

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



January 17th, 2021 - Second 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

Mon. 01/18	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 01/19	7:00 p.m.	Catholicism - Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	Catholicism - Zoom
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Wed. 01/20	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
Thur. 01/21	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
	9:00 p.m.	Painting Class
Fri. 01/22	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	HOPE Restoring the Heart
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sat. 01/23	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-8
Sun. 01/24	9:45 a.m.	First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of January 10, 2021

Envelopes sent:	355	
Envelopes returned:	55	\$ 3,782.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$ 3,459.70
Loose Change:		\$ 30.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,271.70

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 01/18	Heb 5:1-10	/ Mk 2:18-22
Tue. 01/19	Heb 6:10-20	/ Mk 2:23-28
Wed. 01/20	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17	/ Mk 3:1-6
Thur. 01/21	Heb 7:25-8:6	/ Mk 3:7-12
Fri. 01/22	Heb 8:6-13	/ Mk 3:13-19
Sat. 01/23	Heb 9:2-3, 11-14	/ Mk 3:20-21
Sun. 01/24	Jon 3:1-5, 10	/ 1 Cor 7:29-31 / Mk 1:14-20

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 01/18	8:30 a.m.	Pat Mezzacapo & Ben DeDionisio
Tue. 01/19	8:30 a.m.	Marie Ritchie
Wed. 01/20	8:30 a.m.	Michael Doyle
Thur. 01/21	8:30 a.m.	Jerome Wurst
Fri. 01/22	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Gross (Family)
Sat. 01/23	8:30 a.m.	No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 01/24	8:30 a.m.	Mary Simonian (Sherry Tyzinski)
	11:00 a.m.	Jim Bucklin (Lorraine Bucklin)

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



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 1:35-42

"What are you looking for?"

The disciples leave John to follow the Lord, Jesus turns to them and asks "What are you looking for?" It is a logical question in the context of the story. Were they looking for conversation about the Law? Were they looking for a political leader, position of power? Or were they simply seeking God's will for their lives?

The question is addressed not just to the two disciples, but to all of us. In the context of our lives, Jesus asks, "What are you looking for in your life? What is important to you?" We might reasonably respond with our hopes for a promotion or to be free of financial pressures. Perhaps we would answer with our desire for reconciliation in our family or the healing of a loved one. It is logical that we would respond with our goals, hopes, and dreams. Yet, as Christians, that reply would be incomplete. Our answers should reflect our faith and hope that lie in our Lord Jesus. At the end of the day, whatever it is we have been seeking, let us pray that our answer echoes that of Andrew, brother of Simon Peter, "We have found the Messiah!"

For Reflection: How do I answer Jesus when he asks, "What are you looking for?"

Dan Hennessey



Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Join us for our first Sunday Morning CAFÉ of 2021 on Sunday, Jan. 17 at 9:45 in the Worship Space and live streamed. Lori Palisin, the Executive Director of Safe Journey (and the daughter-in-law of Tom and Barbara Palisin) will present *Communities Against Domestic Violence: You Can Make a Difference*. Victims of domestic violence are in our communities; they are among our co-workers, our neighbors, our family, our parish. But too often, we are unaware of their situation because they suffer in silence. Lori Palisin will help us understand the many forms domestic violence takes, the signs by which we can recognize domestic violence and the ways we can help those we encounter who are struggling. Lori Palisin has served victims of domestic violence for 24 years, providing resources, support, advocacy and education.



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the February issue of *For Mercy Sake* is TODAY Jan. 17. Send items to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Evening Grief Support Group

Meets on Monday, Jan. 18 at 7:00 p.m., (the third Wednesday of the month). This support group gives people the opportunity to share the challenges one faces after losing a loved one and to learn from others how to cope with those challenges and emotions. Unexpected things come up and often those who have been through the process can best understand and offer support, prayers and practical suggestions. This meeting will also be available to you by phone or video on zoom. Call Donna Clark in the parish office or email dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org to obtain the zoom information. *The next daytime Grief Support is Tuesday Feb 2, at 3pm.*



Thank You for Assisting Santa

To the Our Lady of Mercy Parish, On behalf of Operation Assisting Santa, I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank everyone who helped make our 2020 project a huge success. Because of wonderful people such as yourselves, along with many other fine groups and individuals we were able to help around 78 Veteran families along with gifts for over 300 of their children. We look forward to working with you again in 2021! May the Spirit of Christmas warm your heart.



God Bless,
Janet Smith & Mooch Zielewski
Coordinator Operation Assisting Santa

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.

"I have been impressed with the range and quality of content on formed.org. I have found so many inspiring talks by topnotch Catholic speakers. I have particularly enjoyed listening to Fr. Mike Schmitz and Dr. Edward Sri. The documentaries are so well done and have taught me so much. Formed.org makes quality Catholic programming so convenient." Irene Lucas

Hope – Restoring the Heart

The next session is Thursday, Jan. 21 at Noon. These sessions are for anyone feeling stress, fear or anxiety. Sometimes it is difficult to pray and it appears as though we are losing hope. If you are in need of a spiritual boost please join us for an opportunity to share stories of hope and healing. You can also attend this meeting by zoom or by phone. To obtain the Zoom meeting ID and passcode or phone number to call please contact Donna Clark in the parish office or check the parish website. We are encouraging people to stay safe. We are taking precautions and following the county health department guidelines. If you would like to participate but don't feel comfortable with zoom video or phone, please call Donna in the parish office for other arrangements. One on one sessions are also available.



