

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

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



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.m.

## 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.*

## PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Deacon Paul Barko, *Deacon Assistant*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant  
& Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

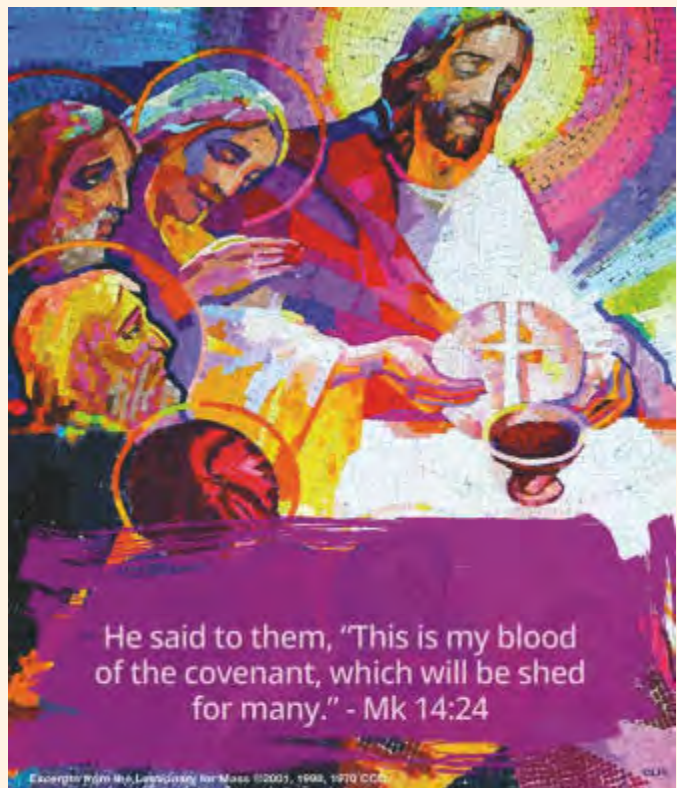
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many." - Mk 14:24

**JUNE 6, 2021 - THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 06/07	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.
Tue. 06/08	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
Wed. 06/09	6:00 p.m.	Festival Committee Mtg.
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 06/10	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 06/11		
Sat. 06/12	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
	7:00 p.m.	Ice Cream Sundaes -After Mass
Sun. 06/13	9:30 a.m.	Muffins and Coffee - After Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Ice Cream Sundaes - After Mass

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 30, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	44	\$ 2,075.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	139	\$ 3,607.08
Loose Change:		\$ 80.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,762.08</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 06/07	2 Cor 1:1-7	/ Mt 5:1-12
Tue. 06/08	2 Cor 1:18-22	/ Mt 5:13-16
Wed. 06/09	2 Cor 3:4-11	/ Mt 5:17-19
Thur. 06/10	2 Cor 3:15-4:1, 3-6	/ Mt 5:20-26
Fri. 06/11	Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9	
	/ Eph 3:8-12, 14-19	/ Jn 19:31-37
Sat. 06/12	2 Cor 5:14-21	/ Lk 2:41-51
Sun. 06/13	Ez 17:22-24/ 2 Cor 5:6-10/ Mk 4:26-34	

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 06/07	8:30 a.m.	Rita Desser (Family)
Tue. 06/08	8:30 a.m.	Margorie Stanger
Wed. 06/09	8:30 a.m.	"Captain Norman" Schoosser (Morning Mass Group)
Thur. 06/10	8:30 a.m.	John Hoover (Dianne Hoover)
Fri. 06/11	8:30 a.m.	Chet Szymecki (Family)
Sat. 06/12	8:30 a.m.	<del>NO MASS</del>
	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 06/13	8:30 a.m.	Don McCurdy (Sandra Jordan & Family)
	11:00 a.m.	Jack Case (Family)

## We Remember...

Irene Abbate,  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold her and her family in  
prayer during this difficult time.

*Loving  
Memory*

## 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



## 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.

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### MARK 14:12-16, 22-26

"DURING THE MEAL, JESUS TOOK BREAD, BLESSED AND  
BROKE IT, AND GAVE IT TO THEM . . . THIS IS MY BODY."

A very young first communicant was asked by her  
godmother, "Did you realize you were receiving Jesus  
when you ate the bread?" "Yes," the little girl replied,  
"I believe it was Jesus, but I don't think it was bread."

My non-Catholic friends often remark after  
attending a wedding or a funeral Mass on the richness  
of our symbols. We have a great treasure of signs and  
symbols, of sights and smells to remind us of that  
which we cannot perceive.

Mass is both a meal and a sacrifice. Sharing bread  
is more than a sign. It is the reality that we are  
nourished by Christ and have our unity in him. We  
sing, "One Bread, One Body" as we walk forward to  
receive him along with our sisters and brothers in the  
Lord.

Perhaps that unity would be more fully  
represented if we did all "share in one loaf." But the  
unity is there nonetheless. Each time I receive  
Communion and the minister says those amazing  
words, "The Body of Christ," I give thanks that I, too,  
am a part of that body.

**For Reflection: As I receive the bread and wine, am  
I aware of Christ's true presence? Am I anxious to  
be united with him?**

*Jerre Roberts*

## 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.



## Honoring Graduates

If you are graduating from high school or a post-secondary institution, your parish family would like to recognize your accomplishment. We will be honoring our graduates at all weekend Masses **June 12 & 13**. If you will be with us for Mass in person that weekend, please call 814-899-6132 or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) by June 7.



## Celebrating Community

As COVID numbers decline and vaccinations increase, more of our parish community is able to worship in person. To celebrate our community, we will come together for fellowship after each Mass the weekend of **June 12 & 13**. There will be ice cream sundaes after the 6:00 & 11:00 Masses and muffins and coffee after the 8:30 Mass. If you have not been vaccinated, please take precautions recommended by the CDC.



