

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



September 27, 2020 - The Feast of Our Lady of Mercy

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

Mon. 09/28	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	5:30 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
Tue. 09/29	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Faith & Racial Healing - Zoom
Wed. 09/30	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 10/01	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	11:00 a.m.	Scripture Study - Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Scripture Study - Zoom
Fri. 10/02		
Sat. 10/03	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/04		Casserole Club Drop Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-8
	12:15 p.m.	Hands Across Harborcreek
	1:00 p.m.	Confirmation Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Parish Mission

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of September 20, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	57	\$3,354.50
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$3,435.83
Loose Change:		\$ 100.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$6,890.33

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. 09/28	Jb 1:6-22	/ Lk 9:46-50
Tue. 09/29	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a	/ Jn 1:47-51
Wed. 09/30	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16	/ Lk 9:57-62
Thur. 10/01	Jb 19:21-27	/ Lk 10:1-12
Fri. 10/02	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5	/ Mt 18:1-5, 10
Sat. 10/03	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17	/ Lk 10:17-24
Sun. 10/04	Is 5:1-7 / Phil 4:6-9	/ Mt 21:33-43

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 09/28	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
Tue. 09/29	8:30 a.m.	Denise Carroll
Wed. 09/30	8:30 a.m.	Phil Zukowski (Dave & Marilyn Rinke)
Thur. 10/01	8:30 a.m.	John Eckendorf (Terry Miller)
Fri. 10/02	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 10/03	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	Irmira Walsh (Family)
Sun. 10/04	8:30 a.m.	Alice Kuhn (Peter & Faye Froess)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

SEPTEMBER 24TH

The title of "Our Lady of Mercy" is almost 900 years old. Tradition holds that around the year 1218 AD, both St. Peter Nolasco and King James I of Aragon and Catalonia experienced separate apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary requesting them to establish a religious order entrusted with the responsibility of rescuing the many Christians who were being held captive by the Moorish armies who invaded the Iberian peninsula.

In 1235 AD, the Order of Our Lady of Mercy received papal approval by Pope Gregory IX, and succeeded in liberating thousands of Christian prisoners from captivity. The Order was later able to shift its mission toward education and social work.

Today, the Virgin Mother is honored under the title of "Our Lady of Mercy" throughout the world by countless parishes, schools and hospitals who embrace her as their Patroness.



Scripture Study on Angels

On Thursday evenings in October @ 7:00, we will hold a Scripture Study on the topic of angels via Zoom. To get the link to the Zoom gathering, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



Parish Mission



Mark your calendar for Oct. 4-6 for our annual Parish Mission. Originally scheduled for March, this was postponed due to COVID. Attend in person or via live stream

at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Frank Desiano is a nationally recognized author and speaker. This mission "Being a Disciple Today: How Can I Live My Faith in a New Way?" will challenge us to a deeper, more authentic witness to the Gospels in our daily lives.

Baptismal Preparation Parent Session

Families desiring to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with a child are asked to attend a preparation session before scheduling the baptism. The next Baptismal Preparation Parent Session will be held Sunday, Oct. 18 at 12:15 in the Worship Space. To register, contact the parish office at 899-5342.



For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the November issue of *For Mercy Sake*, the parish quarterly newsletter, is Sunday, Oct. 18. Send items to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

OLM Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, Oct. 21 @ 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Voelker, 2406 Cumberland Rd., to discuss *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty. In November we will share *In An Instant* by Susan Redford.



Look for the "Silver Lining"



In an effort to help people connect we are collecting your "silver lining" stories. Have you had any blessings in the past few months? Have you done something during the pandemic that you never used to do, and you found it uplifting? Can you share one positive thing that has happened since March? Tell your stories to us, Katie or Donna in the parish office, by

phone, in person, or by e mail. We will share these stories with the community, at mass, in the bulletin or in our email blasts and on facebook.

dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org or call 899-5342.

FORMED.ORG

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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.

Puzzle Exchange

Puzzles are coming in so if you need a new puzzle stop by classroom # 5 (the Kindergarten room – just beyond the nursery). Drop off puzzles that you want to share with others and pick up a new puzzle for fun and entertainment.



Creating Community

Many people who responded to our brief spiritual survey mentioned that more opportunities to connect would help them grow in their sense of community. We will schedule an open meeting for people to connect. Starting in October there will be an afternoon meeting and an evening meeting. People can attend in person or by zoom. For the zoom link contact Donna Clark.

Our Lady of Mercy Scrip Program

Just a reminder, the Our Lady of Mercy Scrip program is still in full swing. Visit the office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. to shop from our Scrip collection or put in a Scrip order. We keep cards onhand from Applebees, Arbys, Bob Evans, Country Fair, Giant Eagle, Kwik Fill, Panera, Starburcks, Subway and Walmart. Scrip Cards CAN be purchased online, too! Visit shopwithscrip.com to purchase your Scrip Cards today! For any questions, contact Peggy Jacquel at 814-725-9869



Religious Education Registration

The 2020-2021 year of religious education is underway. If you have not yet registered your child, it is not too late. First grade Rel. Ed. is required by the Diocese of Erie before children can enter the First Reconciliation preparation process. Because of COVID, this year's program will be conducted largely on line.



