

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



July 5th, 2020 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday and Weekend Mass has resumed with the following schedule and covid-19 protocols in place:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.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*

Sarah Phipps, *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

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of June 28, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	39	\$2,364.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$3,548.00
Loose Change:		\$ 40.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$5,952.00

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 490-9681



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 07/06	Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22	/ Mt 9:18-26
Tue. 07/07	Hos 8:4-7, 11-13	/ Mt 9:32-38
Wed. 07/08	Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12	/ Mt 10:1-7
Thur. 07/09	Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9	/ Mt 10:7-15
Fri. 07/10	Hos 14:2-10	/ Mt 10:16-23
Sat. 07/11	Is 6:1-8	/ Mt 10:24-33
Sun. 07/12	Is 55:10-11/ Rom 8:18-23/ Mt 13:1-23	

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, July 6th in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

Parish office hours for July 7th - July 10th will be from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Regular Parish Office hours of Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. will resume on Monday, July 13th.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/06	8:30 a.m.	Roseanne Jobson
Tue. 07/07	8:30 a.m.	Chet Szymecki (Ed Lacastro)
Wed. 07/08	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 07/09	8:30 a.m.	Frances Somolani (Carol & Jim Perrotto)
Fri. 07/10	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 07/11	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	Joanne Smith (Liana Pasquale)
Sun. 07/12	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Spiegel Family (The Spiegel Family)

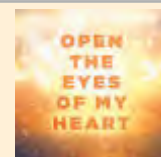


Food Pantry Report

The Ella Cochran Food Pantry served 35 new families since the start of the Covid-19 virus in addition to the 130 families they serve monthly. Many new families had not known that the pantry was available in Harborcreek. Also the pantry volunteers conducted 3 extra distributions for any family in need, buying the necessary food from local stores/companies so we could respond to the need immediately. Fortunately, many new donors contributed in the last few months and many regular donors made extra contributions. We thank Our Lady of Mercy and the Harborcreek community for their support. In particular, we recognize Sue Moreno and Katrina DeVore who help to lead the 20 volunteers. Please don't hesitate to refer someone in need. The pantry's regular distribution is the third Wednesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. For questions call 814-480-9979.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MATTHEW 11:25-30



"For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

The yoke was a heavy wooden bar laid across the shoulders of a work animal, usually an ox or a donkey. Often working in pairs, these animals would be linked together by the yoke that would then be connected to a plow.

A yoke can symbolize either unwilling oppression or, by contrast, willing submission. One can be oppressed by the yoke of slavery or sin. On the other hand, people can submit to a yoke that allows them to be led along straight and fruitful paths - often by Spirit-filled leaders or by the truth contained in God's laws.

Today and every day, Jesus offers us an opportunity to trade our burdens for his. We are invited to stop trying to carry our loads all by ourselves. Instead, Jesus invites us to share in his yoke, his burden. If we walk side-by-side with the Lord, submitting our own will to his, then our own burdens can become lighter and easier to bear. Jesus does not promise to take away completely whatever is weighing us down in our lives. The yoke and the burdens remain, but with the Lord's help, they are bearable.

Reflection: What burden do I have trouble handing over to the Lord? What burdens have become more bearable because I have given them to Jesus?

Gregory C. Wolfe



Scripture Study

It is not too late to join us. We will continue our discussion of the Gospel of Mark using the 11th & 12th videos in the lecture series by Dr. Tim Gray.



We will meet via zoom at 11:00 AM on Thursday morning. We are discussing the Gospel of Mark. We will be listening to the lectures by Dr. Tim Gray on [formed.org](https://www.formed.org) (2 per week) prior to each session <https://www.formed.org/lectio-mark-with-dr-tim-gray>. Our Lady of Mercy has a parish subscription to [formed.org](https://www.formed.org). If you have not yet used this subscription, this is a good excuse. Contact the parish if you have any difficulty accessing the parish free subscription. If you want to be part of this Scripture Study, email Irene ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org for the link.



Ladies Lunch

Thursday, July 9 at 1 p.m. we will gather at Our Lady of Mercy for a luncheon for women who live alone. Please RSVP to Donna Clark at the parish office

899-5342 or dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org. When we know who is coming we will order something locally.

OLM Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, July 15 @ 7:00 p.m. at the home of Donna Huff 4517 N. Woods Dr. to discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Our August title will be *The River* by Peter Heller.



For Mercy Sake

Deadline to submit items for the August issue of the parish newsletter is July 19. Items can be sent to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Question Box

Have a faith related question? You can place it in the "question box" in the Gathering Space or email it to the parish at info@ourladyofmercychurch.org with Question Box in the subject line. Fr. Ritchie will answer these questions in the August issue of *For Mercy Sake*.



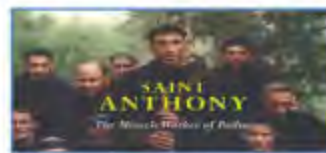
New AV Ministry needs people to help.

We are working on our permanent camera and video system so we can continue to live stream Mass. We are looking for people who would love to learn how to work the camera and sound system for our livestream.

Interested? Please contact Donna Clark in the parish office. Or dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



SAINT ANTHONY The Miracle Worker of Padua

Saint Anthony of Padua is known for his powerful preaching and miracles that won countless souls for Christ. This film beautifully portrays the power of his preaching, love for the poor/oppressed, and wonders of his miracles.

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Congratulations!

