

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)



## November 8, 2020 - 32nd 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*

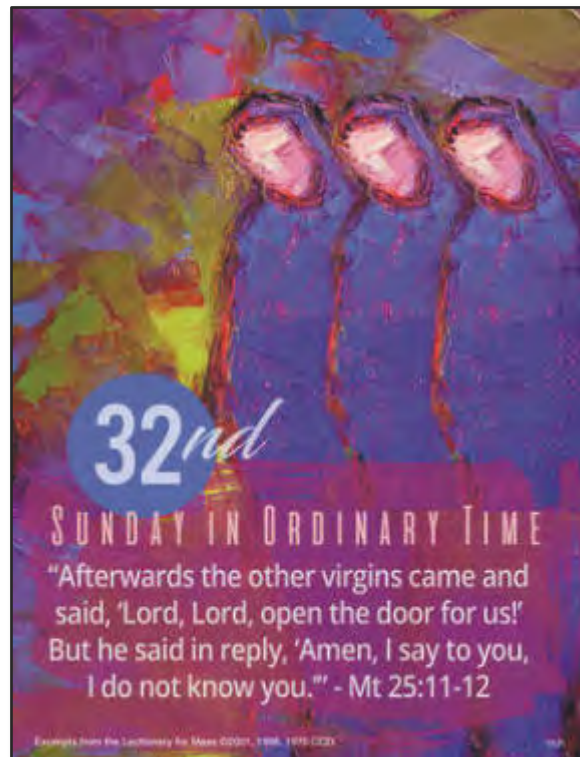
### CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto: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](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

<b>Mon. 11/09</b>	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Fireside Chatters SCC
<b>Tue. 11/10</b>	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Faith & Racial Healing
<b>Wed. 11/11</b>	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Social Justice Committee
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Hallelujah Girls SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus SCC
<b>Thur. 11/12</b>	9:15 a.m.	Painting Class
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
<b>Fri. 11/13</b>		
<b>Sat. 11/14</b>	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 11/15</b>	9:00 a.m.	Gr. 9 -12 Retreat
	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-8

## 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

<b>Mon. 11/09</b>	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 / 1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17	/ Jn 2:13-22
<b>Tue. 11/10</b>	Ti 2:1-8, 11-14	/ Lk 17:7-10
<b>Wed. 11/11</b>	Ti 3:1-7	/ Lk 17:11-19
<b>Thur. 11/12</b>	Phlm 7-20	/ Lk 17:20-25
<b>Fri. 11/13</b>	2 Jn 4-9	/ Lk 17:26-37
<b>Sat. 11/14</b>	3 Jn 5-8	/ Lk 18:1-8
	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31	
<b>Sun. 11/15</b>	1 Thes 5:1-6	/ Mt 25:14-30



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of November 1, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	55	\$4,219.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$3,432.70
Loose Change:		\$ 47.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$7,698.70</b>

## We Remember... *Loving Memory*

Kathleen Catrabone, mother of Jim Catrabone; Sarah Vallimont, mother of Margy Luniewski; Patricia Liebel, cousin of Patricia Sacc; and Linda Edwards, cousin of Teresa Shamburg, who passed away recently.  
 Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 11/09</b>	8:30 a.m.	George Medved (The Mollise Family)
<b>Tue. 11/10</b>	8:30 a.m.	Robert Liebel (Family)
<b>Wed. 11/11</b>	8:30 a.m.	Chet Szymecki (Ed Lacastro)
<b>Thur. 11/12</b>	8:30 a.m.	Sarah Vallimont
<b>Fri. 11/13</b>	8:30 a.m.	Donald Hatheway (Fran Hatheway)
<b>Sat. 11/14</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>-No Mass-</b>
	6:00 p.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
<b>Sun. 11/15</b>	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
	11:00 a.m.	Bob Jones (Barb Jones)

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### MATTHEW 25:1-13

"Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out."

Wouldn't it be great if we could compete in a marathon by borrowing the necessary strength, skill, speed, and endurance from a world-class runner? What if we could get slimmer and smarter by having other people diet and study for us? We could let someone else do all the training, and we could cash in on his or her hard work and preparation.

Obviously, there are some things we cannot borrow from others. We cannot borrow another person's intelligence, artistry, integrity, or character, to name a few. We may benefit from these qualities in other people, but we cannot make them our own by simply wishing so.

In today's gospel all ten virgins were waiting for the bridegroom, but only five have thoughtfully and carefully prepared to meet him. The five foolish virgins wanted to meet the groom, but their preparations were not sufficient, and they could not borrow preparedness from the five wise.

We are called to prepare today, tomorrow, and every day to meet the Lord, so that we will not hear those terrible words, "I do not know you." We all want to meet the Lord with our lamps burning, but are we properly prepared?

