

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



November 22, 2020 - Christ the King of the Universe

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*

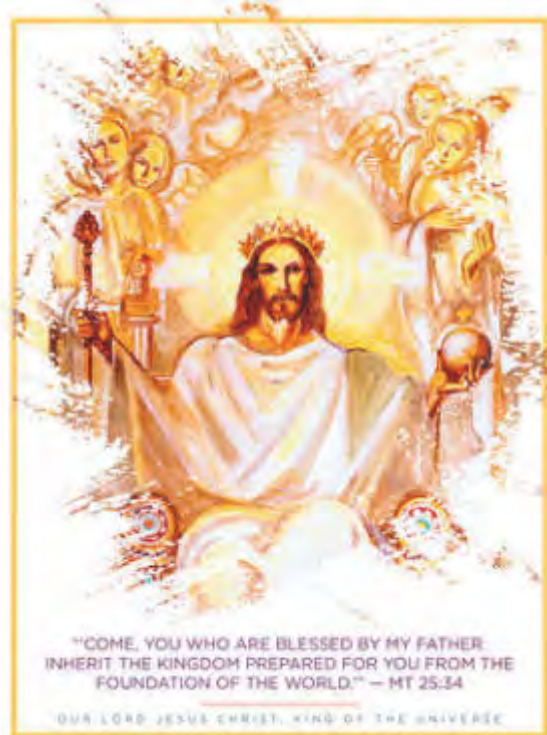
CONTACT INFORMATION

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. 11/23	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Tue. 11/24	10:00 a.m.	Social Justice Committee - Zoom
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Faith and Racial Healing
Wed. 11/25	7:00 p.m.	Jacquel Continuum Team
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 11/26	Thanksgiving Day-Parish Office Closed	
Fri. 11/27	9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass Parish Office Closed	
Sat. 11/28	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 11/29		

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 11/23	8:30 a.m.	Dawn Williams (Sandy Jordan)
Tue. 11/24	8:30 a.m.	Bob Polatas (Janet Smith)
Wed. 11/25	8:30 a.m.	Thomas Liebel (The Liebel Family)
Thur. 11/26	9:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM
Fri. 11/27	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 11/28	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	Mary Simonian (Sherry Tyzinski)
Sun. 11/29	8:30 a.m.	Scott Emling (Margaret McCurdy)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of November 15, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	69	\$5,185.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$3,432.70
Loose Change:		\$ 20.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$8,637.70

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 11/23	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5	/ Lk 21:1-4
Tue. 11/24	Rv 14:14-19	/ Lk 21:5-11
Wed. 11/25	Rv 15:1-4	/ Lk 21:12-19
Thur. 11/26	Rv 18:1-2, 21-23, 19:1-3, 9a	/ Lk 21:20-28
		/ Lk 21:29-33
Fri. 11/27	Rv 20:1-4, 11 -21:2	/ Lk 21:34-36
Sat. 11/28	Rv 22:1-7	/ Lk 21:34-36
Sun. 11/29	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 / 1 Cor 1:3-9	/ Mt 13:33-37

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



MATTHEW 25:31-46

"...As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me."

I usually favor the underdog. When I'm watching a World Series or Super Bowl game and "my team" is not involved, I tend to root for the team without the big name and big bucks.

In today's gospel, Jesus seems to be encouraging a similar spirit in each of us. We are invited to live out, in a very practical way, the commandments to love God and neighbor. We are called to reach out to those without power and influence in our world.

For many in our world, caring for the underdog or "the least" of our brothers and sisters is not always a primary value. A recent TV show made great sport of finding "The Weakest Link" among the show's contestants. The host belittled the weakest person and then eventually dismissed him or her from the show. In how many other ways, I wonder, are we prodded to belittle and dismiss those who most need our support and encouragement?

Gratefully, Scripture and the social justice teachings of our church promote a different message. We are often reminded that a basic moral test of any society is how it treats its weakest and most vulnerable members.

For Reflection: How do I feel about my obligation to the least in our society? What am I doing to help meet the needs of the hungry and thirsty, the foreigner, those who are ill or who are in prison?

Susan McCarthy, R.D.C

Hope – Restoring the Heart to Thrive



These sessions offer a message of hope to those who feel they are experiencing darkness in their lives. This darkness, which can be brought on by any number of situations, seems to drown out our sense of hope. These are not professional counseling sessions; they are an opportunity to share stores of finding hope and light in the midst of darkness, and stories of forgiveness and healing. Join us for prayerful reflection and sharing on **Sunday Nov 22 at 1:00 p.m.** in the church parlor and a meeting via Zoom **Thursday, Dec 3 at 7:00 p.m.** For more information contact: carrieo22@hotmail.com or Donna Clark in the parish office.

