

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



July 12th, 2020 - 15th 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*

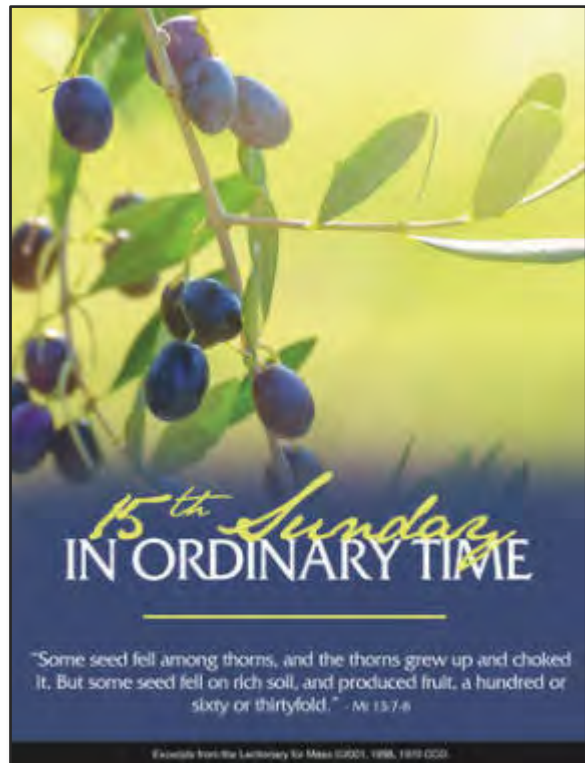
CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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. 07/13	Is 1:10-17	/ Mt 10:34 - 11:1
Tue. 07/14	Is 7:1-9	/ Mt 11:20-24
Wed. 07/15	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16	/ Mt 11:25-27
Thur. 07/16	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19	/ Mt 11:28-30
Fri. 07/17	Is 38:1-8, 21-22	/ Mt 12:1-8
Sat. 07/18	Mi 2:1-5	/ Mt 12:14-21
Sun. 07/19	Wis 12:13, 16-19	/ Rom 8:26-27 / Mt 13:24-43

We Remember...

Joyce Olszewski, mother of Kathy Pearson, who passed away recently.

Please hold her family in prayer during this difficult time.



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.



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MATTHEW 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow.

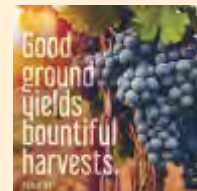
Let's put ourselves in this story. We've heard of this man Jesus from Nazareth, how he's healed people, driven out demons, cleansed lepers, made the lame to walk, the blind to see. Today we're here to be part of the crowd.

He sat in a boat and began to speak: "A sower went out to sow." AS I listened to his words I was puzzled. I know there's more here than an actual story he told, but what does it mean? Who is this sower who can be so extravagant?

I've seen sowers planting and noticed how careful they are to sow only where the seed will sprout. They can't afford to sow where little will grow. After all, they will reap a share of the harvest from the landowner, and they have families to feed. The greater the harvest, the greater the yield to cover those years when the harvest is poor.

Who then is this sower who can afford to sow his seed not only in rich soil but also in places where seed has a hard time growing: on path, on rocky ground, among thorns? What kind of farmer can expect to reap such a bountiful harvest?

Reflection: When has a normal everyday action become an example of extravagance in my life? How can my daily routine become an opportunity for fruitfulness?



Lilly Hess

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/13	8:30 a.m.	Jack Rathers
Tue. 07/14	8:30 a.m.	Penny Moore (Ed Lacastro)
Wed. 07/15	8:30 a.m.	Dianne Nagosky-Seib (The Nagosky Family)
Thur. 07/16	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 07/17	8:30 a.m.	John Green (Family)
Sat. 07/18	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	Carrie Bongiorno (Todd Beckes)
Sun. 07/19	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People Of OLM

Scripture Study



It is not too late to join us. We will continue our discussion of the Gospel of Mark using the 13th & 14th videos in the lecture series by Dr. Tim Gray. We will meet via zoom at 11:00 a.m.

on Thursday morning We are discussing the Gospel of Mark. We will be listening to the lectures by Dr. Tim Gray on formed.org (2 per week) prior to each session <https://watch.formed.org/lectio-mark-with-dr-tim-gray>. Our Lady of Mercy has a parish subscription to 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.

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 for items for the August issue of the parish newsletter is due by 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

Sign up for Faith Direct

Looking for a more direct way to support Our Lady of Mercy rather than mailing your envelope or dropping it off at the parish office? Sign up for Faith Direct, our church's online giving platform. You can find the link to Faith Direct on our website. To get us through this time of social distancing you can make a one-time donation or sign up for recurring donations. Signing up for regular donations helps us by the consistency of your support, helps you by the convenience, and helps both of us by reducing our printing and mailing costs.



FORMED.ORG

FORMED

If you are new to the parish subscription, you can enjoy formed.org for free by signing up as part of the parish subscription. All you need is your email, then select the option for an "institution or parish" subscription and search for Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek.

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.



Stay Healthy

FORMED THROUGH THE SUMMER

The Faithful Traveler in the United States: East Coast Shrines - 12 Episodes

This series from formed.org will allow you to be an armchair traveler this summer. It explores some of the Catholic shrines and places of pilgrimage in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, and New Jersey. The series consists of 13 half-hour episodes, each exploring one or more sites on the East Coast.



