

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## 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*

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.*



Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out:  
"Hosanna!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"  
- Mk 11:9

Excerpts from the Labyrinth for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1979 CCD.

## March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord

## THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

|             |            |   |
|-------------|------------|---|
| Mon. 03/29  | 9:00 a.m.  | Quilters                                    |
|             | 9:30 a.m.  | Steel Magnolias SCC                         |
|             | 5:30 p.m.  | Sisters of Scripture SCC                    |
| Tue. 03/30  | 7:00 p.m.  | Holy Week<br>Meditation Video               |
| Wed. 03/31  |            |   |
| Thur. 04/01 |            | <b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>                        |
|             | 7:00 p.m.  | Holy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper |
| Fri. 04/02  |            | <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>                          |
|             |            | Parish Office Closed                        |
|             | 9:00 a.m.  | Morning Prayer                              |
|             | 1:00 p.m.  | Stations of the Cross                       |
|             | 3:00 p.m.  | Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion  |
| Sat. 04/03  |            | <b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>                        |
|             | 9:00 a.m.  | Morning Prayer                              |
|             | 11:30 a.m. | Blessing of Easter Food                     |
|             | 9:00 p.m.  | The Great Easter Vigil                      |
| Sun. 04/04  |            | <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>                        |
|             | 8:30 a.m.  | Easter Mass                                 |
|             | 11:00 a.m. | Easter Mass                                 |

## OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 2nd and Easter Monday, April 5th. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, April 6th from 9am-3pm.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

|             |                    |   |
|-------------|--------------------|---|
| Mon. 03/29  | Is 42:1-7          | / Jn 12:1-11                            |
| Tue. 03/30  | Is 49:1-6          | / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38                    |
| Wed. 03/31  | Is 50:4-9a         | / Mt 26:14-25                           |
| Thur. 04/01 | Ex 12:1-8, 11-14   | / 1 Cor 11:23-26<br>/ Jn 13:1-15        |
| Fri. 04/02  | Is 52:13-53:12     | / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9<br>/ Jn 18:1-19:42 |
| Sat. 04/03  | Ex 14:15-15:1      | / Rom 6:3-11<br>/ Mk 16:1-7             |
| Sun. 04/04  | Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | / 1 Cor 5:6b-8<br>/ Mk 16:1-7           |

## We Remember...

Betty Weber, mother of Jim Weber; who passed away recently.

*Loving Memory*

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of March 21, 2021

|                         |     |                    |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Envelopes sent:         | 357 |                    |
| Envelopes returned:     | 44  | \$ 3,108.00        |
| Faith Direct Deposits:  | 133 | \$ 3,441.08        |
| Loose Change:           |     | \$ 35.00           |
| <b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b> |     | <b>\$ 6,584.08</b> |

## 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. 03/29  | 8:30 a.m.  | Helen Hollister<br>(Andrea Maille)  |
| Tue. 03/30  | 8:30 a.m.  | Robert Riefstahl                    |
| Wed. 03/31  | 8:30 a.m.  | Harry Extein<br>(The Extein Family) |
| Thur. 04/01 | 7:00 p.m.  | Liturgy of the Lord's Supper        |
| Fri. 04/02  | 9:00 a.m.  | Morning Prayer                      |
|             | 3:00 p.m.  | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion       |
| Sat. 04/03  | 9:00 a.m.  | Morning Prayer                      |
|             | 9:00 p.m.  | The Great Easter Vigil              |
| Sun. 04/04  | 8:30 a.m.  | For the People of OLM               |
|             | 11:00 a.m. | For the People of OLM               |

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

**MARK 11:1-10**

If anyone should say to you, "Why are you doing this?"

It almost sounds like stealing. In cowboy country, stealing a donkey might not quite reach the level of horse-thievery, but you can bet your boots it would be a serious matter. The disciples are to allay any objections with the assurances that "the Master has need of it and will send it back here at once." Let someone try that with your car.

I sometimes wonder if discipleship isn't presented as too tame an affair today. Perhaps it is a sign that we have put a dull edge to our responses to the Master's call if no one who observes our deeds in Jesus' name is tempted to ask, with at least a touch of curiosity, "Why are you doing this?"

On the other hand, it might be just the question to ask ourselves as we get out of bed in the morning. Why am I doing this? Despite the temptation to shrug our shoulders and fall back onto our pillow, it is great to know we have been given the answer: the Master has need of us. We can pray every day that we are helping the Master to make a triumphant entry into our lives.

For Reflection: What am I doing to attract attention from the Lord?

