

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



January 31st, 2021 - Fourth 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*

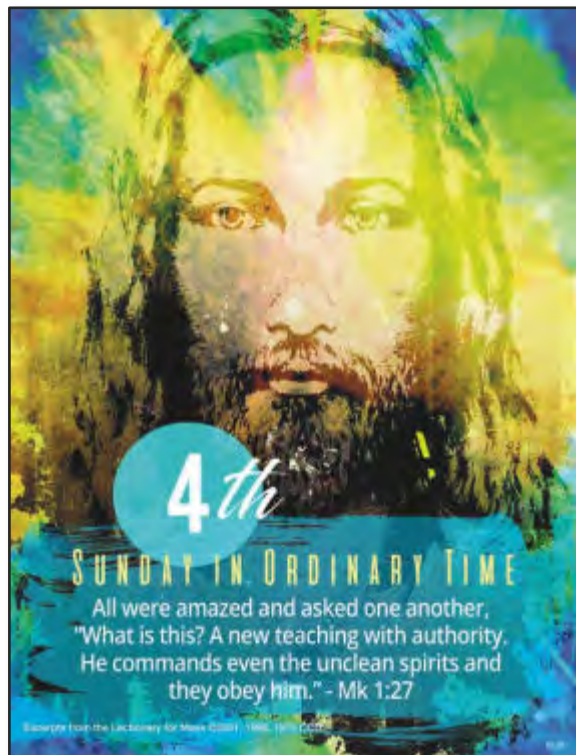
CONTACT INFORMATION

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. 02/01	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Catholicism - Zoom
Tue. 02/02	11:00 a.m.	Catholicism - Zoom
	12:00 p.m.	HOPE: Restoring the Heart
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	3:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 02/03	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
Thur. 02/04	9:00 p.m.	Painting Class
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 02/05		
Sat. 02/06	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 02/07		Casserole Club Drop-Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-8

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of January 24, 2021

Envelopes sent:	355	
Envelopes returned:	28	\$ 3,560.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$ 3,444.70
Loose Change:		\$ 15.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,019.70

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 02/01	Heb 11:32-40	/ Mk 5:1-20
Tue. 02/02	Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/	Lk 2:22-40
Wed. 02/03	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15	/ Mk 6:1-6
Thur. 02/04	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24	/ Mk 6:7-13
Fri. 02/05	Heb 13:1-8	/ Mk 6:14-29
Sat. 02/06	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21	/ Mk 6:30-34
Sun. 02/07	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 / 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23	/ Mk 1:29-39

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 02/01	8:30 a.m.	Fr. Jerry Orbanek
Tue. 02/02	8:30 a.m.	Leo Brooks
Wed. 02/03	8:30 a.m.	Willard Passauer
Thur. 02/04	8:30 a.m.	Helen Brooks
Fri. 02/05	8:30 a.m.	Chris Plonski (Barb Jones)
Sat. 02/06	8:30 a.m.	-No Mass-
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 02/07	8:30 a.m.	Agatha Tyzinski (Tim & Sherry Tyzinski)
	11:00 a.m.	Jack Case (Family)



FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

This Wednesday, February 3rd, is the Feast of St. Blaise. As is the custom we will bless throats at the 8:30 morning Mass on Wednesday.

There will be no blessing of the throats at 5 p.m. this year.

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

MARK 1:21-28

The people were spellbound...because he taught with authority and not like the scribes.

In my college freshman year, I studied under an extraordinary history professor. From the moment he walked in, the classroom became a stage where the history of Western Civilization was enacted. Dr. Robert Reid engaged our imagination with scenes from the past, making what happened in Athens 2,000 years ago come to life without using a single note! Until then, history was a series of dry events that happened long ago: dates, names, treaties, battles contained in the pages of lifeless textbooks to be memorized for a test and then quickly forgotten. But my view of life was changed during that semester. He taught like no one I had ever heard before. He taught with authority.

The people who listened to Jesus at the beginning of his ministry must have had a similar experience. Unlike the religious teachers with whom they were familiar - the scribes and the rabbis - Jesus spoke with authority. He did not quote the "experts"; he was the expert! Try to imagine how their hearts must have pounded as they listened to Jesus' words for the first time!

For Reflection: Today Jesus speaks to me with the same authority. Am I prepared to be amazed as I listen to his words?

