

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



November 24th, 2019 - Solemnity of Christ the King

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*

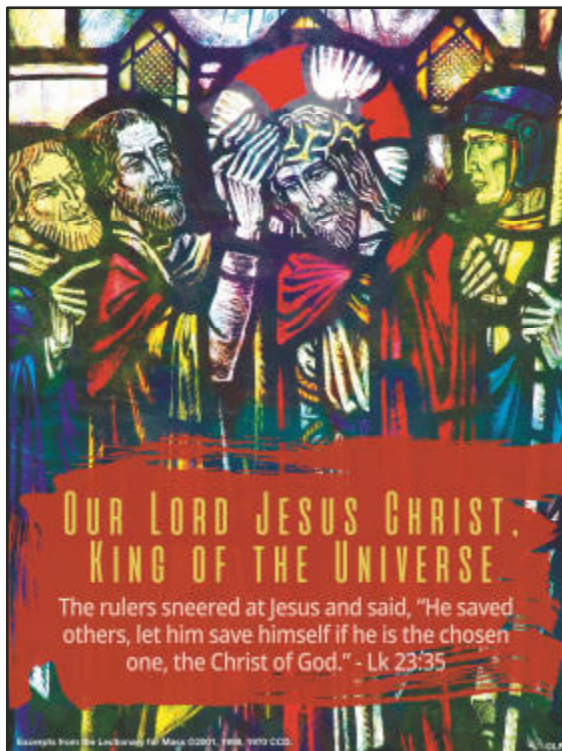
CONTACT INFORMATION

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. 11/25	6:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
Tue. 11/26	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	New SCC
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 11/27	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds SCC
Thur. 11/28	Thanksgiving Day - Parish Office Closed	
	9:00 a.m.	Mass of Thanksgiving
Fri. 11/29		
Sat. 11/30	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 12/01	First Sunday of Advent	
	Casserole Club Drop Off	
	Monthly Food Pantry Collection	
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 11/25	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20	/ Lk 21:1-4
Tue. 11/26	Dn 2:31-45	/ Lk 21:5-11
Wed. 11/27	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28	/ Lk 21:12-19
Thur. 11/28	Dn 6:12-28	/ Lk 21:20-28
Fri. 11/29	Dn 7:2-14	/ Lk 21:29-33
Sat. 11/30	Rom 10:9-18	/ Mt 4:18-22
Sun. 12/01	Is 2:1-5 / Rom 13:11-14 / Mt 24:37-44	

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 Marilyn Garwig.



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 11/25	8:30 a.m.	Thomas Liebel (The Liebel Family)
Tue. 11/26	8:30 a.m.	Dolores Dietz (Family)
Wed. 11/27	8:30 a.m.	Elaine May (Marilyn Garwig)
Thur. 11/28	9:00 a.m.	
Fri. 11/29	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 11/30	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Millie Hermann (Family)
Sun. 12/01	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Bea Martin (The Stephenson Family)

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
 We turn our hearts to you on this
 day for giving thanks, mindful of
 your many gifts.
 For each one, we are grateful.
 For each one, we are blessed.
 For each one we are opened to the
 abundance of your love.
 May this Thanksgiving Day offer a
 reminder to be generous with others,
 as you are with us.
 We praise you.
 We rejoice in you.
 We give you thanks.
 Amen.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

Lk 23:35-43



Jesus is God's son. Because Jesus was an obedient son, he is the "beloved" son of God. As head of the church, Jesus's primacy is above all other thrones and principalities. Yet unlike human rulers, Jesus reigns by submission and acceptance of God's will. Because of Jesus's compassion and forgiveness, the invisible God is made visible on earth.

On the cross, a sign was hung over Jesus's head: "This is the King of the Jews." But the people mocked him, saying, "You saved others; why don't you save yourself?" They failed to understand that Jesus did not come to save himself; he came to save others. Two condemned men were crucified with Jesus. Both were equidistant from Jesus's outstretched arms, but only one of them accepted his mercy: "This day you will be with me in paradise."

Paul knew first hand about God's mercy. When he was in darkness, God rescued him and brought him into the light. Paul was filled with gratitude for being made worthy to share God's reign. We rejoice with all the saints as we go into the house of the Lord to worship Christ our king. We know that this is just a foretaste of God's eternal reign.

For Reflection: Have I accepted God's love and mercy? How do I show my gratitude?

OLM Book Group

The best part of long, cold winter nights is that they give an excuse for more hours of reading. You are invited to share the fruits of your winter reads with the OLM Book Group. Because of the hectic pace of the holiday season, we will take a break from reading in December to view a movie "The Green Book" on Dec. 11. Join us at the home of Claudette Terrill, 6821 East Lake Rd. at 6:45 for a movie start time of 7:00 sharp. Want to read ahead? Our January title will be Of Human Bondage by W. Somerset Maugham.



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.



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.



#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>



Widows Dinner

Dec 6 at 4:30pm at Creeks on East Lake Rd. It is difficult to eat alone all the time so come join a group of friends for dinner. Questions call Donna Clark.