Clifford Yeary



### Daytime Grief Support Group

On Tuesday April 6 at 3 p.m. the grief support group will meet in the parlor. As the months pass after a loved one dies we begin to slowly feel better, the pain is not so intense. Then quite unexpectedly we find ourselves in the hole of despair again and it seems worse than before. This is actually part of the normal process. Connecting with others who experience the same thing can help to heal. If you would like to connect by Zoom please contact Donna Clark [dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



### Question & Answer With the Pastor

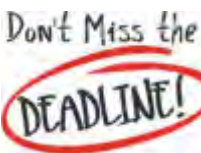


Let's gather for a conversation about faith with Fr. Ritchie before the warm weather sends us outdoors in the evening. Join us Wednesday, April 14 at 7:00 via

Zoom (hopefully this will be the last time we will have to hold it over Zoom). A special invitation is extended to members of Small Christian Communities. We might not be able to have some of the in-person gatherings that we have enjoyed in the past, but we can gather with our pastor for this evening of spiritual growth and fellowship. A prize will be given to the SFC with the most members present. To get the Zoom link, email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) by noon on April 13.

### Book Group

We will be discussing The Prayer Box by Lisa Wingate on April 21 at 7:00 p.m.. Want to read ahead? Our May title will be This Is Happiness by Niall Williams



### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for the spring issue of *For Mercy Sake* is April 25. Send items to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

### Holiday Cards needed for the Homebound

The homebound ministry is looking for holiday greeting cards. If you would like to donate please bring to the parish office, attention Donna Clark. Thank you.



### Holy Week Family Resources from the Diocese of Erie



Starting on Palm Sunday, the diocesan Office of Faith Formation will be sharing a slate of prayers, video reflections, and family activities for Holy Week at the website listed below. These activities are designed particularly for the needs of

those not yet able to worship in-person, but they are open to everyone. The website will include prayer resources relevant to all ages, including people who live alone and young families. <https://www.eriecd.org/holyweekathome.html>

## FORMED.ORG

FORMED

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.

# Triduum at Our Lady of Mercy

**HOLY THURSDAY** April 1  
7:00 p.m.  
LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**HOLY SATURDAY** April 3  
9:00 a.m.  
MORNING PRAYER  
11:30 a.m.  
BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

**GOOD FRIDAY** April 2  
9:00 a.m.  
MORNING PRAYER  
1:00 p.m.  
OUTDOOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
3:00 p.m.  
LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

**THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL**  
Saturday, April 3  
9:00 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY** April 4  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



### Meals for People in Need.

If you or someone you know could use a hot meal delivered to your house periodically, please let Donna Clark know. Residents of Harborcreek have extra food that they need to cook and give away. Perhaps you live alone and cooking for one is discouraging, so a hot meal once a week could be a great boost. Perhaps you are recovering from an illness and just do not have the energy to cook.



### Year of St Joseph Raffle

Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of St. Joseph in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as patron of the Universal Church. We hear so little about St Joseph in the bible. We propose a "trivia raffle" to celebrate this event. **Starting March 19, the Feast of St Joseph and ending May 1, the Feast of St Joseph the worker, submit a piece of trivia about St Joseph for posting on our website and Facebook page. Tell us where you found the information. For every submission your name will be entered into a drawing for a Fiddle Inn gift certificate. We will have multiple winners. Send facts to [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or stop in the office with a written copy.**



## Social Justice

“Learn to do good.  
Make justice your aim;  
Redress the wronged.  
Hear the orphan’s plea;  
Defend the widow.  
Isaiah 1:17



## Save-The-Date... ...and get ready to SMILE!

OLM Photo Directory Pictures  
will be taken

**August 3rd  
through  
August 7th, 2021!**



Stay tuned to the bulletin and OLM website  
for more information.



|         |                       |    |
|---------|-----------------------|----|
| Apr. 2  | Luke Bradley          | 1  |
| Apr. 4  | Eileen Drotar         | 4  |
| Apr. 4  | Maria Allegretto      | 12 |
| Apr. 6  | Ava Still             | 4  |
| Apr. 11 | Gweneviere Wilczynski | 6  |
| Apr. 11 | Mariska Habursky      | 14 |
| Apr. 15 | Kathryn Gilchrist     | 18 |
| Apr. 15 | Samantha Bryan        | 13 |
| Apr. 17 | Alex Lunger           | 15 |
| Apr. 18 | Alexandra Bryan       | 9  |
| Apr. 21 | Braeden Knepper       | 11 |
| Apr. 22 | Isla Duda             | 3  |
| Apr. 22 | Lydia Hordych         | 4  |
| Apr. 29 | Patrick Wuerstle      | 2  |
| Apr. 29 | Kara Taccone          | 5  |
| Apr. 30 | Hannah Smith          | 15 |
| Apr. 30 | Giovanni Colletta     | 12 |



## Prayer For A New Director of Music & Liturgy

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.

