

# 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*

Patti Reavel, *Music Director*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant  
& Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

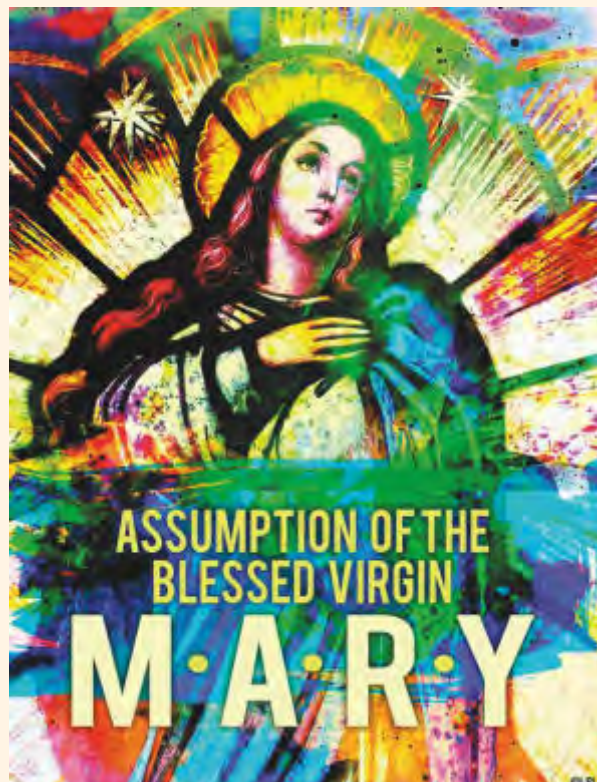
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



**AUGUST 15, 2021 - THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/16	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 08/17	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
Wed. 08/18	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 08/19	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
	6:00 p.m.	Barko Continuum Mtg.
Fri. 08/20		
Sat. 08/21	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/22	7:00 p.m.	Sunset Mass

## We Remember...

Charles Kobel,  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold him and his family in  
prayer during this difficult time.

*Loving  
Memory*

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 8, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	59	\$ 4,030.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	141	\$ 3,615.83
Loose Change:		\$ 80.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 7,725.83</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/16	Jgs 2:11-19	/ Mt 19:16-22
Tue. 08/17	Jgs 6:11-24a	/ Mt 19:23-30
Wed. 08/18	Jgs 9:6-15	/ Mt 20:1-16
Thur. 08/19	Jgs 11:29-39a	/ Mt 22:1-14
Fri. 08/20	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22	/ Mt 22:34-40
Sat. 08/21	Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17	/ Mt 23:1-12
Sun. 08/22	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b	
	Eph 5:21-32	/ Jn 6:60-69

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### JOHN 6:51-58

"I am the living bread...whoever eats this bread will live forever."

It seems to me that the way we approach and receive the Eucharist speaks volumes about its meaning for us in our lives. There is real sign value here!

Another action that speaks volumes is how we act once we have received and eaten this bread.

Imagine a non-believer coming into our church for the first time and seeing people quietly and reverently lining up to receive a small piece of bread and a sip of wine. This bread is living bread - true food and drink. It is bread that nourishes and changes us so that we become what we eat. We become Eucharist for others.

The story is told of a catechist who was meeting with an adult preparing for the sacrament of the Eucharist. The catechist was explaining our belief that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist. The man he was instructing seemed confused and when the catechist asked what he did not understand, the man replied, "If you really believed that Jesus was present in the bread, wouldn't you be more living and respectful toward each other?"

For Reflection: How is my life being transformed each time I receive the Eucharist? Is there evidence that others can see?

Susan McCarthy, R.D.C.



Sign-up Now...  
...and get ready to SMILE!

OLM Photo Directory Pictures  
will be taken



September 15



through

September 18, 2021

★★SIGN-UP NOW★★

If you have any questions,  
please call Katie in the Parish Office 814-899-5342

## 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



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/16	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
Tue. 08/17	8:30 a.m.	Captain Norman Schlosser (Morning Mass Group)
Wed. 08/18	8:30 a.m.	Scott Emling (Sandy Emling)
Thur. 08/19	8:30 a.m.	Marion McMahan (Pat Kosobucki)
Fri. 08/20	8:30 a.m.	Katchy Nuber
Sat. 08/21	8:30 a.m.	<del>NO MASS</del>
	6:00 p.m.	Larry Rogers (Carol Rogers)
Sun. 08/22	8:30 a.m.	Mary Simmian (Sherry & Tim Tyzinski)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

### Kids' Summer Challenge

If you were participating in the Kids' Summer Challenge, it is time to turn in your "bingos". The deadline to submit your completed tasks is TODAY, Aug. 15. Send completed "bingos" to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



### Evening Grief Support

**Monday Aug 16 at 7:00 p.m.** To attend this meeting by Zoom contact Donna Clark. Sometimes as summer approaches there are more events to distract us. This can be a healthy way of processing the grief. However, there are times when the grief becomes more intense because of summer memories with your loved one. Take some time to share these memories with others who can support you through the sadness to joy.

### Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, Aug 18 @ 7:00** to discuss Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger. We will gather at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 190 Kraus Drive. Our September title will be Woman 99 by Greer Macallister.



### 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 to read a short spiritual reflection from the book *Jesus Today*. Share the message or the challenge you receive if you are comfortable. Questions – contact Donna Clark.



