

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*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

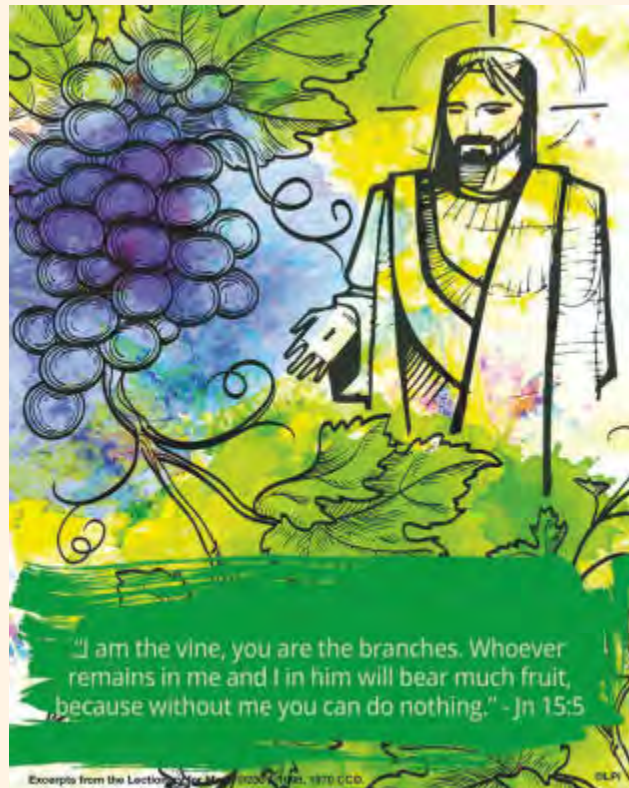
Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

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.



MAY 2, 2021 - 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 05/03	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steal Magnolias SCC
Tue. 05/04	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	3:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council Meeting
Wed. 05/05	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 05/06	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
Fri. 05/07		
Sat. 05/08	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/09		

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



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of April 25, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	52	\$ 3,793.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$ 3,511.58
Loose Change:		\$ 100.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,404.58

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/03	1 Cor 15:1-8	/ Jn 14:6-14
Tue. 05/04	Acts 14:19-28	/ Jn 14:27-31a
Wed. 05/05	Acts 15:1-6	/ Jn 15:1-8
Thur. 05/06	Acts 15:7-21	/ Jn 15:9-11
Fri. 05/07	Acts 15:22-31	/ Jn 15:12-17
Sat. 05/08	Acts 16:1-10	/ Jn 15:18-21
Sun. 05/09	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48	
	1 Jn 4:7-10	/ Jn 15:9-17

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 15:1-8

"WHOEVER REMAINS IN ME AND I IN HIM WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT."

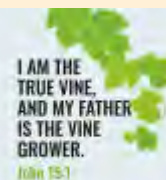
John frequently writes of what theologians call the "mutual indwelling" - Christ in the Christian and the Christian in Christ. This Gospel reading is one of the most vivid of these analogies. While the vine and the branches are distinct from one another, they are of the same seamless substance. Our "indwelling" with Christ occurs through our sharing in his life, flowing through his word and the sacraments.

Although God wills it for us, we must take deliberate steps to bring about this shared life. We engage Jesus in prayerful conversation and in listening. We are strengthened, forgiven, and nourished in his sacramental offering of grace. We make difficult choices, denying ourselves at times, to build up the Body of Christ. We accept the pruning by his word which cuts away that part of us which does not bear good fruit.

Taking these deliberate steps with a firm faith in God, assured of his boundless love and forgiveness, and opening ourselves to his Spirit dwelling within us, we in turn dwell in Christ Jesus. Then through him, with him, and in him, and never apart from him, we will bear good fruit: loving one another and keeping God's commandments.

For Reflection: In what ways am I taking steps to embrace my life in Christ and Christ's life in me?

Dan Hennessey



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.



We Remember...

Patricia Murzynski, & Catherine Lewis
- mother of Cindy Duda,
who passed away recently.