**For Reflection: What am I doing to prepare myself to meet the Lord in each and every day?**

Roy Goetz

### First Eucharist Parent Meeting

There will be an important meeting for parents with children beginning the preparation process for First Eucharist. The meeting will take place today, Sunday, Nov. 8 at 12:15 in the large classroom.



### Newsletter Mailing Party

We will be folding the newsletter and stuffing envelopes at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 9 in Sperry Hall. If you can lend a hand, contact Irene at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org). Wear your mask.



### Ladies' Lunch

For women who live alone we will gather on Friday November 13, at 1 p.m. in Sperry Hall. Please RSVP to Donna Clark.



### Grief Support Group

The monthly evening grief support group will meet Monday Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.. The holidays can pose difficulties for those in grief, perhaps even more so with the pandemic restrictions and cautions. This session will look at some of the options to get through the holidays. Questions contact Donna Clark.



### OLM Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 190 Kraus Dr. to discuss In An Instant by Suzanne Redfearn. In December we will gather for a movie. For those who want to read ahead, our January title will be The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea



### Hope – Restoring the Heart to Thrive

Many of us go through dark times in our lives. We are hurting, wounded, distraught, sad, angry anxious . . . the darkness seems to drown out our sense of hope. This sense of hopelessness can be brought on by any number of situations: the corona virus, losing a job, physical and mental abuse, substance abuse and also physical and mental illness. Often, it helps to hear a message from others who have seen the light in the midst of their own darkness. We will also listen to stories of forgiveness. The strength to forgive someone is so powerful, it helps our spirit to grow and heal at the same time. Join us for prayerful reflection and sharing. Tuesday Nov 17 at Noon in the church parlor, Sunday Nov 22 at 1:00 p.m. in the church parlor and a meeting via Zoom the first week in December. For more information contact: [carrieo22@hotmail.com](mailto:carrieo22@hotmail.com) or Donna Clark.



### Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.

## FORMED.ORG

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### Backpack Food Program

The Backpack Food Program started at Clark Elementary this month is off to a great start. There are over 50 volunteers to help with the food packing. Enthusiasm is high and the community of volunteers, working out of South Harborcreek United Methodist desires to start the program in the other two Harborcreek Elementary Schools. Starting these programs requires funding. Since the National Honor Society is running a food drive to collect the food for the annual thanksgiving dinners we will not be putting out a shopping list for thanksgiving dinners. Instead, we are asking our local church community members to make a donation to fund the new Backpack programs. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to Our Lady of Mercy and mark it for the backpack program.

### Scrip Coordinator Needed.

After many years Peggy Jacquel is retiring as our scrip coordinator. The job involves keeping a small supply of different cards in stock and ordering more as needed; manage the "shop-with-scrip" account and validate online orders. One needs to be comfortable with managing an online account. If you are interested in the position, please contact Donna Clark.



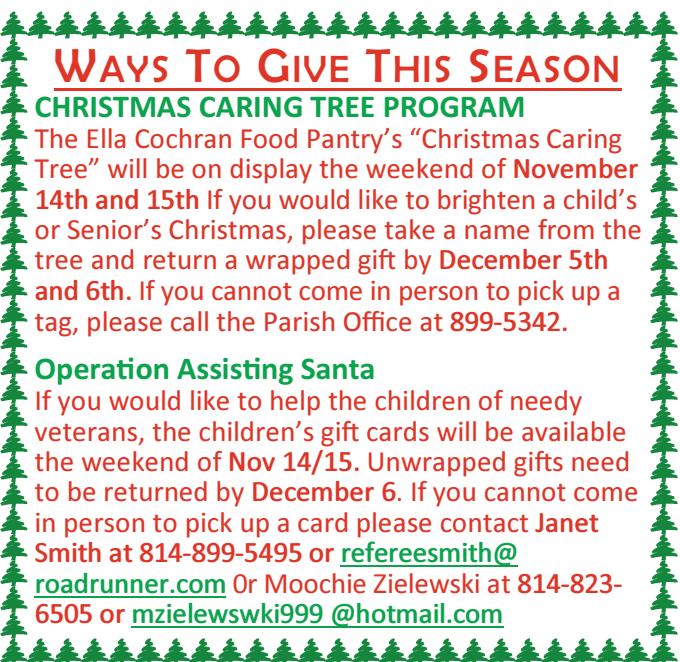
## WAYS TO GIVE THIS SEASON

### CHRISTMAS CARING TREE PROGRAM

The Ella Cochran Food Pantry's "Christmas Caring Tree" will be on display the weekend of November 14th and 15th. If you would like to brighten a child's or Senior's Christmas, please take a name from the tree and return a wrapped gift by December 5th and 6th. If you cannot come in person to pick up a tag, please call the Parish Office at 899-5342.

