

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## November 17th, 2019 - 33rd 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*

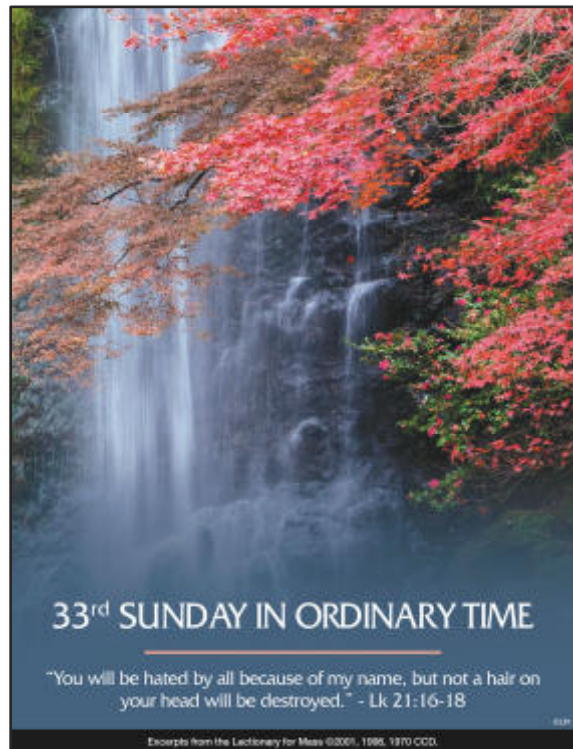
### CONTACT INFORMATION

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)

<b>Mon. 11/18</b>	<b>Food Pantry Thanksgiving Distribution</b>
	7:00 p.m. Grief Support Group
<b>Tue. 11/19</b>	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
	6:00 p.m. Sister Parish Meeting
	7:00 p.m. Core Team Meeting
	7:00 p.m. Lifelong Faith Formation
	7:30 p.m. AA
<b>Wed. 11/20</b>	1:00 p.m. Diamonds SCC
	7:00 p.m. OLM Book Group
<b>Thur. 11/21</b>	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
<b>Fri. 11/22</b>	7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Sat. 11/23</b>	10:00 a.m. AA
	4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 11/24</b>	<b>Solemnity of Christ the King</b>
	<b>Anointing of the Sick - All Masses</b>
	9:30 a.m. Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	12:00 p.m. Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event
	7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Faith Lutheran

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 11/18</b>	1Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63	/ Lk 18:35-43
<b>Tue. 11/19</b>	2Mc 6:18-31	/ Lk 19:1-10
<b>Wed. 11/20</b>	2Mc 7:1, 20-31	/ Lk 19:11-28
<b>Thur. 11/21</b>	1Mc 2:15-29	/ Lk 19:41-44
<b>Fri. 11/22</b>	1Mc 4:36-37, 52-59	/ Lk 19:45-48
<b>Sat. 11/23</b>	1Mc 6:1-13	/ Lk 20:27-40
<b>Sun. 11/24</b>	1Sm 5:1-3 / Col 1:12-20	/ Lk 23:35-43

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of November 10, 2019

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	112	\$5,065.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	116	\$2,948.08
Loose Change:		\$ 368.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$8,381.08</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 Florence Voelker.



### Question-of-the-Week

The winner of the Question-of-the-Week Contest for the week of Nov. 4 was **Joey Bernatowicz, Gr. 6**, who knew that last Sunday's Gospel reading was the story of Zacchaeus.



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 11/18</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Deceased Member of the Legion of Mary</b> (The Legion of Mary)
<b>Tue. 11/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>John Green</b> (The Green Family)
<b>Wed. 11/20</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Frances Somolani</b> (James Tuszynski)
<b>Thur. 11/21</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Evelyn Seyboldt</b> (Emil Chimenti)
<b>Fri. 11/22</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Dawn Williams</b> (Sandy Jordan)
	6:00 p.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
<b>Sun. 11/24</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Emma Royer</b> (Janet Smith)
	11:00 a.m.	<b>Chaz Magouirk</b> (Lindsey Magouirk)

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LK 21:5-19



"The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice," the psalmist proclaimed, filling hearts with faith and hope. Some did not see the coming "Day of the Lord" in such glowing terms. Rather it would be one of dread, a blazing oven of God's wrath setting afire all proud evildoers. Yet for those who feared God, "the sun of justice would arise with its healing rays."

Paul admonished those who idly waited for God to take them to Heaven. Paul urged them to follow his example of diligently proclaiming the gospel, laboring to the point of exhaustion so as not to be a burden to anyone. If the kingdom was to come, there was work to be done in the here and now.

Jesus warned his followers not to waste time in useless speculation of the end. Nor must they be misled by false prophets promising peace. War, rebellion, and natural disasters would occur in every generation. Dissension would tear apart families and friends Jesus encouraged them to have faith. His words of wisdom would be their defense against the adversary. By patient endurance they will be saved.

For Reflection: Is the gospel that I proclaim really good news? If I were tired because of my faith, would there be enough evidence to convict me?

## 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 TODAY Sunday, November 17 from 9:45-10:45 AM in Sperry Hall.

## Getting Through the Holidays after Losing a Love One

Monday November 18 at 7pm.

Sometimes the holidays can be a challenge when our family members are not there to celebrate with us. The family traditions can seem painful instead of joyful. Learn what you can do to make your loved ones remembered and present. You can also receive an encouraging email message every day for a year. Sign up at [Griefshare.org](http://Griefshare.org). Questions contact Donna Clark.



## 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.

## Youth Open Gym

Need a chance to run around and let off some back to school steam? The youth are invited to join us on Tuesday November 19th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the OLM gym to do just that. Hope to see you there!