Harborcreek Community Thanksgiving



Since this year there is no Harborcreek community Thanksgiving Service we are asking you to donate to the Harborcreek Backpack food program. The Food Backpack program provides child friendly, easy to prepare food items on a weekly basis to local students who otherwise would not have enough to eat over the weekend. . It costs only \$3.50 per week, or \$120 per student per year, or approximately \$5000 per school for up to 40 children per school. Can you sponsor a child for a month and donate \$15.00? Checks can be made payable to Our Lady of Mercy. Thank you for your support.

Daytime Grief Support Group



Meeting the first Tuesday of every month, this group meets next on **Tuesday Dec 1 at 3 p.m.** We have added a daytime group especially now that it gets dark early and many people do not drive at night. Questions? Call Donna Clark in the parish office.

Confirmation Interviews



The candidates in their final year of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation are reminded that they have mandatory interviews on **Sunday, Dec. 6 at 12:15.** We will meet in the Worship Space.

OLM Book Group

For those who want to read ahead, our January title will be The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea.



Do you use E mail?



Sign up for our parish e newsletter. Go to the bottom of our home page on the Our Lady of Mercy website and click "Subscribe to Parish Newsletter" You will receive two e mails each week describing upcoming events and links to our live Mass, prayers and meditative reflections and songs.

FORMED.ORG



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.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual Mass of Remembrance is **Saturday, December 5th 2020, at 10 a.m.** The Bereavement Ministry invites all members of Our Lady of Mercy to attend this annual Memorial Mass to support the families of our parish who have lost loved ones during the past year. Please join us for this special celebration.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, some of our Parishioners may be uncomfortable attending this Mass, although they would dearly want to attend. Our Parish will be live streaming the Mass, through YouTube or, FaceBook from the OLM website at www.ourladyofmercychurch.org

Missing Our Faith Community? Stay in Touch Virtually!



Watch Our Lady of Mercy on You Tube or Facebook. Go to "Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek" on You Tube. We live stream our **11:00 a.m. Sunday Liturgy** which is also available later in the day. You can watch our recent Parish Mission with Fr. Frank DeSiano. Check out the video Celebrating our Feast Day. You can also find these videos on Our Lady of Mercy's Facebook page.

Bulletins **How do I get the bulletin if I am not going to Mass at this time?**

Here are four ways you can get the bulletin: 1) Stop in during the week to pick one up when there are fewer people in church. 2) Go to our parish website ourladyofmercychurch.org and click "Download Bulletin" in the upper right. 3) Call the parish office to have a bulletin mailed to you. 4) Sign up to receive the bulletin in your inbox. Go to Parishesonline.com, search for Our Lady of Mercy in Harborcreek. You will see our bulletins and an option to subscribe to receive the bulletin when it is published.



The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



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 Or Moomchie Zielewski at 814-823-

Social Justice

Prayer After an Election



God of all nations,
 Protector of the human family,
 we give you thanks for the freedom we exercise
 and the many blessings of democracy we enjoy
 in these United States of America.

We ask for your protection and guidance
 for all who devote themselves to the common good,
 working for justice and peace at home
 and around the world.

We lift up all our duly elected leaders
 and public servants,
 those who will serve us as president,
 as legislators and judges,
 those in the military and law enforcement.
 Heal us from our differences and unite us, O Lord,
 with a common purpose, dedication,
 and commitment to achieve liberty and justice
 in the years ahead for all people,
 and especially those who are most
 vulnerable in our midst.

Amen.

Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, revised edition (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2007).





For the Religious Education Ministry

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

Take-Out Only!

\$10 for Adults

\$5 for Children 10 and under

•Spaghetti & Meatballs

•Salad

•Italian Bread

****You will reserve your pick-up time when you purchase your ticket****

Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good; His love endures forever.
- Psalm 118:1



SCRIP

OUR LADY OF MERCY SCRIP NEWS

With Christmas fast approaching, please consider purchasing your gift cards from Our Lady of Mercy's SCRIP program. There are a number of cards in stock at church. If the card you want is not in stock, you can order your cards by filling out a paper form or order on-line. To guarantee your card is available by Christmas, we must receive your order form and money by December 7. YOU CAN NOW USE YOUR CREDIT CARD FOR ON-LINE PURCHASES! Go on-line to ShopWithScrip.com for more information. In-stock cards are available after each mass and during parish office hours (Mon - Fri: 9-3). Our Lady of Mercy benefits from each card sold and the money is used toward the church expenditures. Call Peggy Jacquel 725-9869 or e-mail piggywiggy59@yahoo.com for more information.



In this Thanksgiving season
we give thanks to all the couples
who made their commitment this year,
to God and to all of us
to teach us about Jesus unselfish love
by the lives they lead together.

Robert Neil & Amanda Mallin
John Curtin & Meghan Ruland
Brandon Mlakar & Amy Shamburg
Nick Spring & Alena Costello
Charles Krugger & Brittany Barko
"Jake" Gamble & Danielle Pelinsky

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