

# 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*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

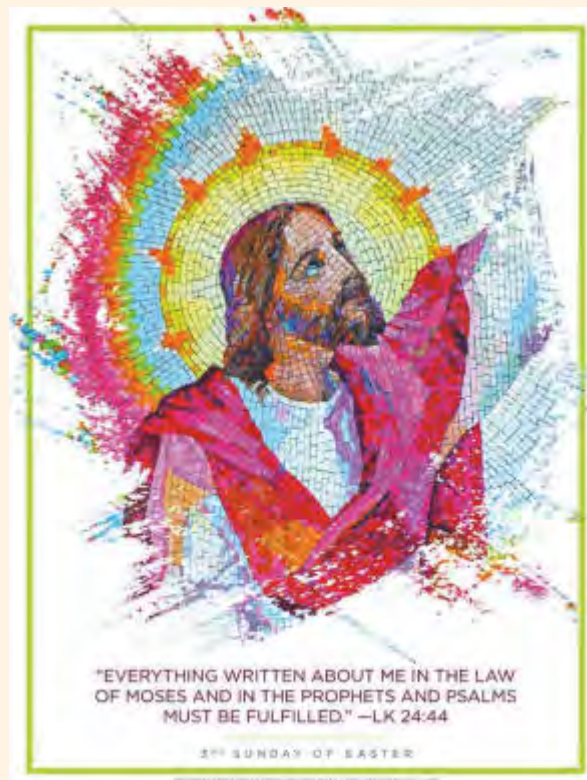
Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

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.*



# APRIL 18, 2021 - 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 04/19	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steal Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 04/20	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
	7:00 p.m.	Sophia's SCC
Wed. 04/21	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 04/22	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:15 a.m.	Easter Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Easter Prayer - Zoom
Fri. 04/23		
Sat. 04/24	8:45 a.m.	First Eucharist Retreat
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/25		<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-6
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of April 11, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	57	\$ 5,157.40
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$ 3,511.58
Loose Change:		\$ 58.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 8,726.98</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/19	Acts 6:8-15	/ Jn 6:22-29
Tue. 04/20	Acts 7:51-8:1a	/ Jn 6:30-35
Wed. 04/21	Acts 8:1b-8	/ Jn 6:35-40
Thur. 04/22	Acts 8:26-40	/ Jn 6:44-51
Fri. 04/23	Acts 9:1-20	/ Jn 6:52-59
Sat. 04/24	Acts 9:31-42	/ Jn 6:60-69
Sun. 04/25	Acts 4:8-12 / 1 Jn 3:1-2 / Jn 10:11-18	

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 04/19	8:30 a.m.	<b>Norm Schlosser</b> (Dave & Marilyn Rinke)
Tue. 04/20	8:30 a.m.	<b>Louis Spizarny</b> (Mary Kathryn Kitch & Sue Doss)
Wed. 04/21	8:30 a.m.	<b>Helen Hollister</b> (John Abbate)
Thur. 04/22	8:30 a.m.	<b>Denny Smith</b> (Janet Smith)
Fri. 04/23	8:30 a.m.	<b>The Intentions of Our Lady</b> (Todd Beckes)
Sat. 04/24	8:30 a.m.	<del>NO MASS</del>
	6:00 p.m.	<b>Larry Rogers</b> (Carol Rogers)
Sun. 04/25	8:30 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>Mary Ann Spring</b> (The Tyzinski's)

## We Remember...

Mark Kubeja - brother of Judy Hess who passed away recently.

*Loving Memory*

Please hold him and his family in prayer during this difficult time.

## 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

LUKE 24:35-48

"THEY WERE STARTLED AND TERRIFIED AND THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE SEEING A GHOST."

As our parish celebrated Easter, a child asked, "How is Jesus with us today? Is he here like a ghost?" The disciples asked the same question on the first Easter day. Jesus responded by inviting them to look at his wounds, touch him, and give him something to eat. He wanted them to be sure that he was not a ghost.

Have you ever wished that you could have been there to share that gift of physical contact with the body of the Risen Lord? Jesus has given us a greater gift, the gift of the Spirit, a gift the disciples had not yet received. Their capacity to experience Jesus was limited to their senses and the powers of their minds to understand. The Spirit would enable them and us to move beyond that time and place to encounter Jesus in all of the ways he promised.

We can understand the Scriptures, experience the forgiveness of sins, know him in the Eucharist, and find him in his witnesses. We are called to be his witnesses. Our Lord is not a ghostly being. He is with us and we can encounter him in ways that transform us.

**For Reflection: In what ways do I encounter Jesus in the normal routine of my life? Can I sense the Spirit's presence?**

*Richard Oswald*



### Evening Grief Support Group

On Monday April 19 at 7 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)



### 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

### Easter Prayer Opportunity

Pray with the resurrection stories through the season of Easter. Allow God to speak to you through a group Lectio Divina model of slow thoughtful reading interspersed with periods of silence and directed prayer. In person on **Thursdays at 9:15 a.m.** or on Zoom **Thursdays at 7:00pm.** Contact Donna Clark for the Zoom link at [dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or check our parish web site.



### First Eucharist Retreat



The First Eucharist retreat will be held **Saturday, April 24 @ 8:45.** This retreat is a requirement prior to celebrating First Eucharist. The current First Eucharist group and those children who were unable to attend the retreat in 2020 because of COVID should attend this retreat with a parent.