OLM Book Group

In January, we will discuss *The Hummingbird's Daughter* by Luis Alberto Urrea.

Question & Answer With the Pastor

The first Q&A w/t Pastor will be Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7:00 p.m. over Zoom. Bring your questions. Invite a friend. And join us for a night of great conversation about your faith questions with our wise pastor, Fr. Ritchie. To get the zoom link for this gathering, contact ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org by noon on Sunday, Feb. 7.



Help for Heating – LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was open to help alleviate heating bill stress on low income families. A family of four with a gross annual income of \$39,300, qualifies for a grant. To find out if you qualify based on your household size and income, how to apply and what you need to apply, see the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space.





Social Justice

World Day of Peace Message 2021

Annually, since 1967, the Holy Father has released a message in time for the first of January: The World Day of Peace. Pope Francis has continued this tradition with his message titled, "A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace". He traces the origins of the human vocation to care from Genesis to the ministry of Jesus and on to the days of the early church. "They strove to make their community a welcoming home, concerned for every human need and ready to care for those most in need. It became customary to make voluntary offerings in order to feed the poor, bury the dead and care for orphans, the elderly and victims of disasters like shipwrecks." Over centuries, the principles of these actions "became the beating heart of the Church's social doctrine.....commitment to promoting the dignity of each human person, solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, the pursuit of the common good and concern for protection of creation." Pope Francis asks us to use these principles as a "compass" to point us in a "common direction". He says. "I ask everyone to take this compass in hand and to become a prophetic witness of the culture of care, working to overcome the many existing social inequalities." He has specific instructions for governments, laws, and educational institutions. He concludes, saying

that there can be no peace without a culture of care. There is much more in this message than can be explored here. Take the time to read it yourself and consider how you might contribute towards a culture of care that brings peace. (Find the full text here: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20201208_messaggio-54giornatamondiale-pace2021.html)

This past fall thirteen of our fellow parishioners including our pastor, Fr. Ritchie, journeyed through the history of slavery and racism in America. Using three texts, videos, music, a guest speaker, prayer, and reflection these thirteen participated in a course entitled "Faith and Racial Healing" that was offered by the *Just Faith* organization. They considered many facts that they were unaware of and developed a new appreciation for the challenge of living in an inclusive society. Meeting eight times via Zoom, they grew in community and became a familiar face to each other, both supportive and encouraging. By all accounts it was time well spent. Thanks to all who participated.

The Erie March For Life will take place on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 11:00 a.m. in Perry Square. Join others and stand up for the dignity of all human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death.

**HAPPENING
Now!**

Catholicism: A Journey Through the Mystery and Majesty of the Church

It's not too late to participate in this 10-part series!

Journey around the world and deep into the Faith.

In breathtaking, high-definition cinematography, the beauty, goodness and truth of the Catholic Faith are illustrated in a rich, multimedia experience.

Journey with acclaimed author, speaker and theologian Bishop Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 15 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people.

From the sacred lands of Israel to the beating heart of Uganda... from the glorious shrines of Italy, France, and Spain, to the streets of Mexico, Kolkata, and New York City, the fullness of CATHOLICISM is revealed.

Journey deep into the Faith as you watch each episode.

Mike Leonard, a veteran NBC Today Show correspondent and acclaimed filmmaker, is the Executive Producer of this groundbreaking series.

Each week will include a video followed by an opportunity for discussion.

Due to COVID, this program will be provided via Zoom.

When: Monday @ 7:00 PM through March 22

OR Tuesday @ 11:00 AM through March 23

Contact ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org for the Zoom link
Participants do not need to be present for every week of the series.

From The Office of Youth Ministry

OLM January Jr. High Youth Event

Date: Sunday January 31st

Time: 12-2pm

Place: VIRTUAL (Zoom)

Due to increased numbers, we are going to meet virtually this month

We will be doing a small lesson on spiritual growth, and have time to socialize and play some virtual games!!

Spiritual Growth



You are **CHOSEN!**

11TH GRADERS

Confirmation Retreat 2021

- Sunday February 21st from 8-3pm
 - St. Mark the Evangelist Church
- **Subject to change due to social distancing protocol modifications**

YOUTH GROUP

Help Wanted

Calling any adults! We need volunteers to help at youth events and retreats. If you are interested, please email me at youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org

We would need all clearances before starting



For more information, contact our Youth Minister, Sarah Phipps at youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org

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.lynmehical.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

4LPi

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

Join our team

William D. Elkin
Funeral Home
 65 South Lake St. • North East
725-4511
 Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.
 William D. Elkin, F.D.
 Pre-Arrangements Available

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 home in ad space today!

LET US PLACE
 YOUR AD HERE.

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**

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

Brevillier Village

Ball Pavilion
 Short Term Rehab
 Long Term Nursing Care

Barnabas Court
 Licensed Personal Care,
 Residency & Independent Living.

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

Conrad House
 Independent Living

LET US PLACE
 YOUR AD HERE.

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

