

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## November 3rd, 2019 - 31st 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*

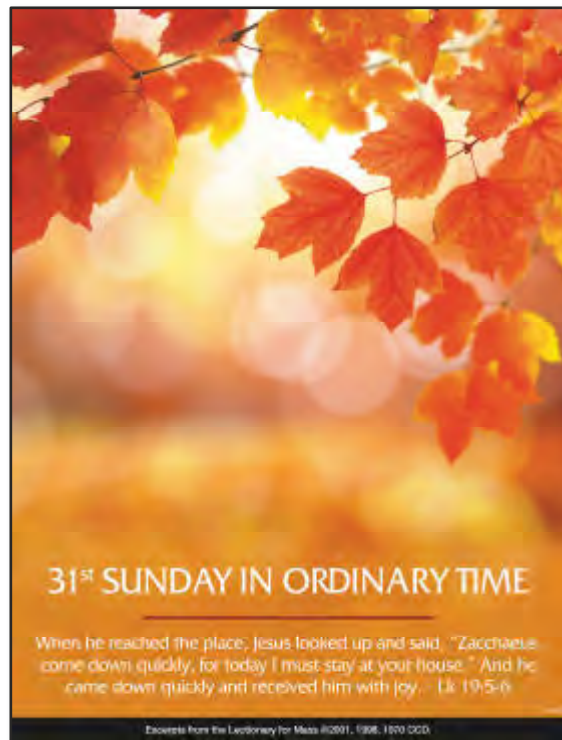
### CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](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. 11/04	7:00 p.m.	Death & Dying Presentation
Tue. 11/05	9:15 a.m.	Death & Dying Presentation
	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.	Pastoral Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 11/06	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer
Thur. 11/07	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 11/08		
Sat. 11/09	9:00 a.m.	Morning of Reflection
	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 11/10		<b>Gr. 11 Rite of Presentation</b>
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Morning CAFÉ
	11:00 a.m.	Gr. 10 Retreat
	12:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 7 & 8
	12:15 p.m.	Gr. 11 Candidate / Sponsor Meeting
	2:00 p.m.	Confirmation Practice -St. Mark

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 11/04	Rom 11:29-36	/ Lk 14:12-14
Tue. 11/05	Rom 12:5-16b	/ Lk 14:15-24
Wed. 11/06	Rom 13:8-10	/ Lk 14:25-33
Thur. 11/07	Rom 14:7-12	/ Lk 15:1-10
Fri. 11/08	Rom 15:14-21	/ Lk 16:1-8
Sat. 11/09	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 / 1Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17	/ Jn 2:13-22
Sun. 11/10	2Mc 7:1-2, 9-14	/ 2Thes 2:16-3:5 / Lk 20:27-38

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of October 20, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	112	\$3,391.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	116	\$2,948.08
Loose Change:		\$ 166.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$6,505.08</b>

## PRAYER LINE

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

Call Donna Smicker at 899-9108

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

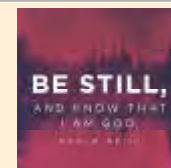
Call Gerri Extein at 899-6875

The Hospital Visitor for the week is Donna Smicker.



## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Lk 19:1-10



Zacchaeus was a chief tax collector, the ultimate sinner according to the small-minded religious leaders. Yet this little man was attracted to Jesus and was even willing to go out on a limb to see him. Jesus did not pass him by or regard him unworthy of his attention. Jesus came to search out the sinner and save the lost. Though people were quick to judge Zacchaeus, he stood his ground. He was not the scoundrel they thought him to be. He gave to the poor and treated others fairly. If he cheated anyone, he made amends. Because of his honest estimation of himself, salvation came to Zacchaeus's house that day, for this is what it means to be a person of faith.

Paul prayed constantly that the church would be made worthy at the coming of the Lord in judgment. He prayed that God would accept every good work performed with honest intention. The psalmist declares that the Lord is slow to anger and shows great kindness to the sinner. God loves every created thing, but more than that, God is compassionate toward all who repent.

For Reflection: Have I made an honest inventory of my soul? Have I repented of an misdeeds?