### Sunset Mass

The summer is quickly coming to an end. Our annual end of the summer Sunset Mass will be **Sunday, Aug. 22 at 7:00 p.m.** It will be held on the grounds of Faith Lutheran Church 5414 East Lake Road. There are some benches at the area, but additional chairs may be needed.



### Rosary March

The Erie Curia of the Legion of Mary is sponsoring a Rosary March on **Saturday August 21** at St. George church, 5145 Peach Street, Erie. Mass with Bishop Lawrence T. Persico begins at noon with the March to follow. The Rosary will also be said in the church at the same time.



## 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.

### Baptismal Prep Parent Session

The next Baptismal Preparation Session for Parents and Godparents will be held on **Sunday, Oct. 3 at noon**. All parents wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with their child are required to attend a session to prepare for this sacrament. These sessions are held semi-annually at OLM. To register for the Oct. 3 session, please call the parish office at 814-899-5342. Participants are asked to register prior to attending to ensure sufficient materials.



### Story Time - We need your stories and photos to celebrate our 75th anniversary.

Do you have some picture of the old church or pictures of when the community met at the Boy's Home? What about pictures of various parish activities and events that took place at the Boy's Home? We hope to put together a timeline to include in our new picture directory. We also would like to collect stories from people who attended Mass at the Boy's Home and from the early years after the parish moved to Bartlett Road. Turn you pictures in any time for scanning. For the stories you can write it up, video yourself telling the story, or come to an evening event on **Wednesday August 25 at 7 p.m.** We can record the stories as people share. See Donna Clark for other questions.



### Our Lady of Mount Carmel Fish & Pierogi Dinner

The people of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish announces a new tradition: our fall Fish and Pierogi Dinner on **Friday, September 17** serving from **4-7 p.m.** The menu is the same as our Lenten Dinners, including all of our homemade sides. Prices unchanged: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, children under 6 are free. Take-outs are available for no extra charge. Come and join us in Scheffner Hall and celebrate halfway to Holy Week!



**Celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish**  
The "community building," as architect Oscar Brenot called it, would seat 404 for Sunday Mass. On Easter Sunday, 1954, the first Mass was celebrated there by Fr. Hastings.





### Social Justice

“Hope is hearing the melody of the future; faith is dancing to it today.”

*Ruben A. Alvez*

### Youth Ministry Core Team

The OLM Youth Ministry Core Team is a group of adults that gathers every month to plan and implement ways to connect the youth of our community with the world wide Church community. We do so by planning retreats, service projects, faith events and fellowship events. If you are interested in joining the Youth Ministry Core Team, email Katie at [youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org). Our next meeting is Tuesday, August 31st at 7:00 p.m. in the OLM Conference Room.



### 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.

*"as you go!"* Matthew 10:7  
 Saturday  
 August 21, 2021 - 9:30-1:00  
**GREATER THINGS LUNCHEON**  
 FEATURING  
**Father Joe Petrone**

COME AND BE BLESSED and discover the POWERFUL  
 WAYS THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN ACT... *'AS YOU GO!'*



Father Joe is Parochial Vicar at Epiphany of the Lord Parish in Meadville, Pa. Catholic priest, active in the Charismatic Renewal who desires to bring the Holy Spirit to his Church! He is excited to share the ways God uses us and how the Holy Spirit 'As We Go' about our lives.

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PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT: <https://bit.ly/event-registration/074013862>  
 OR Call T.A. Walkiewicz at 814-833-9717 to register by phone  
 By mail: Send contact information and enclosed event fee (check payable to Word of Life CCRC) to:  
 Word of Life Charismatic Renewal Center  
 St. Mark Catholic Center  
 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16514  
 \$10 EARLY REGISTRATION BEFORE AUG 14. FEE INCREASES TO \$12.50 BETWEEN AUGUST 14-18. REGISTER AT DOOR ON DAY OF EVENT FOR \$7.50 WITH NO LUNCH INCLUDED.  
 \*If registration fee is a hardship or for questions, please contact T.A. at (814) 833-9717.



### Religious Education Registration

Registration for this year of religious education will take place after all Masses **TODAY, Aug. 14-15**. All youth who will participate in religious education at OLM this academic year need to be registered by a parent or guardian prior to attending class. If your family was unable to register this weekend, you can visit the Faith Formation Office during normal working hours to complete the paper work.

### Volunteers Needed

The religious education ministry at OLM needs faith-filled parishioners to share our Catholic faith and the love of God with our youth. In particular, we need a volunteer catechist for 1st grade and 9th grade. We also need volunteers to support the program by supervising the students who arrive by bus 45 minutes before the start of class on Tuesday afternoons. Substitute catechists and aids are also needed. If you are interested, contact Irene at **814-899-6132** or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



**-SAVE THE DATE-**

# **SPAGHETTI**

## **Dinner Fundraiser**



**Saturday**

**September**

**25**

**1:00 P.m.**

**to**

**5:00 P.m.**

**St. Gregory's school gym  
136 West Main Street  
North East, Pa.**

**Both dine-in  
and take-out  
will be available.**

**This dinner is a combined effort  
of your OLM Knights and  
The St. Gregory's Knights,  
and will benefit the  
Women's Care Center of Erie County.**

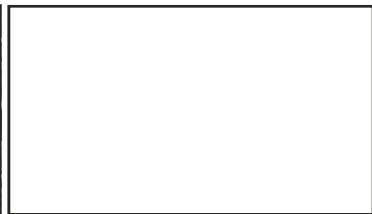
**More details to soon follow.**

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