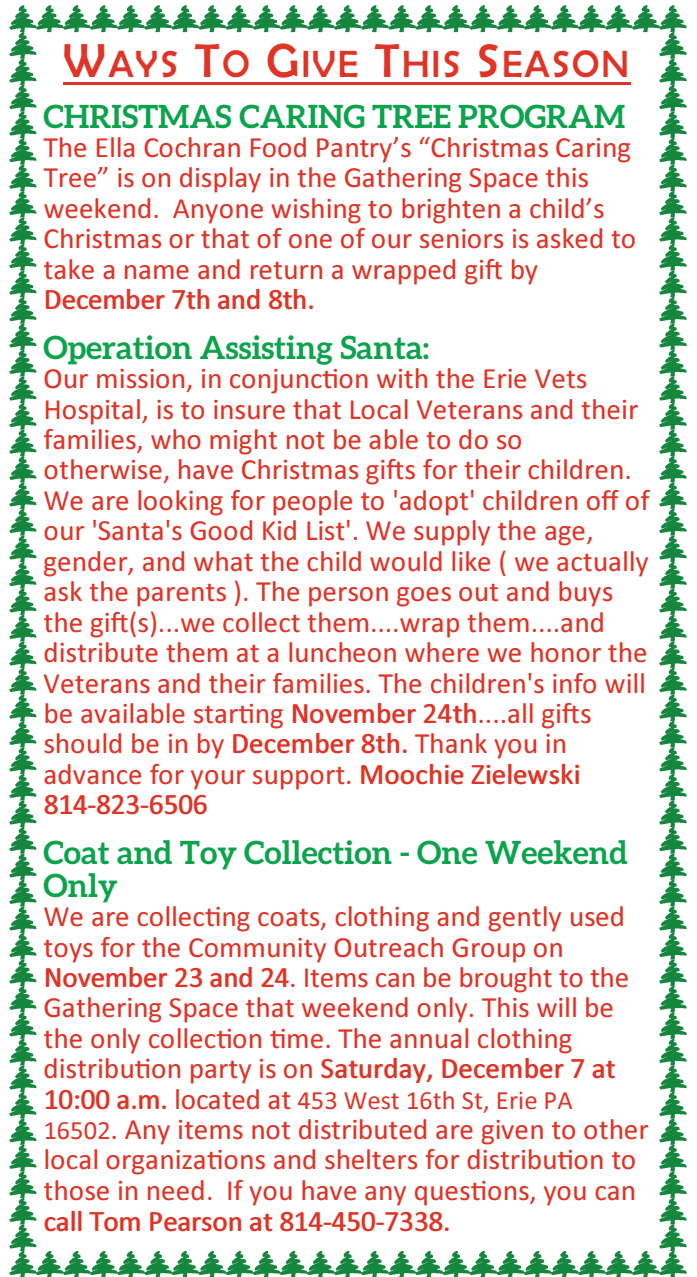
Tractor For Sale

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.



Question-of-the-Week

The winner of the Question-of-the-Week Contest for the week of Nov. 11 was **Emma Skelly, Gr. 2**, who knew that our bishop is Bishop Persico.



WAYS TO GIVE THIS SEASON

CHRISTMAS CARING TREE PROGRAM

The Ella Cochran Food Pantry's "Christmas Caring Tree" is on display in the Gathering Space this weekend. Anyone wishing to brighten a child's Christmas or that of one of our seniors is asked to take a name 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**.

SAVE THE DATE!

Healing Service....**December 9 at 7pm**....further information from the healing ministry will be in next week's bulletin.



Woman's Event



If you live alone join us for this evening out. On **Dec 13** we will start with a social gathering at 4:30pm, Dinner at 5:00pm both at Our Lady of Mercy. Then we will head over to the Harborcreek Christmas Light Up Night around 6:00pm. RSVP to Donna Clark in the Parish office. Or

dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Washington, DC March for Life



Attend the March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, January 24, 2020. Buses chartered by People for Life will leave Erie on Thursday evening, January 23 at 11 p.m. and return about 1:30 a.m. on January 25.

Students and families on tight budgets are encouraged to inquire about sponsorships arranged by People for Life. Reservations should be made as soon as possible. Send \$55 per seat to People for Life; P.O. Box 1126; Erie, PA 16512. Pay by December 21 and get a \$5 early bird discount (send \$50 per seat). For more information or to use a credit card, call (814) 882-1333 or go online to www.peopleforlife.life/january2020.

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.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Hunger Update

The social justice committee has good news on the Global Hunger Resolution! In October, the parish wrote letters to our members of Congress asking them to support this important legislation which will accelerate global progress against maternal and child malnutrition. The House Foreign Affairs committee has passed the Resolution in a bi-partisan manner and it can now proceed to the House for a full vote.



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.





Spaghetti Dinner

Fundraiser

For the
Religious
Education
Ministry

SUNDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2020

•First Sitting:
12-2 p.m.

•Second Sitting:
2-4 p.m.

\$10 for Adults
\$5 for Children
10 and under

- Spaghetti & Meatballs
- Refreshments
- Salad
- Italian Bread
- Cupcake Bar
- Chinese

Auction

Tickets go on sale in the Gathering Space beginning the weekend of December 1st, 2019

“In God’s Perfect Time”

Advent Reflections and Concert with

Dan Schutte

Dan has been composing music for worship for more than 30 years, including extensive collaborations with the St. Louis Jesuits. His more recent pieces exhibit an enduring ability to reach into people’s hearts and draw them into prayer. He is one of the best-known, most prolific and influential composers of music for the liturgy today.



Composer of:

“Here I Am, Lord”, “City of God”, “Sing A New Song”,
“These Alone are Enough”, and many more...

**SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 15, 2019
AT 3:00 P.M.**

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