### 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)



### Looking for assistance with housing maintenance?



Up to \$3,000 in assistance is available to low income homeowners in the form of mini grants. Assistance can include emergency repairs or necessary housing maintenance needs. For further questions, contact Theresa Walsh, assistant grant administrator, at 814-870-1262 or [twalsh@erie.pa.us](mailto:twalsh@erie.pa.us) or see the flyer on the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space for more information.

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## 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 desire to prepare meals to 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.

### Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.



## 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.

## Social Justice

"All creatures are like syllables in a song which God is singing." Thomas Merton



### Fr. Dan Horan: "Urgent Explorations of Global Climate Change and the Consistent Ethic of Life."

Guest speaker for Mercyhurst 51st annual Sister Maura Smith Earth Day Lecture April 22, at 7 p.m., Free, public via Zoom. To register go to <https://mercyhurst.edu/news/fr-dan-horan-explores-global-climate-change-at-mercyhurst-earth-day-lecture>

### Erie Earth Day Website

The Erie Earth Day Planning Committee is organizing Erie regional Earth Day events around the theme "Restore Our Earth". Erie Earth Day events will take place from Saturday, April 17 through Earth Day on Thursday, April 22. Find schedules, actions, resources, connections all on the [Erie Earth Day website](#). And the [Facebook page](#).

## Job Posting

### Lawrence Park Golf Club Server Needed

Looking for reliable, outgoing team members! Must be able to multi-task, be a team player, function in a fast paced environment, and be enthusiastic with a positive attitude! Experience preferred but not required! Must be available daytime and weekends! **Job Types:** Full-time, Part-time **Pay:** From \$7.25 per hour **COVID-19 considerations:** All customers are required to wear a mask, curbside pickup available, common used surfaces sanitized regularly. Please email resume to [banquets@lawrenceparkgc.com](mailto:banquets@lawrenceparkgc.com) or call to set up a time to fill out an application! 814-899-0257 ext 2.

### Free Anderson Casement Storm Windows

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3 - 23 3/4 x 25 3/4	3 - 3/4 thick x 36 1/2 x 34
Wooden Dormer Type	1/4
2 - 55 3/4 x 17 1/2	

Call the Parish Office at 814-899-5342 to schedule a pick up time.

## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

### Child Abuse Prevention Month



The "Creating A Safe Environment" training program is an integral component to the prevention effort in our diocese. The mandated program trains employees and volunteers in the warning signs of abuse and how to report suspected abuse of a minor. Since 2003 over 60,000 adults in the diocese have received the training to recognize and report child abuse. With the help of the safe environment training program, the faithful are guided and educated about the responsibility to keep God's children protected and safe. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to take the training program or learn what is required for employees and volunteers to work with children in diocesan parishes/schools/agencies.

## 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](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.

*We've hosted a Men's Conference.  
We've hosted a Women's Conference.*



NET MINISTRIES

**Guess what!  
It's the Youth's turn!**

## **YOUTH CONFERENCE**

with NET MINISTRIES

**FRIDAY APRIL 23RD**

**6PM-9PM**

**Saint Mark the Evangelist Social Hall**

*Remember what defines you. Who are you? A soccer player? A dancer? The funny guy? The nice girl? There is one identity you don't have to earn and cannot be taken away... Come learn about yours!*

This Conference is open to all 6th-12th grade students with their friends, and family! It is open to all local Parishes, Schools, and Communities.

**RSVP for this event to [sbadowski@smmc.church](mailto:sbadowski@smmc.church) by April 18!**

## **GOOD SHEPHERD COLLECTION**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 2007, the Diocese of Erie established the Good Shepherd Collection so that parishioners can show their appreciation and love for their priests – those already retired and those who will follow them in the years to come.

In our parishes countless lives have changed because of these good and holy priests. They were with us every step of the way, celebrating baptisms, witnessing marriage vows and presiding at the funerals of loved ones. Now it is our turn to help those priests who have ministered to our spiritual needs. As the number of retired priests increases, so does the challenge and responsibility to care for them. Although they may be “retired,” many remain active, providing sacramental ministry in parishes.

The response to the annual Good Shepherd Collection has been one of overwhelming generosity by you, the people of the Diocese! It tells me that you love these priests who have devoted their entire priesthood to God and to you. The Good Shepherd Collection provides for them in their retirement years. The income generated from this annual collection assists with needed funds toward their care and health related

expenses and revenue for the Retirement Pension Plan for them and the priests who serve you now.

Contributions for the “Good Shepherd Collection” can be made the weekend of April 24-25 at your parish, or online anytime at: [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org). Every contribution is greatly appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of our priests. This collection should not be confused with the Retirement Fund for Religious, which is taken in December for sisters, brothers and priests belonging to religious orders. That collection does not benefit our diocesan priests.

Please pray for all the priests of our Diocese on Good Shepherd Sunday. May we be blessed with more seminarians willing to respond to the call of the Lord to priesthood. Our priests join me in thanking you for your kindness and generosity, especially toward our retired priests through this annual Good Shepherd Collection.

May the joy of the Risen Christ fill your hearts and homes this Easter season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*† Lawrence T. Persico*

The Most Reverent Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
Bishop of Erie

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