Confirmation News

Candidates preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation this October are reminded that many events are on their calendar in the coming weeks.

- Sept. 27 – Penance Service @ 6:30
- Oct 4 – Confirmation Practice @ 1:00
- Oct. 10 – Confirmation @ 7:30
- Oct 18 – Home Session

Social Justice

Are you registered to vote? Oct. 19, 2020 is the last day to register to vote before the election on Nov. 3, 2020.

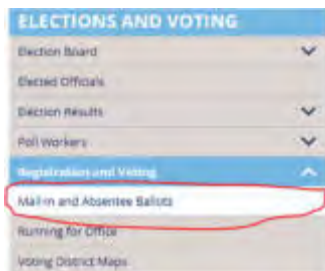
Do you want to use a mail-in ballot? To qualify for a mail-in ballot you must be registered to vote in Erie County and your completed application for the mail-in ballot form must be received in the county office by 5:00 PM on Oct. 27. You may obtain a mail in ballot by applying for one on-line, submitting a form via the US Mail, or by visiting certain locations in Erie County.

●To obtain instructions visit www.eriecountypa.gov and click on the **green button** to the right of this image:



●Next click on “Registration and Voting” drop down arrow in the gray box on the right hand side of the page and then click on “Mail-in and Absentee Ballots.”

You will find instructions to guide you through obtaining a mail-in ballot.



Returning your mail-in ballot

In Erie County, there are three methods by which you may submit your mail-in ballot.

- Mail your ballot – using the provided postage paid envelope. Be sure to complete the Voters declaration.
- Use the secure drop box, located in front of the Erie County Courthouse. The drop box is available 24/7. Be sure to complete the Voters declaration.
- Hand deliver your ballot to the Voters Registration office. Be sure to complete the Voters declaration.

The deadline for the Erie County Board of Elections to receive your voted ballot is **8:00 pm on Election Day**. (The state Supreme Court ruled on Sept. 17, 2020 that election officials should count ballots that are received as late as Nov. 6, as long as they are postmarked by Nov. 3. Ballots that arrive by the new deadline with missing or illegible postmarks will be counted.) Once your ballot has been received, you may not vote at your poll site.

If you applied for a ballot, but you have not received it, you may vote a provisional ballot at your poll. If you received your ballot, but do not have enough time to mail it back to the Board of Elections by the deadline, you may:

- Hand deliver it to the Voter Registration office
- Use the drop box
- Surrender all of your balloting materials at your poll site to be voided by the Judge of Elections, and cast your vote at the poll.

Phone Number for Erie County Board of Elections: 814-451-6275

Prayer Resources

In our recent survey people have asked for more prayer resources. Below are three options.

† Daily three-minute retreat

This three-minute daily retreat starts with gently music and a scripture passage displayed over a nature scene. There is a short reflection and a question or two to help us deepen our faith. Follow the link or simply type Three Minute Retreat in the search box.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer/>

You can sign up to receive a daily reminder.

† Silver Lining Story

Check the ribbon on our web page for the “Silver Lining” Link. You can read uplifting stories from parishioners about blessings they have recognized in their life over the last few months. These stories are also available on our Facebook page.

† Praying with the Scriptures – How to do Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)

Divine Reading has a long history in our church. It is a slow reading of the scripture and a method of listening for a word or phrase that stands out. Meditate on the words, pray based on your meditation, contemplate the loving presence of God and act to find new direction in your life. Here is a step by step instruction video from Paulist Evangelization Ministries.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhwRcg1mHec&feature=youtu.be>

This is a good way to enhance your experience of listening to the Sunday readings and deepen your understanding.

When in
doubt-
Pray it out.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

Oct. 2	Connor Barber	8	Oct. 13	Julia Chludzinski	12
Oct. 4	Bryce Skarzenski	10	Oct. 13	Parker Nguyen	14
Oct. 4	Aidan McLaughlin	16	Oct. 17	Anthony Bly	8
Oct. 4	Jacob Ramalho	17	Oct. 18	Gabrielle Peters	8
Oct. 7	Emma Skelly	9	Oct. 20	Luca Burick	6
Oct. 7	Shaela Nelson	17	Oct. 21	Lillian Festa	10
Oct. 8	Cody Smith	18	Oct. 22	Anthony Viscuso	17
Oct. 8	Casey Smith	18	Oct. 23	Jacob R zodkiewicz	14
Oct. 8	Sienna Blood	8	Oct. 25	Matthew Dorosch	18
Oct. 8	Gavin Bleil-Tersigni	8	Oct. 29	Logan Buczynski	18
Oct. 9	Lily Juhas	3	Oct. 31	Kevin Juhas	4
Oct. 12	Eleanor Shamburg	2	Oct. 31	Zoe Redford	11



Our Lady of Mercy
participates in
“HANDS ACROSS HARBORCREEK”
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH AT 12:15 P.M.

Join other Churches in Harborcreek
as we lift our hands in
Prayer for Peace for 5 minutes.
Hold up signs and sing a song for

PEACE.



We will line up around the perimeter of the
Our Lady of Mercy parking lot.

Don't want to participate in person?
No worries, participate at home! We will be going live
on Facebook and YouTube for this prayerful event!

CDC Guidelines of social distancing and wearing of masks will be observed.

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