

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 23, 2021 - PENTECOST SUNDAY

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 05/24	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steal Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.
Tue. 05/25	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Wed. 05/26		
Thur. 05/27	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 05/28	7:00 p.m.	Ordination Live Stream
Sat. 05/29	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/30		

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/24	Gn 3:9-15 or Acts 1:12-14/ Jn 19:25-34
Tue. 05/25	Sir 35:1-12 / Mk 10:28-31
Wed. 05/26	Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17 / Mk 10:32-45
Thur. 05/27	Sir 42:15-25 / Mk 10:46-52
Fri. 05/28	Sir 44:1, 9-13 / Mk 11:11-26
Sat. 05/29	Sir 51:12cd-20 / Mk 11:27-33
Sun. 05/30	Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 / Rom 8:14-17 / Mt 28:16-20

We Remember...

John Wnukoski; &
Carol Henry-mother of Russ Henry
who passed away recently.



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

PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Call Donna Smicker at 814-899-9108
4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Call Gerri Extein at 814-490-9681



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 17, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	62	\$ 4,450.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	138	\$ 3,590.08
Loose Change:		\$ 101.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 8,141.08

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/24	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
Tue. 05/25	8:30 a.m.	Elisa Gardner (John Abbate)
Wed. 05/26	8:30 a.m.	Francis & Marie Ritchie
Thur. 05/27	8:30 a.m.	For Our Lady's Intentions (Todd Beckes)
Fri. 05/28	8:30 a.m.	Chester & Helen Chalupczynski (Eileen Richter)
Sat. 05/29	8:30 a.m.	-NO MASS-
	6:00 p.m.	John Eckendorf (Rosan Radach)
Sun. 05/30	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Mary Ann Spring (Carol Sutton)

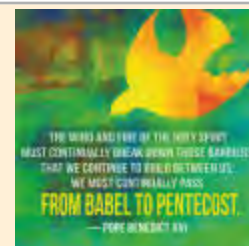
HELP STAN'S GARDEN CENTER MAKE A DONATION TO OUR LADY OF MERCY

During the month of June, Stan's Garden Center will donate 10% of your total purchase back to OLM (excludes gift certificates and is not a discount). You can shop either location, 5001 Buffalo Rd. or 5341 West Lake Rd. All you have to do is let the cashier know that you're a parishioner of Our Lady of Mercy.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 20:19-23

"AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, SO I SEND YOU...RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT!"



Only God's Son could love such a crew! Hidden from public sight, frightened of their future, likely suspicious of or squabbling with each other, Jesus' old friends are today transformed into something really new.

What divided them in their past - their family backgrounds, family language or accents, socioeconomic stature, distinct personalities - now are understood as precious gifts, each essential to God's reign! It seems that these men and women could not see in themselves what Jesus indeed did see - until now. Indeed, they have become so much like Jesus that they too are Good News to others. (Convincingly so! Just see Acts 1-11.)

They left the upper room for the public square. What I see too often in my life is my comfort with the former. Yet, the diversity that "separates me" from other friends of Jesus - language and accents, ideas and ideals, ethnicity and customs, age and gender - all are made essential for the missionary Church that draws us together. Without these Spirit-gifts our little circles stay within "upper rooms," dangerously comfortable and safe.

For Reflection: Do I live out my faith in the "public square" as well as in the "upper room?"

Dan Borlik, C.M.

Daytime Grief Support

Tuesday, June 1, at 3:00 p.m. is the monthly daytime grief support (first Tuesday of the month). Grief affects everyone differently. Although there are no rules about grief, it can seem as though there are unspoken pressures from society. For example: that we are supposed to cry; that we can only grieve for a year; that grieving for a person who is in their 90's should be easier than grieving for someone who is in their 40's. But really, there are no rules. Join us on Tuesday if you need a safe place to share your experience, where everyone will understand. Questions? Call Donna Clark.



FORMED.ORG



If you are new to the parish, 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.

Midday Spiritual Boost



Pause for a moment . . . sometimes that is just what we need to hear the word of God. Thursdays at noon join a small group in the parish parlor or on Zoom to read a short spiritual reflection from the book *Jesus Today*. Share the message or the challenge you receive if you are

comfortable. Check the parish website for the link. Questions – contact Donna Clark.

Vacation Bible School

VBS is coming back to Our Lady of Mercy this summer! Mark your calendars for July 26-30 and join us at Treasure Island. A registration form is in the current issue of the parish newsletter or can be found on the bulletin tables. We are looking for adult volunteers to help us with this week of fun and faith. If you want to get involved, you can use the registration form to sign up or call Irene at 814-898-6132. Registration forms can be dropped off at the parish office. There will be a planning meeting at 5:30 p.m. on June 2. All are welcome!



Scholarship Opportunity



The Knights of Columbus continue to support the younger members of our flock. One way that they lend a hand is through college scholarships. They are now accepting applications for the scholarships. Applications are available through the OLM Website or the church office. Along with an application, a brief essay is required and a certified and sealed most recently available transcript from the applicant's school. The application deadline is Friday, June 4. Remind others who may be interested. Watch the weekly bulletin and the parish webpage.

Parishioners, employees: Be cautious about sharing personal information

In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, its clergy, and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information — including a request for gift cards of any type — exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.



