

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • 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*

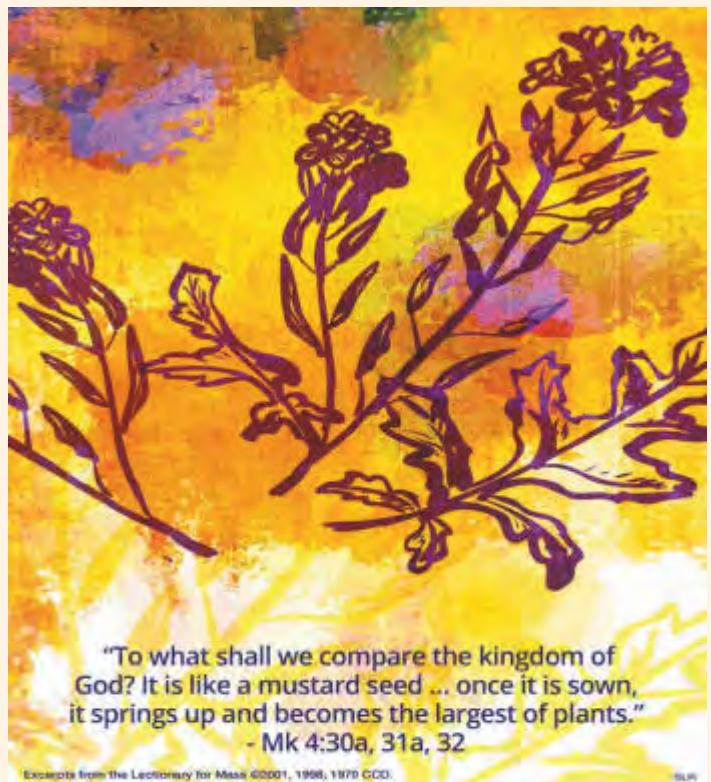
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



JUNE 13, 2021 - THE 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 06/14	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Summer Study
Tue. 06/15	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
Wed. 06/16	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	6:00 p.m.	Festival Committee Mtg.
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 06/17	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	1:30 p.m.	Social Justice Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 06/18		
Sat. 06/19	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 06/20		

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



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



A favorite motto of St. Teresa of Calcutta was, "do small things with great love." This is how it works in the kingdom of God. God can do tremendous things with the smallest gesture, especially when it is done in love. We can clearly see that our world is suffering greatly. People are struggling to find peace, navigate through conflicts, earn a sustainable living, find security and enough food to eat, and work through political tensions and conflicts. In the light of the magnitude of the difficulties that exist around us and even within us, we can find ourselves floundering to discover practical, effective solutions. How can something so large be helped by someone as small and seemingly insignificant as me? While whole systems and structures may be out of the league of our personal influence, are we really that helpless in the midst of all of the turmoil, sadness, and suffering?

If we believe that God is with us and that God is still working to bring about the glory of God's kingdom, then the answer is no. We are never helpless or without hope. Armed with a strong life of prayer, we can always flee to God and ask for inspiration, wisdom, and especially love. We are all blessed with unique gifts and talents and it often seems that considering all that the world lacks, love and charity remain at the top of the list. Life can easily become a battleground of hostility. Because life is challenging and difficult, anger is not far away. We see it on people's faces and hear it in their voices. There is a measure of frustration that permeates all avenues of life. It is even felt in the air.

As people of faith, we know that what we see here is not the end but only a part of something far greater to come. We know that God's kingdom is where we are ultimately meant to be, and the Gospel is the way to get there. If love and charity can prevail in us, then God will be able to do what God does best. God will use us to scatter the seeds of his kingdom. Through our small gestures, those seeds can receive the nurturing attention that is necessary for them to bear great fruit. We cannot fall victim to the strife that is around us. We have to keep ourselves refreshed and focused so that even in small ways, we can become part of the solution, not the problem. Love and charity, which come from God, can help to heal the ills of the world. May we bring these simple gifts to the everyday simple tasks of our lives! Watch how big the plant grows!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of June 6, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	58	\$ 4,349.70
Faith Direct Deposits:	139	\$ 3,607.08
Loose Change:		\$ 45.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 8,001.78