Jerre Roberts



Winter Study – Catholicism with Bishop Robert Barron

Our presentation of "Catholicism: The Mystery and Majesty of the Church"



continues with episode 4 which will explore our human nature. It will be shown Monday at 7:00 p.m. and again on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. over Zoom. You don't have to watch every episode. To get the link, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Hope – Restoring the Heart



Felling unsettled? Need someone to talk to? Come together with a group of people who are restoring their heart through hope. As we share uplifting stories we can help each other move through these challenging

times. The next session is Tuesday, Feb 2, at noon. You can also attend this meeting by zoom. To obtain the Zoom meeting ID and passcode 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, please call Donna in the parish office for other arrangements. One on one sessions are also available.

Daytime Grief Support Group

Meets on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 3:00 p.m., (the First Tuesday of the month). When experiencing grief, the winter months can seem to drag on. Take some time to connect with others who can offer a word of hope.



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. If you are uncomfortable with zoom please contact Donna for other arrangements.

The next support group is Monday, Feb 15 at 7:00 p.m.



Newsletter Mailing Party

Help us fold the parish newsletter and stuff envelopes at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 8. We will spread out in Sperry Hall wearing our masks so that we are safe. If you can help, call Irene at 899-6132 or email

ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



Social Justice

"History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people." Martin Luther King Jr.

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.

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.



Book Group

Our next gathering of the book group will be Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea.

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.



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

FEBRUARY

Birthdays

3 Feb	Kathryn Lucas	18
9 Feb	Cooper Benson	11
10 Feb	Hunter Shoop	16
10 Feb	Brennan Murphy	16
11 Feb	Samuel Massella	5
11 Feb	Dean Massella	5
18 Feb	Sydney Kisiel	15
19 Feb	Ziek Moreno	18
19 Feb	Jaden Rocco	17
21 Feb	Calum Baker	2
24 Feb	Colin Gerrans	6
26 Feb	Blake Nguyen	11
28 Feb	Kinsley Durst	2
28 Feb	Zoe Maldonaldo	14

Prayer For A New Music Minister

**Ever-constant God,
You remain eternal and unchanged
while the earth spins us each day toward
a new sunrise and a new reality.**

**Help us as we search for a minister
of music and liturgy.**

**Strengthen us to live for a time
within the haze of uncertainty
assured that you are present with us
and already acting to provide for our
needs.**

**Open our hearts and minds
to recognize and welcome
into our midst a new guide
to engage our spiritual imagination,
touch our hearts and form us
ever more deeply in the spirit of the
liturgy.**

**We ask this through Christ, our Lord,
Amen.**

DIOCESE OF ERIE

FORWARD TOGETHER

2021 Catholic Services Appeal

The 2021 Catholic Services Appeal will be conducted throughout our diocese on February 14. The CSA is the main source of support for projects and services of the diocese which serve parishes and the wider community in northwestern Pennsylvania. Our diocese does the work of Christ and need your help to continue this important work.

Bishop Lawrence Persico assures us that donations to the 2021 CSA will not be used to fund the legal expenses of the diocese related to the Pennsylvania grand jury investigation on clergy sex abuse or to provide settlements for sexual abuse victims.

The CSA is essential to helping the Diocese of Erie fulfill its mission to evangelize, educate, serve, proclaim the Word, celebrate the sacraments, and provide hope to people in need. Your participation ensures the success of the CSA and is important to the health of our parish. Please join other Catholics from across the 13 counties of our diocese in supporting this important appeal.

January 31, 2021

WATCH

AN ORDINARY MARTYR: THE LIFE & DEATH OF BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER

As we celebrate the martyrdom of Paul Miki and his companions this week, we invite you to learn more about a modern martyr from the United States: Blessed Stanley Rother. Join us as we consider this ordinary man who loved extraordinarily.



LECTIO: MARY: EPISODE 1 THE NEW EVE

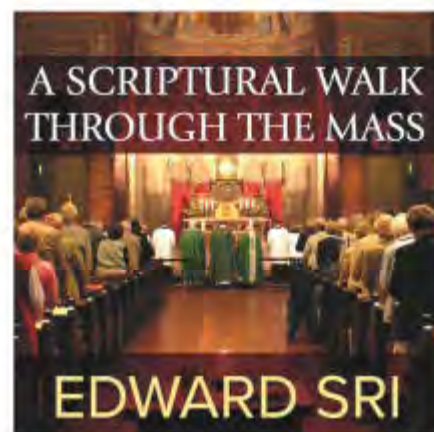
This week as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Mary's role in it, join Dr. Brant Pitre, Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, as he examines what the Old Testament reveals about the life and identity of Mary, the Mother of God.

LEARN

LISTEN

A SCRIPTURAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS BY EDWARD SRI

Have you ever wondered about the meaning behind the Mass? Are you looking to stop going through the motions at Mass? Join Dr. Edward Sri as he dives into the Scriptural roots of the Mass that will help you to pray the Mass like never before.



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