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 11/04	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)
Tue. 11/05	8:30 a.m.	Rod Haynes (Sue Haynes)
Wed. 11/06	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 11/07	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Klick
Fri. 11/08	8:30 a.m.	James Boris (The Extein Family)
Sat. 11/09	8:30 a.m.	George Medved (The Mollise Family)
	6:00 p.m.	Charlene Eckendorf (Tom & Bonnie Eckendorf)
Sun. 11/10	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Special Intention for Stephen Brainard (David & Shelia)

## Veterans Raffle Sale

Tickets for the Annual Veterans Quilt Raffle will be on sale in the Gathering Space on **November 2 & 3**. Proceeds from this raffle will benefit Operation Assisting Santa, who's mission, in conjunction with the Erie Vets Hospital, is to insure that local Veterans and their families have Christmas gifts for their children.



## "Life is Changed, Not Ended"

Reflections on the theology of Christian death and dying, presented by our very own Brandon Vogt, will take place on **Monday November 4 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday November 5 at 9:00 a.m.** in Mary's Chapel. During the month of November, we remember those who have gone before us. Come and discover what the Church teaches about death and dying through prayer, song, scripture and the funeral rites. *(the evening and morning session will cover the same topics; you need not attend both)*

## Contemplative Prayer Experience

How does God speak to us? Sometimes we need to create a space of silence before we can hear the "still small voice." 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 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 **Thursday at 1pm (Nov 7)**.



## Widows' dinner

**Friday November 8, 5:00pm** at Harbor House on Buffalo Road. Would you like company for dinner? Come enjoy good conversation with new friends. Questions? **Contact Donna Clark in the parish office.**



## Morning of Reflection

Our Lady of Mercy is hosting a Morning of Reflection with Fr. Shane Mathew on **Saturday, Nov. 9**. The event will run from **9:00 AM to 12:30 PM** followed by lunch. "Come Away with Me - Jesus' Invitation to Spirituality, Prayer, and Community" is an opportunity to grow in our life of prayer. Jesus said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while" (Mk. 6:31). This day of recollection will respond to Jesus' invitation to rest and to pray. We will explore how we might deepen our understanding of spirituality and prayer both as individuals and as parts of the Christian community. Father Shane Mathew is an instructor of theology at Gannon University and sacramental assistant for Our Lady of Peace and St. Jude Parishes. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Erie in 2005. Please RSVP so we can prepare by calling the parish at 899-5342 or emailing [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org) by **Nov. 4**.



## Sunday Morning \*C\*A\*F\*E\*

The last Sunday Morning CAFÉ of 2019 will be **Sunday, Nov. 10 at 9:45**. Our presenter will be Fr. Ritchie. He will talk to us about how to approach the examination of our conscience as an adult. Enjoy fresh baked sweets, fresh brewed coffee and the opportunity to explore fresh ideas.



## Gr 10 Retreat



Confirmation candidates in their second year of preparation are reminded that they have their annual mandatory retreat on **Sunday, Nov. 10**.

## Candidate-Sponsor Meeting

Candidates in their third year of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation are reminded they have a mandatory meeting with their sponsor at **noon on Nov. 10**. All 3<sup>rd</sup> year Confirmation candidates must have chosen a sponsor by this date.



## Confirmation Practice

Candidates preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Nov. 16** are reminded that they have mandatory practice at **2:00 PM Nov. 10** at St. Mark the Evangelist Church. Your sponsor must be with you.

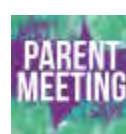


## Mailing Party

Can you help us fold the newsletter and stuff envelopes? We will be preparing the newsletter for the mail on **Monday, Nov. 11 at 9:00 AM**. Call Irene at 899-6132 or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) if you can lend a hand.



## First Eucharist Parent Meeting



There will be a very important meeting for parents whose children are preparing for First Eucharist this spring. The meeting will be held on **Sunday, Nov. 17 from 9:45-10:45 AM** in Sperry Hall.

## Ladies Lunch

On **Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 1:00pm** at the Freeport Restaurant join other women who live alone. We laugh and have fun and enjoy each other's company. Questions? Call 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 Nov. 20** at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd., to discuss The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris. In December we will gather for a movie night on **Dec. 11** to watch The Green Book. Want to read ahead? Our January title will be Of Human Bondage by W. Somerset Maugham.

## Coat and Toy Collection - One Weekend OLNy



We are collecting coats, clothing and gently used toys for the Community Outreach Group on **November 23 and 24**. Items can be brought to the Gathering Space that weekend only. This will be the only collection time. The annual clothing distribution party is on **Saturday, December 7 at 10:00 a.m.** located at 453 West 16th St, Erie PA 16502. Any items not distributed are given to other local organizations and shelters for distribution to those in need. If you have any questions, you can call Tom Pearson at 814-450-7338.