Loving Memory

Please hold her and her family in prayer during this difficult time.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/03	8:30 a.m.	John Nowakowski (Dianne Hoover)
Tue. 05/04	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)
Wed. 05/05	8:30 a.m.	Fran & Sally Talerico (Sandra Jordan)
Thur. 05/06	8:30 a.m.	Leo Kosobucki (Morning Mass Group)
Fri. 05/07	8:30 a.m.	Dr. John Kruas
Sat. 05/08	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
	6:00 p.m.	All Mothers Living and Deceased
Sun. 05/09	8:30 a.m.	All Mothers Living and Deceased
	11:00 a.m.	All Mothers Living and Deceased

Daytime Grief Support Group

Tuesday, May 4 at 3 p.m. the grief support group will meet in the parlor. Many normal activities can affect our grief. Usually there is a connection to the person we lost. It could be seeing their favorite food in the grocery store and then being overcome with a wave of sadness. It could be driving by a restaurant that you used to visit often. It is hard to predict what will affect us but the pain is diminished by sharing with others. If you would like to connect by Zoom please contact Donna Clark dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org



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. On Thursday May 6 at 9:15 a.m. in person.

Newsletter Mailing Party

We need help to fold the newsletter and stuff the envelopes. If you can help us prepare the May issue of For Mercy Sake for the mail, join us in Sperry Hall at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 17. Wear your mask. Please let Irene know if you can help by calling 814-899-6132 or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org



Book Group



We will be discussing This Is Happiness by Niall Williams on May 19 at 7:00 p.m. Want to read ahead? Our June book will be The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman. Questions about joining us, contact Irene Lucas at the church.

Welcome to the Table

Congratulations to our young people who celebrated their First Eucharist this weekend. May your love for the Blessed Sacrament grow stronger every day of your life.



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.

Knights of Columbus Annual Blood Drive

At Lynch Home Medical Supply, 4020 Main St. Lawrence Park, PA. From 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on May 8, 2021. Carnival foods will be for sale on site. All those who donate blood or make a monetary donation to the blood bank will receive free giveaways and a chance to win a \$100 gift card. Please support the Knights of Columbus and your Community Blood Bank and save a life, DONATE TODAY!



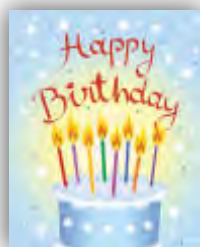
**OUR LADY OF MERCY
Is 75 YEARS OLD!**



Weather permitting, we will have our first celebration of our 75th anniversary as a parish with a picnic in our pavilion after the 11:00 Mass on May 16. We need help with set up and clean up. If you can help, sign up on the easel in the Gathering Space. If you will be joining us for the picnic, please let us know by signing up in the Gathering Space or by calling the parish office by May 10.

May Birthdays!

1 May	Josie Hicks	15
3 May	Boden Gushie	16
3 May	Bailey Festa	18
4 May	Colton Wuerstle	12
6 May	Liam Marshall	12
6 May	Charley Hamilton	8
7 May	Elizabeth Gunther	15
7 May	Madden Inthavong	10
8 May	Isabella McKeel	11
9 May	Logan Taccone	8



10 May	Jordyn Nowak	17
11 May	Dakota Pohl	12
14 May	Caroline Weber	17
14 May	Gavin Galbreath	10
16 May	Aubrey Shamburg	5
17 May	Johnathan Catrabone	9
21 May	Jordon Pohl	11
21 May	Emma McKeel	18
23 May	Landon Ford	13
23 May	Leo Martin	2
25 May	Eoin Eighmy	11
26 May	Nora Weiss	11
27 May	Milo Hamilton	10
28 May	Sam Parente	16
30 May	Joseph Skelly	2



Social Justice

"Imagine the vanity of thinking that your enemy can do you more damage than your enmity." -St. Augustine



Walk to end homelessness in Erie.

