

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



August 9, 2020 - 19th 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



Catechist Needed

Due to COVID, we will have to offer faith formation remotely this year. We need help to make that happen. We need volunteers willing to work with youth on the 1st, 4th and 6th grade level. We also need adults willing to provide current clearances and complete the on-line child protection in-service who would be willing to log into an on-line class to fulfill the diocesan requirement mandating 2 adults present when we work with youth on a conferencing platform. If you are willing to help this year, please contact Irene at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Religious Education Registration

In an attempt to create the safest environment for everyone, religious education registration will be conducted by mail this year. Families who were registered for religious education in 2019-2020 school year will receive their registration form in the mail in early August. To register children, parents are asked to update, sign and return all forms. A letter will accompany these forms describing how we will handle faith formation this year. Families registering for the first time will be able to download the registration form from the parish website. Thank you for your cooperation.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/10	8:30 a.m.	John Green (Family)
Tue. 08/11	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 08/12	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 08/13	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)
Fri. 08/14	8:30 a.m.	Dianne Nagosky-Seib (Ann & Richard Nagosky)
Sat. 08/15	8:30 a.m.	No Mass
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 08/16	8:30 a.m.	Carl Hopkins (Dave & Peggy Jacquel)
	11:00 a.m.	Deceased members of the Spiegel Family (The Spiegel Family)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 2, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	45	\$2,325.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	131	\$3,413.20
Loose Change:		\$ 80.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$5,818.20

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/10	2 Cor 9:6-10	/ Jn 12:24-26
Tue. 08/11	Ez 2:8-3:4	/ Mt 18:1-5, 10-14
Wed. 08/12	Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22	/ Mt 18:15-20
Thur. 08/13	Ez 12:1-12	/ Mt 18:21-19:1
Fri. 08/14	Ez 16:59-63	/ Mt 19:3-12
Sat. 08/15	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10	
	1 Cor 15:20-27	/ Lk 1:39-56
Sun. 08/16	Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32	/ Mt 15:21-28

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MATTHEW 14:22-33

"Do not be afraid."

Someone once told me, or perhaps I read somewhere, that the words "Do not be afraid," or "Fear not," are repeated 365 times in the Scriptures - one for every day of the year. While I have never counted, I like to believe that God wishes us freedom from fear and worry so much that he reassures us again and again.

Fear is a powerful emotion. Fear causes physical symptoms - increased blood pressure and heart rate, sweating, shallowness of breath. We experience a rush of adrenaline and stand poised ready for "flight" or "fight." Doctors tell us that the stress of prolonged fear can severely damage our bodies.

Sometimes we experience mental confusion. We cannot think or reason clearly. We do not recognize the solution to our problem, even when it is right in front of us.

That was the reaction of the disciples when they were caught in the unanticipated storm. As fishermen, they were at home on the lake. Yet a sudden change in the wind left them crouched in fear. They were so confused they did not recognize Jesus when he came to their rescue.

In times of crisis, Jesus is with us. "Do not be afraid," he tells us. "It is I."

Reflection: What kinds of fears have I been willing to surrender to God? What fears do I hold on to and how can I begin to release them to God?

Jerre Roberts



Scripture Study

Join us for a Scripture Study on Mary beginning Thursday, July 23 at 11:00 a.m. August 15 is the feast of the Assumption of Mary, so this is a perfect time to reflect on her witness and her role in the Church through the centuries. All are welcome to join our virtual study beginning Thursday, July 23. Prior to each gathering, participants are asked to view one of the lectures by Dr. Brant Pitre on [formed.org](https://watch.formed.org/lectio-mary-with-dr-brant-pitre), <https://watch.formed.org/lectio-mary-with-dr-brant-pitre>



When we gather in our Zoom room, we will discuss what we learned. To get the Zoom link each week, email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org. If you have not yet explored the parish subscription to formed.org, signing up is easy. Go to <https://formed.org/> Click on "sign up". Choose "sign up as parish or organization". Search for Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek. It is that simple. If you have any problems, contact the parish office.

Mailing Party



There will be a mailing party tomorrow, Monday, Aug. 10 at 9:00 a.m. in Sperry Hall. Anyone who can help prepare the newsletter for the mail should call 899-6132 or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Grief Support Group

Monday, August 17 at 7pm is the next gathering for Grief Support Group. Hearing the story of others who have experienced a loss and sharing your own story helps with the healing process. Perhaps a one on one exchange is more appealing. If so please contact Donna Clark in the parish office.



