

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • 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

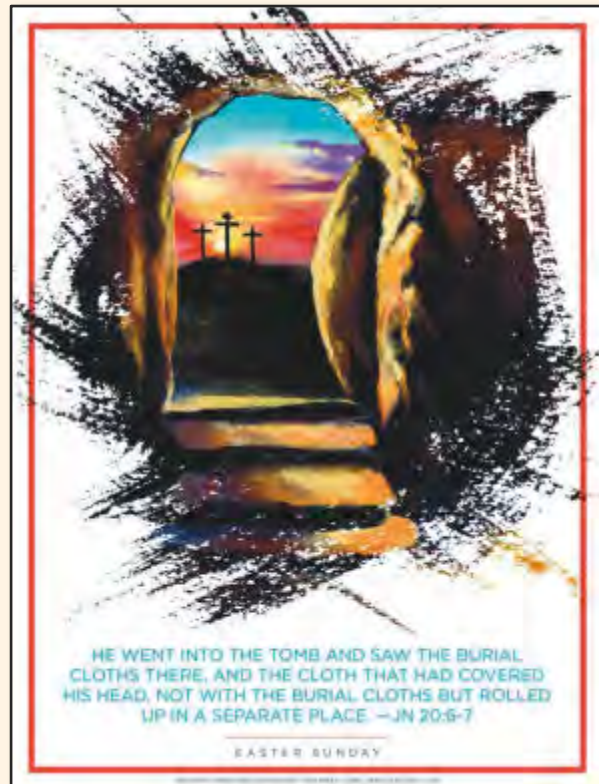
Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

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.



APRIL 4, 2021 - EASTER SUNDAY

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Mon. 04/05	Parish Office Closed	
Tue. 04/06	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	3:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	7:00 p.m.	Sophia's SCC
Wed. 04/07	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
Thur. 04/08	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 04/09		
Sat. 04/10	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/11	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-8

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/05	Acts 2:14, 22-33	/ Mt 28:8-15
Tue. 04/06	Acts 2:36-41	/ Jn 20:11-18
Wed. 04/07	Acts 3:1-10	/ Lk 24:13-35
Thur. 04/08	Acts 3:11-26	/ Lk 24:35-48
Fri. 04/09	Acts 4:1-12	/ Jn 21:1-14
Sat. 04/10	Acts 4:13-21	/ Mk 16:9-15
Sun. 04/11	Acts 4:32-35 / 1 Jn 5:1-6 / Jn 20:19-31	

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of March 28, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	54	\$ 3,138.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$ 3,478.58
Loose Change:		\$ 40.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,656.58

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. 04/05	8:30 a.m.	Ann Carlotti
Tue. 04/06	8:30 a.m.	Leo Kosobucki (Marilyn Garwig)
Wed. 04/07	8:30 a.m.	Joyce Baum (Margaret McCurdy)
Thur. 04/08	8:30 a.m.	Mary Ann Spring (John Abbate)
Fri. 04/09	8:30 a.m.	Dedication of OLM
Sat. 04/10	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
	6:00 p.m.	John Eckendorf (Gerri Extein)
Sun. 04/11	8:30 a.m.	Dan Sweeney (Carole Peters)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM



ALLELUIA!

May the Glory of our Risen Lord, which we celebrate in the Easter season, be with you, your family and friends.

Father Ritchie and Staff of
Our Lady of Mercy

OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 5th.

Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, April 6th from 9am-3pm.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



JOHN 20:1-9

She ran and went to Simon Peter . . .

I am often struck by the excited, spontaneous responses evoked by Jesus in those who encountered him. Hearing his call, fishermen abandoned family and trade; touched by his healing hand - and despite his plea to the contrary - the healed went forth to speak his praises; liberated from the weight of sin by his unbounded mercy, the forgiven leapt in joyful freedom.

Reflecting on such spontaneity, I ask myself: am I as quick to follow Jesus, to proclaim him, to persevere in freedom? After all, I am every bit as much called, healed, and forgiven as they.

John reports that Jesus' Resurrection evoked just such excitement in Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the beloved disciple. Mary "ran" to tell Peter, who with the other disciple "ran" to see for themselves. Seeing, breathless, they believed.

The implications of his rising were enormous: not simply a rabbi, a healer, a reconciler, Jesus was God's Son, who destroyed the grasp of death. The Risen One had opened the door to eternal life.

For Reflection: Am I slow to understand the Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead, or will I run in excited faith, proclaiming his Resurrection by a changed life?

Bishop J. Peter Sartain

Day Time 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



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 by noon on April 13.

High School Retreat

A retreat open to all high school youth will take place on **Sunday, April 18 from 9:00-2:00**. This is an event jointly sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy and St. Mark and will be held at St. Mark parish. It will be presented by Nick Heise on the theme of "Following Jesus". The retreat is free and open to all. Because it will include lunch, we need to know who is coming. RSVP to ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org by April 11.



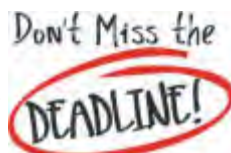
Book Group



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



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.

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.

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



YEAR OF St Joseph
8 DEC 2020 - 8 DEC 2021

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 or stop in the office with a written copy.

Wishing Brandon Well



After all Masses next weekend **April 10 & 11** there will be an opportunity to say goodbye and wish Brandon well in his new job and continued ministry to the people of God.

For those who are not yet attending Mass in person there will be an opportunity for a drive by farewell on **Sunday April 11 at 12:30 p.m.**

Social Justice

The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within reach, is joy. There is radiance and glory in the darkness, could we but see, and to see, we have only to look. I beseech you to look. Fra. Giovanni 1513



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.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Reporting known or suspected child abuse is everyone's responsibility: It is every adult's moral responsibility to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minors is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the current Pennsylvania state report there were 5,202 substantiated reports of child abuse in Pennsylvania during 2019. 2,087 or 40% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse, 1,448 were physical abuse. To report suspected abuse of a minor, call Childline at 1-800-932-0323 (anytime 24/7). For particular questions on reporting abuse you may call: **Cindy Zemcik**, Coordinator for the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth in the Diocese of Erie at 814-824-1195.



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

New Hiring



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. 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.



Church of Miracles!

Word of Life

Greater Things Luncheon

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES

*"My flesh is real food and my
blood is real drink"*

Come in 'believing.' Walk out '**BELIEVING!**'

Speaker: Dr Jaci Phillips Worship: Harmony's House

Saturday April 17 9:30-1:00

St Joseph Bread of Life Community Center

147 W 24th ST, ERIE

\$10 Live and for livestream

www.eriescd.org/wordoflife/miracles.html or

T.A. at Word Of Life 814-824-1286

Live registrations by 4/15 - Lunch provided for live event (proper precautions)

Mail: check payable to Word of Life CCRC, 429 E Grandview, Erie, PA, 16514

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