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 06/14	2 Cor 6:1-10	/ Mt 5:38-42
Tue. 06/15	2 Cor 8:1-9	/ Mt 5:43-48
Wed. 06/16	2 Cor 9:6-11	/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thur. 06/17	2 Cor 11:1-11	/ Mt 6:7-15
Fri. 06/18	2 Cor 11:18, 21-30	/ Mt 6:19-23
Sat. 06/19	2 Cor 12:1-10	/ Mt 6:24-34
Sun. 06/20	Jb 38: 1, 8-11	
	2 Cor 5:14-17	/ Mk 4:35-41

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 06/14	8:30 a.m.	Theodore Ritchie
Tue. 06/15	8:30 a.m.	John Covely
Wed. 06/16	8:30 a.m.	Elisa Gardner (John Abbate)
Thur. 06/17	8:30 a.m.	Dom & Marie Cordiano
Fri. 06/18	8:30 a.m.	Donald & Sarah Vallimont (Dorothy Wagner)
Sat. 06/19	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
	6:00 p.m.	For All Fathers Living & Deceased
Sun. 06/20	8:30 a.m.	For All Fathers Living & Deceased
	11:00 a.m.	For All Fathers Living & Deceased

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 group 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.



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.

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.

Evening Grief Support

Monday June 21, at 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.



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.



Gardeners Club

Help provide flowers and plants for our worship space. Do you have flowers or plants that we could use for the worship space? Homegrown or purchased. This summer we are asking our gardeners 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. dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



Kids’ Summer Challenge

The Summer challenge is underway. Game boards and directions are available on the bulletin tables or can be downloaded from the parish website. Be the first to send Irene a bingo and get your name entered in the drawing twice. Watch the weekly eBlast and FB page for additional pop-up incentives.



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Social Justice

Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God. -Pope Francis *Laudato Si* 84

Save-The-Date... ...and get ready to SMILE!



OLM Photo Directory Pictures will be taken

August 3rd
through

August 7th, 2021!



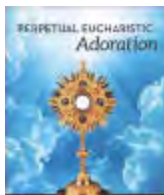
Stay tuned to the bulletin and OLM website for more information.

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.



Adorers are needed for Perpetual Adoration



The only Perpetual Adoration Chapel in the diocese of Erie is in need of adorers to fill one hour time slots. The chapel is located in the St. Joseph Church Bread of Life Community Center at 147 W 24th St, Erie, PA. We have committed adorers from all over Erie County. There is no

need to have any previous or current association with St. Joseph parish. Spend some quiet time with the Lord. To get on the schedule please contact: **Geoffrey Dietz** Cell 814-403-3921 gdietz526@gmail.com

2021 Diocesan Anniversary Celebrations

The 2021 Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating 25, 50, 60, or more years of marriage will be held at two locations in the diocese: **Sunday, August 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** at Immaculate Conception in Clarion and **Sunday, August 8, at 2:00 p.m.** at St. Jude in Erie. To register, please go online to <https://www.eriecnd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html> or contact your parish office or the Family Life Office at (814) 824-1261.



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. Registration forms are on the table in the Gathering Space or can be downloaded from the webpage. Please register your child by July 12. 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. Our next planning meeting will be at 5:30 on June 15. Registration forms can be dropped off at the parish office.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

In 1928 the Altar Society made plans for the first summer festival!!!!
Rumor has it, it was the "best festival EVER!"





Women's Summer Scripture Study

7:00 PM
June 14, 21, 28
July 12, 19

This past year has been filled with anxiety, loss and fear. There has been more tears than laughter, more pain than joy. Many of the greatest religious teachers have spoken of the importance of joy to a life of holiness. Fr. James Martin invites us to cultivate joy in our spiritual life and to take time to laugh long and loud. Join us this summer as we discuss Between Heaven and Mirth by Fr. James Martin. We will read 2 chapters per week.

Home of
Irene Lucas
1019 Bartlett Rd.
Patio if weather permits
(extra lawn chairs appreciated)
Inside if weather is bad
**All Welcome... No
Need to Register**



Enjoy a cold drink, a casual summer evening and laughter with sisters in faith.


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