OLM Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, August 19 @ 7:00 p.m. at the home of Donna Huff 4517 N. Woods Dr. to discuss The River by Peter Heller. Our September title will be Olive Again by Elizabeth Strout.

Sunset Mass

We will have our annual end-of-the-summer Sunset Mass on August 16 at 7:00. We will be in a new location this year. Because of COVID concerns, we do not have access to Glinodo, but Faith Lutheran Church 5414 E. Lake Road has graciously offered to host us in their outdoor worship area. Benches are available, but you are encouraged to bring your own lawn chair. There will be NO cookies afterward because of COVID restrictions.



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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.

We Remember...

Dick Meyer, brother of Ed Meyer,
Dianne Wells, sister of Judy Hess, and
Jeffery Morealli, brother of Greg Morealli;
who passed away recently.

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

Loving Memory

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



Feeling Isolated?



Are you feeling isolated from the community? Coming to church might have been part of your pattern for social interaction and now you may not feel safe returning yet because of your age or health situation. We can make a

pastoral visit to our older parishioners. Please call Donna Clark in the Parish Office.

Job Openings

●Barbs Care-A-Lot is hiring a cook! They are looking for someone to come in from 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday to cook meals for the children. If you are interested, please call the day care at 899-9254.

●Burch Farms is hiring an Apple Picker for the season. This is a paid position. Please contact Tim Burch at 814-725-0747 if you are interested in filling this position.





Masks Required—Social Distancing observed

St. Mark Church
695 Smithson Ave
Annual Garage Sale

Wednesday, August 19 8:30 am - 4:pm
Thursday, August 20 8:30 am - 4 pm
Friday, August 21 8:30 am - 4 pm
Saturday, August 22 8 am - Noon

FAITH & RACIAL HEALING

Embracing Truth, Justice & Healing

An Opportunity To Reflect As A Community On Race In America
From The Perspective Of Our Faith

In the past few weeks, the issue of racial inequality has become a topic of conversation, news articles and debate. We have heard from people in positions of power and people walking on the streets. Our Christian tradition has also been talking about racial equality for quite some time. It is essential that we listen to the voice of our faith as we discern our response to this pressing social issue. In "Faith & Racial Healing", participants will look at the history of race in the U.S. through the Christian lens. Each session will focus on a different era or issue in our racial history.

This enrichment opportunity will be conducted via Zoom. Participants will gather for prayer and conversation, discussion of books and videos, reflection on society and on our own hearts as we journey toward reconciliation with God and our neighbor.

When:

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

{There will be 8 sessions; 9/22, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/ 8, 12/15 plus a retreat to begin the study and a cultural experience mid-way through}

Where:

A Zoom room on your device of choice

Cost:

Participants will be asked to purchase 3 books at a cost of \$40. Participants are free to search the internet for used copies to save money.

(If this is a financial burden and will prohibit you from participating, please contact the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation.)

Registration:

To participate, email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org with your email address by Sept. 1.

Questions:

Call the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation at 899-6132.

Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee

WOW! Words cannot express our gratitude for how the community responded to our "Non" Festival during this pandemic. You made it the best ever "Non" Festival! You did wonderful. Thank you all so much and may God bless all of you.

PRIOR YEAR PROFITS	
2019	\$20,938.08
2018	\$20,108.80
2017	\$20,041.60
2016	\$20,410.25

2020 'NON' FESTIVAL RESULTS		
Income	\$16,325.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 1,314.60	Invitations \$ 241.73
		Postage \$ 72,87
		Grand Prize \$1,000.00
Profit	\$15,010.40	

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PICK OF THE WEEK



Life for Life

Auschwitz, 1941. One of the prisoners, Jan, escapes from the German concentration camp while working at a gravel pit. Thanks to the help of kind-hearted people, he finds shelter. There Jan hears tragic news about ten random inmates sentenced by the Nazis to death by starvation as a punishment for his escape. One among the convicts is Fr. Maximillian Kolbe, a Franciscan priest who volunteered to die in place of one of the inmates.

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