## Hands of Mercy - The Hands that Serve



Thank you for participating in our ministry recommitment and ministry sign up. If you signed up for a new ministry expect a call or email from the ministry coordinator soon. If you have not had a chance to verify your ministries please call the parish office 899-5342 or e-mail [dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org) to let us know what ministries you will continue.

## A Special Thank You

I thank those who sent me cards and gifts for my Birthday on October 15th. It was so kind of you to remember me and I truly appreciated them. I send my best wishes and sincere regards. I miss being at Our Lady of Mercy each week and hope to return.  
Sincerely, Fr. Leo Gallina



## 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.

## 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).



## 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 women's Cursillo will be **November 21-24**, 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.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

## Mercyhurst Prep Open House 2019

**Sunday, November 3 from 12-3 p.m.** at 538 East Grandview Blvd. General sessions will be held at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Guest students are eligible to enter to win one of two Apple Airpods with charging case (student must be present to win. Be sure and visit our DREAM Lab and try zSpace, which combines Augmented Reality (AR) with Virtual Reality (VR). This interactive tool is helping to fundamentally change the educational experience, especially in the areas of (STEAM) science, technology, engineering, art and math. MPS is the first high school in the area to acquire this technology. Eighth grade students who apply online at [mpslakers.com/admissions](http://mpslakers.com/admissions) on or before November 3, 2019, will become eligible to win one of five awards of a \$1,000 tuition vouchers to Mercyhurst Prep for their freshman year. The MPS application deadline is November 8, for early decision. The MPS entrance exam is November 16.



## Question-of-the-Week

The winner of the Question-of-the-Week Contest for the week of Oct. 21 was **Gavin Galbreath, Gr. 3**, who knew that we celebrate All Saints Day on Nov. 1.



## CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



### Homeless Youth and Protecting our Youth

We consider our homes to be safe places for our children, but 1.7 million US youth experience homelessness every year. 50,000 youth sleep on the streets for six months or more each year. One of the main causes of youth homelessness is family instability, which includes child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse and family conflict. The website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network ([www.ncmec.org](http://www.ncmec.org)) offers information on a range of child safety topics. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help maintain safe environments, visit <https://www.eriecld.org/childprotection/>



## *You Are Invited To A Morning of Reflection*



**When: Sat. Nov. 9 @ 9:00AM-12:30PM**

**Where: Our Lady of Mercy**

**"Come Away with Me"**

**Jesus' Invitation to Spirituality, Prayer, & Community**

Jesus said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while'" (Mk. 6:31). This day of recollection will respond to Jesus' invitation to rest and to pray. We will explore how we might deepen our understanding of spirituality and prayer both as individuals and as parts of the Christian community.



**Presented by Fr. T. Shane Mathew**



Father Shane Mathew is an instructor of theology at Gannon University and sacramental assistant for Our Lady of Peace and St. Jude Parishes. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Erie in 2005 and has ministered in parishes and schools in Punxsutawney, Sharon, Erie, and Oil City.

Through your ministry at Our Lady of Mercy, you give so much to so many. You are a light that leads others to know Christ more deeply. It is important that your spirit is nourished and your faith renewed. This day is our gift to you for the gift you are to us.



**The morning will conclude with lunch at 12:30.**



RSVP to the parish 899-5342 or [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org) by Nov. 4

## **Join Us**

**Sunday, Nov. 10 @ 9:45-10:45**

**@ The OLM CAFE**

**Continuing Adult Faith Enrichment**



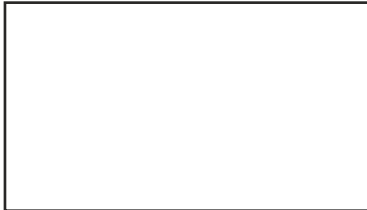
*Fr. Ritchie will speak to us about approaching the Sacrament of Reconciliation and our examination of conscience as an adult. Most of us were taught how to prepare our hearts for the Sacrament of Reconciliation when we were young. For most of us, the teachings of our childhood continues to guide our adult experience. But, we have matured and our examination of conscience should also mature. Fr. Ritchie will help us to gain an adult perspective on sin and reconciliation.*

Enjoy fresh brewed coffee, delicious baked goods, warm fellowship in a friendly parish hall.

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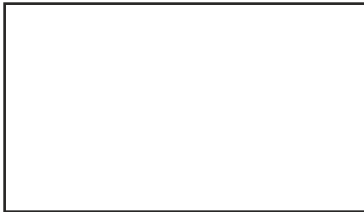
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