Our Lady of Mercy Roman Catholic Church, Harborcreek, PA is seeking a Director of Music and Liturgy. The full-time Director of Music and Liturgy is actively engaged in the worship life of the parish and leads a music ministry program that includes a mix of cantors, a 20+ voice choir and various instrumentalists to support three liturgies a weekend. Candidates must possess a bachelor’s degree in music or equivalent experience; strong keyboard skills; vocal skills; and be open to different styles of music; knowledge and understanding of Catholic liturgy and the ability to plan liturgies; excellent organizational and communication skills. For the complete ad for this full-time position check our parish website. Applicants should send a cover letter and resume with salary requirements and three named references to [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

Applicants are encouraged to include a link demonstrating their musical proficiencies and to visit <https://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org/> to learn more about Our Lady of Mercy.

*New Hiring*



# APRIL 2021

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday  |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| 28<br>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS<br>Palm Sunday<br>9:45 AM Rel Ed Gr K-8<br>12:00 PM Gr 7 & 8 Youth Event | 29<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Quilters<br>9:30 AM Steel Magnolias SCC<br>5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture | 30<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>2:00 PM Prayer Shawl<br>7:00 PM Holy Week Meditation Video<br>7:30 PM AA                         | 31<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough  | 1<br>Holy Thursday<br>1:00 PM Legion of Mary<br>7:00 PM Holy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper                                       | 2<br>Good Friday<br>Parish Office Closed<br>9:00 AM Morning Prayer<br>1:00 PM Stations of the Cross<br>3:00 PM Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion | 3<br>Holy Saturday<br>9:00 AM Morning Prayer<br>10:00 AM AA<br>11:30 AM Blessing of Easter Food<br>9:00 PM The Great Easter Vigil |
| 4<br>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS<br>Easter Sunday  | 5<br>Parish Office Closed<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Quilters<br>9:30 AM Steel Magnolias              | 6<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>2:00 PM Prayer Shawl<br>3:00 PM Grief Support<br>7:00 PM Pastoral Council<br>7:30 PM Sophia's SCC | 7<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough   | 8<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Painting Class<br>1:00 PM Legion of Mary<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl   | 9<br>8:30 AM Mass   | 10<br>10:00 AM AA<br>4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance<br>6:00 PM Mass   |
| 11<br>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS<br>9:45 AM Rel Ed Gr K-8   | 12<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Quilters<br>9:30 AM Steel Magnolias<br>5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture     | 13<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>2:00 PM Hallelujah Girls<br>2:00 PM Prayer Shawl<br>6:45 PM Roman Candles<br>7:30 PM AA          | 14<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough<br>7:00 PM Knights of Columbus<br>7:00 PM Question & Answer with the Pastor - Zoom | 15<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Painting Class<br>9:30 AM Social Justice Committee - Zoom<br>1:00 PM Legion of Mary<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl | 16<br>8:30 AM Mass  | 17<br>10:00 AM AA<br>4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance<br>6:00 PM Mass   |
| 18<br>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS<br>9:00 AM Gr. 9 & 10 Retreat<br>9:45 AM Rel Ed Gr K-8                   | 19<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Quilters<br>9:30 AM Steel Magnolias<br>7:00 PM Grief Support Group      | 20<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>2:00 PM Prayer Shawl<br>7:00 PM LFF Mtg.<br>7:00 PM Sophia's<br>7:30 PM AA                       | 21<br>8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough<br>7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP                      | 22<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Painting Class<br>1:00 PM Legion of Mary<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl  | 23<br>8:30 AM Mass  | 24<br>8:45 AM First Eucharist Retreat<br>10:00 AM AA<br>4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance<br>6:00 PM Mass                              |
| 25<br>8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS<br>Newsletter Deadline<br>9:45 AM Rel Ed Gr K-8                          | 26<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Quilters<br>9:30 AM Steel Magnolias<br>5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture     | 27<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>2:00 PM Prayer Shawl<br>6:45 PM Roman Candles<br>7:30 PM AA                                      | 28<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough  | 29<br>8:30 AM Mass<br>9:00 AM Painting Class<br>1:00 PM Legion of Mary<br>6:00 PM Prayer Shawl  | 30<br>8:30 AM Mass  | 1<br>First Eucharist<br>9:00 AM First Eucharist Practice<br>10:00 AM AA<br>4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance<br>6:00 PM Mass           |



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