### Operation Assisting Santa

If you would like to help the children of needy veterans, the children's gift cards will be available the weekend of Nov 14/15. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned by December 6. If you cannot come in person to pick up a card please contact Janet Smith at 814-899-5495 or [refereesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:refereesmith@roadrunner.com) Or Mochie Zielewski at 814-823-6505 or [mzielewski999@hotmail.com](mailto:mzielewski999@hotmail.com)





## Social Justice

As we enter the holiday season, we become more aware of our many blessings and of those who are in need in our community. Many people are inspired to give to those most in need at this time. Here are some local groups that are assisting those who struggle to meet their basic needs.

### St. Martin Center

1701 Parade St. Erie, PA 16503

<https://www.stmartincenter.org/homepage-gift.html>

Provides housing and utility assistance, emergency food and low-income child care

### Second Harvest Food Bank of N.W. PA.

1507 Grimm Dr. Erie, PA 16501

<https://nwpafoodbank.org/>

Supplies local food pantries in 11 counties of northwestern PA with food as well as providing direct emergency food to those in need. Every dollar donated provides 6 meals.

### Boys & Girls Club of Erie

1515 East Lake Rd. Erie, PA 16511

<http://www.eriebgc.com/donate>

Provides educational, social, emotional athletic, artistic and health screening services in a safe haven to at risk youth.

### Greater Erie Area Habitat For Humanity

4922 Pittsburgh Ave. 16509

<http://habitateerie.org/support-for-habitat/donate/>

Enables low income families to achieve home ownership by bringing together volunteers and the family to build simple homes that are affordable.

### Emmaus Ministries

345 East 9<sup>th</sup> St. Erie, PA 16503

[www.eriebenedictines.org/emmaus](http://www.eriebenedictines.org/emmaus)

A soup kitchen, food pantry, after school children's program are among the ministries serving those in need in the City of Erie.

### Community Shelter Services

655 West 16<sup>th</sup> St. Erie, PA 16502

<https://www.eriecommunityfoundation.org/donors/give-today/give-to-a-nonprofit/community-shelter-services>

Supports those who are homeless or are in danger of homelessness through temporary, transitional and permanent housing, through referrals and advocacy.

## Special Collections: Catholic Campaign for Human Development



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

On the weekend of November 21-22, a second collection will be taken up in our parishes for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

As you may know, CCHD is the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, working to break the cycle of poverty by helping people with love income participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities.

Half of the funds from this collection remain in the Diocese of Erie to help organizations such as Maria House Project, Erie Dawn, and Inter-Church Ministries fight poverty in our local communities. CCHD is a manifestation

of our call to a discipleship that fosters a "solidarity which 'would allow all peoples to become the artisans of their destiny'" (Evangelii Gaudium, no. 190). At a time when so many of our sisters and brothers are experiencing the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the important work of CCHD cannot be underestimated.

This work is not possible without the support of dedicated Catholics like you. Your contributions are helping to build more merciful and just communities in the Diocese of Erie and throughout the country. Please consider helping us to uphold human dignity and alleviate poverty by giving generously to the second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*†Lawrence T. Persico*

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
Bishop of Erie

### OLM Wreath

Two hand-made wreaths donated by Marty Eisert are being raffled and the proceeds donated for the livestream equipment costs. Chances are \$2.00 each or 3 chances for \$5.00. In addition people can order a personalized wreath from Marty at a discounted price and she will donate 10% of the sale to the church. Contact Marty at: [eiserthaus@roadrunner.com](mailto:eiserthaus@roadrunner.com) No email? Call Donna in the Parish Office.



### Daily Devotional

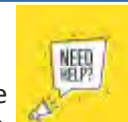


Do you use a daily devotional that you found helpful over the past seven months? Is it an e mail that you get each day from some organization? A book you read from each day? A website that you visit regularly? Share that resource with us so we can share that with others. Send thoughts and Ideas to Donna Clark 899-5342 or

[dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

### Second Harvest offers free help applying for nutrition assistance

The Social Justice & Life Office of the Diocese of Erie encourages those in need of nutrition assistance to contact Second Harvest Food Bank of Erie for free help in applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Gabriela Kellogg, SNAP outreach coordinator, will assist with the pre-screening and application process, either over the phone or online at <https://nwpafoodbank.org/>. The goal is to reach low-income individuals, including those who are unemployed, underemployed, seniors or disabled. For assistance, call 814-459-3663, ext. 118, or email [gkellogg@nwpafoodbank.org](mailto:gkellogg@nwpafoodbank.org).



### Domestic Violence Support

Do you know someone who is living through domestic violence? You can help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline for resources and support 800-799-SAFE (7233) {TTY 800-787-3224} or find help on line at [thehotline.org](http://thehotline.org).

# OLM FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION

Join us for our first ever virtual event  
on Sunday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m. via zoom

Please RSVP to this free event  
before November 22 by emailing

[ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

or calling 899-5342

There will be:

- \* Singing
- \* Activities
- \* Crafts
- \* Games





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