefully against and work toward ending racism. Racism directly places brother and sister against each other, violating the dignity inherent in each person.

Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love (A pastoral letter against racism United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

HARVEST FEST 2019



- Homemade Soup Sampling
 - Children's Craft
 - Cookie Decorating
 - Family Fun

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