Book Group

We will be discussing The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman at 7:00 on June 16.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish



In 1925 Our Lady of Mercy became a mission church of St Peter Cathedral. Residents of Harborcreek attended Mass in the chapel in the farmhouse the Sisters of St. Joseph used as a convent at the Training school which was founded in 1911 by Msgr. Herman Clement Weinker.

Social Justice

“Our friends show us what we can do:
our enemies teach us what we must do.”
Goethe



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.



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.

Come to Our Lady of Mercy

THE MEASURE OF A
MAN'S GREATNESS
IS NOT THE NUMBER
OF SERVANTS HE HAS,
BUT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE
HE SERVES

to view the livestream of the
Permanent Diaconate Ordination
of our very own

DAVE JACQUEL & PAUL BARKO

from OLP to the OLM Worship Space on
Friday, May 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

If you are unable to attend our livestream
viewing event in the Worship Space you can
stream the Ordination at home by going to
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCdS696JU5ISTNIhIhPoErXQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdS696JU5ISTNIhIhPoErXQ)



Year of St Joseph Fact Finding 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 proposed a "fact finding raffle" to celebrate this event. Our community was invited to submit information related to Saint Joseph for posting on our website and Facebook page. We are happy to announce that everyone who submitted a fact, will receive a gift certificate to the Fiddle Inn!

Prayer to St. Joseph

Joseph, by the work of your hands
and the sweat of your brow,
you supported Jesus and Mary,
and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.

Teach me to work as you did,
with patience and perseverance, for God and
for those whom God has given me to support.

Teach me to see in my fellow workers
the Christ who desires to be in them,
that I may always be charitable and
forbearing towards all.

Grant me to look upon work
with the eyes of faith,
so that I shall recognize in it
my share in God's own creative activity
and in Christ's work of our redemption,
and so take pride in it.

When it is pleasant and productive,
remind me to give thanks to God for it.
And when it is burdensome,
teach me to offer it to God,
in reparation for my sins
and the sins of the world.

From parishioner Ginny Vereb

These facts were found in the book "To Know Christ Jesus" by Frank Sheed. Page 67. "A Carpenter and His Wife" Like all the poor in Galilee, Joseph would have lived in a small house. He probably plied his trade in a corner of it. We get some notion of what a carpenter did from the Jewish records. From the "Mishnah," a codification of Jewish law compiled a couple of centuries after Joseph's time, we get a list of the things a carpenter made then, and we can take it as giving a fair notion of how Joseph spent his days. One of a carpenter's jobs was to square off beams to support the roofs and terraces of houses. He made doors and doorframes and frames for the windows. He made the wooden ploughs the farmers used one-handed ploughs. When Scripture speaks of putting one's hand to the plough, it is being literally accurate. He made winnowing forks, harrows, harnesses for the plough-animals to wear and goads for their stimulation; he made beds, bins, wooden chests, chairs, and tables for those who could afford these extras, kneading-troughs, deed boxes-all the normal daily things, in whose making wood was used. And a small boy would be watching him as he made them, would soon be helping him, would at last be a carpenter himself.

Congratulations to the winner's of our Saint Joseph Raffle!

Anna DuShole
Roberta Buckel
Ginny Vereb
Irene Lucas
Frank Kaleta
Dick Pottorf
Keith Charles

From parishioner Roberta Buckel:

Year of St. Joseph Fact Finding. These facts were found in a book "Give us this Day" from the Litany of St. Joseph. St. Joseph was: 1. Renowned offspring of David. 2. Spouse of the Mother of God. 3. Foster father of the Son of God. 4. Mirror of patience. 5. Lover of poverty. 6. Model of artisans. 7. Patron of the dying. 8. Protector of the Holy Church. 9. Listener, not speaker. 10. Provider and protector. 11. Carpenter, poor working man. 12. Enduring man of faith.

From staff member and parishioner Irene Lucas

From Matthew 1:16. Jacob is the name of the father of Saint Joseph. We don't know his mother's name. The feast of St. Joseph the Worker was established by Pope Pius XII on May 1, 1955. This date was chosen as a counter point to Communism which celebrated May 1 as a universal day of working people.

From parishioner Frank Kaleta

In 1870, Pius IX declared St Joseph patron of the Universal Church. Devotion for Saint Joseph goes back to at least the 9th century when he was commonly referred to as "nutritor Domini" meaning guardian of the Lord! Fact, as shown on the Internet: Joseph is the patron saint of many things, including the universal Church, fathers, the dying, social justice, unborn children, travelers, immigrants, a happy death, families, expectant mothers, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people in general. (Info from the internet site called EpicPew.)

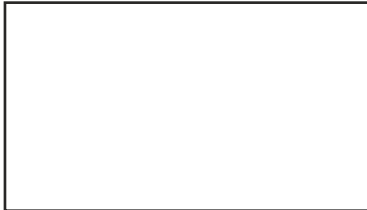
From Facebook Friend Keith Charles

For me, St. Joseph, is an important figure of our faith, and in the life of Jesus, and Mary. Amazingly, Scripture records nothing that he ever said. His actions speak louder than words.

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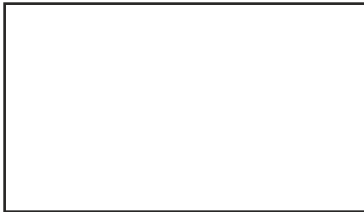
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