- National Blue Army Shrine of the Immaculate Heart - 30:02
- Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart - 29:59
- St Elizabeth Ann Seton in Maryland - 29:54
- St Elizabeth Ann Seton in NYC - 30:01
- Cathedral of Mary Our Queen - 29:44
- Basilica of Old St Patrick's Cathedral - 30:02
- National Shrine of St John Nepomucene Neumann - 29:42
- St Alphonsus Catholic Church - 30:04
- National Shrine of St Katharine Drexel - 27:33
- St Patrick's Cathedral, Part I - 29:32
- St Patrick's Cathedral, Part 2 - 29:57
- National Shrine of St Rita of Cascia - 29:29



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Plastic waste has become a serious threat to the life of our oceans. The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased the plastic problem. We entered the pandemic with troubling statistics about plastic waste.

- Every day around 8 million pieces of plastic makes their way into our oceans.
- The world produces 381 million tons in plastic waste yearly – this is set to double by 2034.
- 50% of this is single-use plastic & only 9% has ever been recycled.
- The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is around 1.6 million square kilometers – bigger than Texas.
- More than 1 million seabirds and 100,000 marine animals die from plastic pollution every year.
- 100% of baby sea turtles have plastic in their stomachs.
- 1 in 3 fish caught for human consumption contains plastic.
- There is now 5.25 trillion macro and micro pieces of plastic in our ocean & 46,000 pieces in every square mile of ocean, weighing up to 269,000 tons.
- Plastic microbeads are estimated to be one million times more toxic than the seawater around it.
- 88% of the sea's surface is polluted by plastic waste.
- Between 8 to 14 million tons enters our ocean every year.
- The US contributes 38 million tons of plastic every year.
- Plastic packaging is the biggest culprit, resulting in 80

million tons of waste yearly from the US alone.

- More than 1 million plastic bags end up in the trash every minute.
 - The world uses over 500 billion plastic bags a year – that's 150 for each person on Earth.
- Although it is too early to know the extent to which plastic waste has increased during the first 6 months of 2020, it is clear that the pandemic is adding plastic waste to the environment at an alarming rate.
- The closure of restaurants to on-site dining has forced them to shift to take out meals packaged in one-time use plastic containers. To minimize virus transmission, people have turned to on-line shopping for much of their needs. This has meant an increase in plastic packaging. Recent efforts to move customers away from plastic bags and other one-time use containers has been stalled. Many businesses no longer permit reusable containers in their stores for fear of COVID contamination. And, of course, the vital personal protective equipment essential to the safety of health care and other front line workers, has added an enormous amount of gloves, masks and disposable gowns to the mountain of plastic refuse moving to municipal dumps and into our oceans. At the same time our use of plastics is increasing so significantly, a large number of recycling programs are being suspended. Fear for the safety of workers, cheaper oil which makes virgin plastic less expensive than ever to produce, and more lighter weight plastics which are less profitable to recycle is all part of the recycling decline. If we care about the health of our oceans, we must work to reverse this trend of rapidly increasing plastic waste in our landfills and oceans.





Smile!



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.

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



We look forward to seeing you next year!



LYNCH
Home Medical Supply
TIMOTHY P. LYNCH
 Parishioner, Owner, Certified Orthotic Fitter
 Lift Chairs & Scooters • Wound Care • Walkers
 Wheelchairs • Commodes & Much More
 4020 Main St. • Lawrence Park
 899-3636
 www.lynmhmedical.com

Stans
GARDEN CENTER
 Where There's Always Something GROWING on!
 Jim Skarzenski & Bob Rocky - Parishioners

East
 5001 Buffalo Road
 Erie, PA 16510
 899.5424

West
 5341 West Lake Road
 Erie, PA 16505
 835.6960

HEISE REBUILDING
 Mechanical Repairs
 PA Inspections:
 Vehicle & Motorcycle
899-8186
 1291 Walbridge Rd. • Erie, PA 16511
 heiserebuilding.com
 ~ Parishioner ~

PRICHARD
CHIROPRACTIC OFFICES

6095 Buffalo Road
 Harborcreek, PA
899-1966

DR. LOREN J. PRICHARD
 DR. SCOTT V. PRICHARD

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

• Full Time Position with Benefits
 • Sales Experience Preferred
 • Paid Training
 • Overnight Travel Required
 • Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
 careers@4LPi.com
 www.4LPi.com/careers

- No Job Too Small -

Shalkham
ELECTRIC
 shalkhamelectric.com
814-873-2788
 PA140374

FIDDLE INN
 HARBORCREEK, PA
 "Home of the EVERYTHINGS"
 6615 Buffalo Road
 814-899-9005
 www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.

Buy a bulletin ad space today!

catholicmatch
 Pennsylvania
 CatholicMatch.com/PA

Widget
 Financial
 widgetfinancial.com

HARBORCREEK AUTO Gallery
 6850 Buffalo Rd.
 814-315-4051
 Harborcreek, PA
 www.harborcreekautogallery.com
 • Sales • PA Inspections
 • Notary • Detailing

DUSCKAS - TAYLOR
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.
 5151 BUFFALO RD.
 ERIE, PA 16510
 ROBERT D. TAYLOR, SUPERVISOR
 814-315-0911
 WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM

OLLINGER
PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Residential • Commercial
 Quality Installations & Service
899-2809

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE

FREE AD DESIGN
 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
 - 800-477-4574 -

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME **ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **Tim Weir** to place an ad today!
 tweir@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6568

"Your Computer Professional"
 NEW SYSTEMS USED • REPAIRS
 "WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"
898-8300
 Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners
JDLCOMPUTERS.COM

Brevillier Village
 5416 East Lake Road
 Erie, PA 16511
 814-899-8600
 www.brevillier.org

Ball Pavilion
 Short Term Rehab
 Long Term Nursing Care

Barnabas Court
 Licensed Personal Care,
 Residency & Independent Living.

Conrad House
 Independent Living

Too Sick for Mass?
SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
 www.parishesonline.com