## Book Group

We will meet at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 190 Kraus Dr. to discuss *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman at 7:00 on **June 16**. Our July title will be *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge.



## FORMED.ORG

FORMED

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.

## Women’s Summer Study

What could be better than a summer evening with friends enjoying a cold drink and some talk about God? All women of the parish are invited to join us **June 14, 21, 28, July 12 & 19** at 7:00 at the home of Irene Lucas 1019 Bartlett Rd. We will be outside as long as the weather permits. We will be discussing “Between Heaven and Mirth” by Fr. James Martin, S.J. (2 chapters each week). After a year of so much loss, stress and fear, it is time to reclaim the importance of joy and laughter in the spiritual life. For June 14, please read ch. 1 & 2.



## Gardeners Club



Do you have flowers or plants that we could use for the worship space? This summer we are asking our gardeners if you are willing to bring in a vase of cut flowers or loan us a potted plant (preferably flowering) for a week or two. You would sign up for a particular weekend on a communal calendar then bring your flowers or plant it on Friday or Saturday of that weekend. Touch base with one of the environment committee members who will show you where to place the flowers. Call Donna or Katie in the parish office for contact information.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Jun 14, 2017 by Gretchen Filz

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, historically known by its Latin name, Corpus Christi, celebrates the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. It is traditionally celebrated on the Thursday following the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity. The feast dates to the Middle Ages and originated with a visionary nun and a Eucharistic miracle.

In 1263 a German priest, Fr. Peter of Prague, made a pilgrimage to Rome. He stopped in Bolsena, Italy, to celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Christina. At the time he was having doubts about Jesus being truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. He was affected by the growing debate among certain theologians who, for the first time in the history of the Church, began introducing doubts about the Body and Blood of Christ being actually present in the consecrated bread and wine. In response to his doubt, when he recited the prayer of consecration as he celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, blood started seeping from the consecrated host and onto the altar and corporal.

Fr. Peter reported this miracle to Pope Urban IV, who at the time was nearby in Orvieto. The pope sent

delegates to investigate and ordered that host and blood-stained corporal be brought to Orvieto. The relics were then placed in the Cathedral of Orvieto, where they remain today.

This Eucharistic Miracle confirmed the visions given to St. Juliana of Mont Cornillon in Belgium (1193-1258). St. Juliana was a nun and mystic who had a series of visions in which she was instructed by Our Lord to work to establish a liturgical feast for the Holy Eucharist, to which she had a great devotion.

After many years of trying, she finally convinced the bishop, the future Pope Urban IV, to create this special feast in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, where none had existed before. Soon after her death, Pope Urban instituted Corpus Christi for the Universal Church and celebrated it for the first time in Orvieto in 1264, a year after the Eucharistic Miracle in Bolsena.

Inspired by the miracle, Pope Urban commissioned a Dominican friar, St. Thomas Aquinas, to compose the Mass and Office for the feast of Corpus Christi. Aquinas' hymns in honor of the Holy Eucharist, Pange Lingua, Tantum Ergo, Panis Angelicus, and O Salutaris Hostia are the beloved hymns the Church sings on the feast of Corpus Christi as well as throughout the year during Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/feast-of-corporus-christi-story-6077>





## Social Justice

"Behold what you are, become what you receive." *St. Augustine*

### Evening Grief Support

**Monday June 21 @7:00 p.m.** is the monthly evening grief support (the third Monday 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 Monday evening if you need a safe place to share your experience, where everyone will understand. Questions? Call Donna Clark.



### Kids' Summer Challenge

Just because there are no religious education classes during the summer, that does not mean that we are on vacation from growing as disciples of Jesus. So, the youth of OLM are being challenged this summer. The challenge takes the form of a bingo board with tasks in each square. The board and directions can be found on the bulletin table, the website or in last Tuesday's eBlast. Each time a young person completes all the tasks in a row across, down or diagonally, they can email Irene Lucas [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) with a list of what they did. For each completed bingo, their name will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to Barnes & Noble.

### Stay in Touch

Never miss a bulletin, even when you are traveling. You can get a bulletin notice to your e mail each week. Sign up at <https://parishesonline.com/> Find *Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek* and subscribe.



### Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Teach your child to protect him/herself at home. We consider our homes to be safe places for our children but, being home alone can pose risks for children. Here are a few tips to teach kids that will help keep them safe when you are not with them at home: Teach children to never answer the door if home alone. Don't tell anyone, on the phone, on social media or while gaming, that your parents are not home. Do not allow friends into the home without the permission of a parent or babysitter. Check in with Mom or Dad at set times during the day. Parents should reinforce the rules each time they leave a child home alone. For additional parent resources visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/>



## 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.

## 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.



### Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting

We are looking for adults to join us in planning for and leading this summer's VBS at OLM. Our next planning meeting is this Wednesday, June 2 at 5:30.



## Celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

In September 1927 the Altar Society was formed. Twenty-four members attended that first meeting at which Gertrude Haas was elected president; Mrs. Julia Heibel, vice-president, Mary O'Brien, secretary and Mrs. George Maille, treasurer.



# OLM - OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett / [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)

*Famous*

## BBQ CHICKEN

## DINNER

### Sunday-JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>

**Carry-Out Only!**

*Dinner Sales begin @ 12:00 –  
5:00 or sold out!*

*\$12 for adults - \$6 ages 6-12*

*Follow signs to pay, pickup dinners,  
and purchase Raffle tickets\**

### The OLM Cooking Crew



*\*\$1000 Grand Prize, 50/50, Quilt, 50" TV, Restaurant Card Tree, Lottery Tree*

More information at: [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)



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