## 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.

## Family Advent Party

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 8 and join us for our annual Advent Party. We will share a pot luck lunch. There will be crafts and games for the kids. And, we have sent an invitation to the North Pole, still waiting to hear if our special guest will be able to join us.



## Eucharistic Adoration



An evening of Eucharistic Adoration that was only open to the young adult population is now open to all ages and will take place on Friday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m.. *Note: it's the 4th Friday of the month (not last*

*Friday, 29th)*

## #iGiveCatholic Our Lady of Mercy



You are invited to give to Our Lady of Mercy on December 3rd for the #iGiveCatholic initiative, as a part of Giving Tuesday. It is an opportunity for us, in gratitude, to donate online to Our Lady of Mercy in memory of loved ones and family members. Advanced giving is also accepted from November 18th to December 2nd. To give, please visit: <https://erie.igivecatholic.org/organizations/our-lady-of-mercy-parish-4b60a05f-7657-40cc-a47a-0bb8b871de44>



## Found: Scrip Cards!

If you are missing any cards, please contact the office or Scrip sellers after Mass.

## Hands of Mercy - The Hands that Serve



Thank you 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.

## Room Available



Looking for a non-smoking, non-drinking female to share a home near Rt 90 and Depot Rd. Bedroom with bathroom, large shared TV room with fireplace. \$400 per month includes utilities. Interested? Call Donna Clark in the parish office.

## 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 [jeff@chosenima.org](mailto:jeff@chosenima.org) or 833-3023. Bring to Chosen International located at 3638 West 26 St. 8am to 3pm M-F.

## 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).

## Drivers Needed

Weekday trips to and from Erie, various times and days. Compensation provided. Contact Donna Clark in the parish office.





**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.



**WAYS TO GIVE THIS SEASON**

**CHRISTMAS CARING TREE PROGRAM**

The Ella Cochran Food Pantry's "Christmas Caring Tree" will be on display the weekend of **November 23rd and 24th**. If you would like to brighten a child's or Senior's Christmas, please take a name from the tree and return a wrapped gift by **December 7th and 8th**.

**Operation Assisting Santa:**

Our mission, in conjunction with the Erie Vets Hospital, is to insure that Local Veterans and their families, who might not be able to do so otherwise, have Christmas gifts for their children. We are looking for people to 'adopt' children off of our 'Santa's Good Kid List'. We supply the age, gender, and what the child would like ( we actually ask the parents ). The person goes out and buys the gift(s)...we collect them....wrap them....and distribute them at a luncheon where we honor the Veterans and their families. The children's info will be available starting **November 24th**....all gifts should be in by **December 8th**. Thank you in advance for your support. **Moochie Zielewski 814-823-6506**

**Coat and Toy Collection - One Weekend Only**

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**.

**CURSILLO  
CORNER**



**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**.

**Cursillo Christmas Party**

The Cursillo Christmas Party will take place right here at OLM on **Saturday November 30 at 7:00 p.m.** You will be served 2 entrees, and we ask that you bring a dish to share. This is a BYOB event. Please RSVP to **Janet at the Cursillo Office at 824-1119**.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**



This month, as we celebrate all of the Saints who have gone before us, we keep in our remembrance, those who have passed on. Our thoughts turn to those recognized by the Church as well as family, friends, and members of the public who have touched our lives. We remember too, those innocents whose lives have been taken by violence.

Every week, gun violence takes the lives of 700 people nationwide. In 2017, gun deaths reached their highest level since 1968, With 39,773 deaths by firearm, of which 23,854 were by suicide and 14,542 were homicides.

There have been multiple mass shootings - many involving school children. Other targets have been large public gatherings and church events. Mass shootings usually involve automatic or semi automatic weapons which greatly increase the number of injuries and fatalities. From 1994 to 2004, a nationwide assault weapons ban was in effect. During that time, the number of assault weapons used in crime declined by 65%. However, the ban was allowed to expire. In the interim, there have been many unsuccessful attempts to reinstate the ban.

As individuals and as a community, let us pray for those whose lives have been irreparably changed by violence. Let us also pray for our legislators, that they will respond to this problem by crafting common sense legislation.

*In Loving Memory*  *We Remember...*

**Steven Apa**, son of Mary Apa and husband of Tracy Apa;  
**Devlin Rizzo**, cousin of Nick Rizzo;  
and **Andrew (Rick) Firment Jr.**, nephew of Ed Firment.

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

## Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

On the weekend of November 23-24, a second collection will be taken up in our parishes for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

As you may know, CCHD is the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops which works to break the cycle of poverty by helping people with low income participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities.

Half of the funds from this collection remain in the Diocese of Erie to fight poverty in our local communities. Your 2018 contributions funded six local organizations and programs including Erie DAWN, Inter-Church Ministries, Bishop's Breakfast Program, Maria House Project, Mercy Center for Women and the Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network. Each of these organizations are committed to eradicating poverty and improving the areas in which they serve.

From expanding a youth work experience program to fixing a roof so individuals can live safely in community, the work of CCHD is on-going. The Gospel message compels us to assist others in finding creative solutions to poverty, so that we are able to break the cycle of dependence and powerlessness in society.

This work is not possible without the support of dedicated Catholics like you. Please consider helping us to uphold human dignity and alleviate poverty by giving generously to the second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Lawrence T. Persico  
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
Bishop of Erie



# Family Advent Party

**Sunday December 8th**  
**Noon - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Sperry Hall**

- Pot-luck Meal
- Crafts
- Games
- Fellowship

**\*This event is free, we only ask that you bring a dish or dessert to share\***

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