EUMA and Highmark are teaming up for a 5K walk on **May 29** to raise money to house those in need locally. You can participate in 3 ways:

1. Join the walk at 10:00 a.m. on May 29 from The Refuge to Liberty House.
2. Walk on your own at any time during the month of May and send your contribution to EUMA.
3. Support a walker. Members of the Social Justice Committee will be walking. You can make a financial contribution by giving it to Irene Lucas at the parish.

"Bless the LORD, my soul; all my being, bless his holy name!
Bless the LORD, my soul; and do not forget all his gifts..."
Psalm 103: 1-2



"Then let us
Celebrate
with a feast..." Luke 14:23

The Son of God Prayer Group invites you to celebrate with us at a Healing Mass with:

Rev. Jonathan Schmolt

Join us at Holy Rosary Church
2701 East Ave. at 28th St., Erie, PA 16504
for a

Healing Mass

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Music by - Jaci Phillips Sabol, starting at 6:15

Doors open at 5:30 P.M.

Individual prayers following the Mass.

QUESTIONS? Call; Pat - 814-823-3968

Masks and Social Distancing Required

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.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Digital safety and keeping your child's personal information personal

If your child gives out personal information over the internet, it is easy to track and tough to completely remove. Teach your children to never give out personal information, such as: full name, address, phone number, email, school, or birthday on any



social media site. Help your child set up strong passwords (alphanumeric) and do a yearly checkup on passwords. Adjust privacy settings for online games, apps, social media sites and your child's electronic devices. Don't forget to check the GPS settings ability to unintentionally share your child's location. Avoid using public wi-fi when sharing personal information. Visit <https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

The Collection for International Needs

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ: The Collection for International Needs provides us with opportunity to broaden our charitable horizons by reaching out to our suffering brothers and sisters throughout the world. This annual collection, to be taken up in the Diocese of Erie the weekend of May 15 and 16, is a combination of the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, the Catholic Relief Services Collection and the collection for the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. It offers a concrete way for us to reach out to those who live in lands and cultures far from our own.

- It helps build churches and train and educate seminarians, clergy, and lay leaders in Central and Eastern Europe;

- It provides for the victims of war and natural disasters, and aids the Church suffering under persecution;
- It provides needed material assistance to the Church in Africa, which is growing rapidly, but has few resources.

I ask you to please give generously to the Collection for International Needs on May 15-16. Just as importantly, please include those in need in your prayers. Be assured of my prayers for you, your families and your parishes.



Sincerely yours in Christ,
+Lawrence T. Persico
The Most Reverend Bishop of Erie

MAY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Newsletter Deadline 9:45 AM Rel.Ed Gr.K-6 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event	26 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture	27 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Hallelujah Girls 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Roman Candles 7:30 PM AA	28 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	29 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:15 AM Easter Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM Easter Prayer - zoom	30 8:30 AM Mass	1 First Eucharist 9:00 AM First Eucharist Practice 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>
2 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF First Eucharist Monthly Food Pantry Collection	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	4 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 3:00 PM Grief Support Group 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	5 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	6 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	7 8:30 AM Mass	8 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>
9 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS	10 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture	11 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:45 PM Roman Candles 7:30 PM AA	12 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 5:30 PM VBS Planning Mtg 6:30 PM AGIFT Mtg 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus	13 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 1:30 PM Social Justice Committee 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	14 8:30 AM Mass	15 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>
16 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 12:00 PM Parrish Picnic	17 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Newsletter Mailing Party 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 3:00 PM Photo Directory Mtg 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	18 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 7:30 PM AA	19 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	20 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	21 8:30 AM Mass	22 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>
23 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS	24 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture 7:00 PM Pastoral Facilitator Mtg	25 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:30 PM AA	26 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	27 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	28 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Ordination Live Stream	29 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>
30 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS	31 Memorial Day - Parish Office Closed 8:30 AM Mass	1 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 3:00 PM Grief Support Group 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	2 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	4 8:30 AM Mass	5 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM <u>Mass</u>

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