A Knights of Columbus Ed Cudicio Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to parishioner, Kara Meyer who will be attending Gannon University. She is a graduate of Harborcreek High School and has impressive accomplishments throughout her high school years. Please congratulate and wish her well as she continues her education.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF RAFFLE CANCELLED

After postponing the Golf Raffle from May to possibly this fall the Knights have decided to postpone the Raffle until May 2021. Any tickets purchased will be cheerfully refunded from the sellers. Purchasers can also call Katie at the Parish Office and leave your name, address and number of tickets purchased and you will be sent a refund. Any tickets not refunded will be valid for entrance and for the raffles for prizes next year. Thank you for your continuing support and we hope to see you next year.

Summer Help Needed

Our Lady of Mercy is looking for part-time summer help for the Maintenance Dept. The person would be working with a variety of chores including lawn mowing. The applicant must be at least 16 years old and able to do heavy physical labor. For more information, contact Fr. Ritchie at 899-5342.





Parish Directory photos will be taken the week of August 3rd-8th.

SIGN UP NOW

online at

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/ch4nndjv/>

Or call the Parish Office during office hours.

Thank You

A SPECIAL THANK YOU...

To all of my wonderful friends from Our Lady of Mercy, Thank you for the wonderful birthday cards and for making my 90th birthday so special and memorable. Since we are on lockdown at Sarah Reed, it's wonderful to know your thoughts and prayers made my day more special. I miss going to church, but you helped to bring church to me. May God bless you all!
Lovingly,
Mary Anne Ferringer



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Know the Warning Signs of Abuse

Those who abuse children look like everyone else. They don't look like scary people that we should know to avoid. Rather, most abusers are known to the child, such as the parent, sibling, parent's paramour, parent's spouse, other relative or babysitter. One of the most important ways to ensure the safety of children in our environments is to know the warning signs of adults who present a risk of harm to children. Among these signs are when the person (1) always wants to be alone with children in areas where no one can monitor the interactions, (2) allows children to do things their parents would not permit, (3) is always more excited to be with children than with adults, and (4) discourages others from participating in activities involving kids. For more information and resources visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/>



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Bread For the World, a Christian advocacy group for the elimination of global hunger, has released its annual report on global nutrition. For the full report and recommendations to combat hunger, go to hungerreport.org/2020/ The 2020 Hunger Report offers a snapshot of nutrition concerns around the world. Here are some highlights.

- Around the world, currently, there are 822 million people undernourished because of insufficient calories, more than 2 billion people undernourished because of vitamin and mineral (micronutrient) deficiencies, and another 2 billion overweight or obese. This means that approximately 1/3rd of the global population suffers from at least one of these forms of malnutrition. By 2030, if current trends continue, 1/2 of the world's population will suffer from one or more of these forms of malnutrition.
- In the United States, 11.1% of the population experienced food insecurity in the past year. A food insecure household is one in which 1 or more members were deprived of adequate calories or nutrition because of poverty or related limitations.
- Roughly 1 in 3 people globally were chronically malnourished in the 1960s. Because of the efforts by international and national organizations, that rate has been dramatically reduced today to

approximately 1 in 10. But since 2015, the global malnutrition rate has been climbing.

- Currently, 1 in 5 children under the age of 5 years is stunted due to chronic malnutrition. Lack of adequate nutrients in the first 2 years of life results in lifelong physical and cognitive disabilities. The
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates that, globally, two out of three children do not consume the minimum recommended diverse diet for healthy growth and development.
- Malnutrition has been and remains the world's leading cause of poor health.
- Today, 2/3rds of the world's over weight and obese people live in low and middle income countries. Hunger related poverty prompts people to search out high calorie food with little nutritional value because such food is inexpensive. Obesity is a leading factor in many chronic diseases including diabetes and hypertension. The combination of obesity and micro nutrition insufficiency puts people at high risk for life threatening illnesses such as stroke and cancer.
- Ecological changes will be the leading cause of growing hunger and malnutrition in the coming decade. We are not producing food sustainably. For example, many of the agricultural methods used today are a leading cause of ecosystem destruction. Production processes often rob crops of their nutrients, and this only gets worse over time since the ecosystem becomes depleted and cannot regenerate.

OUR LADY OF MERCY

Is
Officially
NOT
...Having a Festival and Chicken Dinner

Our Lady of Mercy Church invites you
NOT to attend
the Festival and Chicken Dinner,
NOT to be held any day or month
in the year 2020.



Please RSVP with the response card by July 12, 2020

Yes! I'm not a chicken and I happily accept your offer to NOT attend the chicken dinner.

- \$50 - I have become vegan since our last festival so I am paying OLM to NOT slaughter 1500 poor chickens!
- \$40 - I have a date with a couple chicks!
- \$30 - I have collected enough Chicken Little run tee shirts to last a lifetime, accept my donation so I don't have to run!
- \$20 - I love eggs!
- \$_____ - I love not having to lug chairs and tables and games and funnel cake equipment, so here is my contribution.

Name: _____

Email: _____

**Thank you for participating in our Non-Festival. Contributions will be used in the place of the Annual Festival proceeds. All returned cards received by July 12, 2020, will also be entered into a drawing for \$1,000 Grand Prize, 58 inch TV, and quilt raffle.

Thanks for helping us to make this... "THE BEST NON-FESTIVAL EVER!"



We look forward to seeing you next year!

Heavenly Father,

Today we think of our Nation's independence. The ability that we have to worship you freely, openly, and without the threat of persecution. We ultimately thank You for bestowing that freedom on us as a nation. May we use that freedom to help lead others to the true freedom that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus, our Lord. May we forever praise and honor your name. Amen

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