

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*

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



AUGUST 22, 2021 - THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/23	6:00 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
Tue. 08/24	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council
Wed. 08/25	7:00 p.m.	Parish Stories Meeting
Thur. 08/26	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Fri. 08/27		
Sat. 08/28	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/29		

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 15, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	49	\$ 3,157.70
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,565.33
Loose Change:		\$ 90.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,813.03

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



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

A Special Thank You...

The family of Mary Ann Spring would like to thank the Bereavement Ministry and Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy for all of their kindness and generosity during one of their most difficult times. Your love and prayers have most certainly been felt, and your kindness will always be appreciated.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 6:51-58



"Master, to whom shall we go?"

Jesus had poured out his heart to the crowd. He had shared with them some of the deepest mysteries about who he was, where he had come from, and the eternal life he would offer through his flesh and blood. And no one understood him.

The Jews quarreled among themselves and expressed their disgust at the idea of eating flesh and drinking human blood. Many of Jesus' own disciples murmured that they could not accept such hard teachings and decided to follow Jesus no more. And what of the apostles? They did not understand either!

Peter, speaking for the Twelve, did not say that he understood Jesus any better than the others gathered that day at the lakeside town of Capernaum. He did not say, "Oh, we understand you are talking about your future sacrifice at Calvary and the mystery of the Eucharist that will allow us to share in your very body and blood."

No, Peter in his usual straightforward simplicity responded: "Where else would we go for answers, Master? We believe in you - you! Not that we understand every mystery or can fully explain every teaching, but our faith is in you. And with you, we will stay."

For Reflection: Does my faith depend on understanding all there is to know about Jesus and his life? Or does my faith rest in a growing relationship with him?

Gregory C. Wolfe

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/23	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10	/ Mt 23:13-22
Tue. 08/24	Rv 21:2b-14	/ Jn 1:45-51
Wed. 08/25	1 Thes 2:9-13	/ Mt 23:27-32
Thur. 08/26	1 Thes 3:7-13	/ Mt 24:42-51
Fri. 08/27	1 Thes 4:1-8	/ Mt 25:1-13
Sat. 08/28	1 Thes 4:9-11	/ Mt 25:14-30
Sun. 08/29	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 / Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27	/ Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/23	8:30 a.m.	Sally Talerico (Sandra Jordan)
Tue. 08/24	8:30 a.m.	Leo Kosobucki (Patchwork of Friends)
Wed. 08/25	8:30 a.m.	Glenn Merritt (Mulligan Maidens)
Thur. 08/26	8:30 a.m.	Charles Winschel (Chrissy Saber)
Fri. 08/27	8:30 a.m.	Louis Spizarny (Don Grumblatt)
Sat. 08/28	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
	6:00 p.m.	Agatha Tyzinski (Tim & Sherry Tyzinski)
Sun. 08/29	8:30 a.m.	James Boris (Extein Family)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

Sunset Mass

Our annual end of the summer Sunset Mass will be **TODAY, 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.



Stories of Our Lady of Mercy



We need your stories to celebrate our 75th anniversary. We 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. You can write up the stories, 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. Questions? Call Donna Clark.

History Photos for the 75th Anniversary

We need photos of past events at Our Lady of Mercy dating back to the start at the Boys Home. We hope to put together a timeline to include in our new picture directory celebrating our 75th Anniversary. Please bring your photos to the parish office for scanning or send an electronic copy to dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



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 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.

Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, Sept. 15 @ 7:00** to discuss *Woman 99* by Greer Macallister.



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.



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.

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. 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.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Fish & Pierogi Dinner

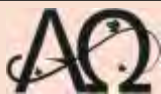
The people of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish announces a new tradition: our fall Fish and Pierogi Dinner on **Friday, September 17** serving from 4-7 p.m. The menu is the same as our Lenten Dinners, including all of our homemade sides. Prices unchanged: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, children 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!



Parish Quilt



New parish families are encouraged to decorate a quilt square for our parish quilt that hangs on the back wall of the Worship Space. You can find a square in the basket on the table next to classroom #1. After you decorate your family square please return it to the parish office.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

On Easter Sunday, 1954, the first Mass was celebrated in the "community building" of the new church by Fr. Hastings. The first Baptism there was that of Roy Peters in May of 1954.





Social Justice

“When tragedy occurs, God’s heart is the first of all our hearts to break.”

William Sloan Coffin

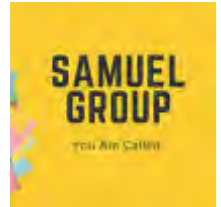
A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

DEAR GOD,
 THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF
 EDUCATION IN EVERY FORM.
 AS OUR CHILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR
 MAY CONFIDENCE BE THEIR FOUNDATION,
 MAY GRACE BE THEIR GUIDE AND
 MAY HOPE BE THEIR COMPASS TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE.
 I PRAY THEY WOULD HAVE EYES TO SEE
 THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM
 AND A HEART TO LOVE WELL.
 MAY THEY FACE EACH DAY WITH POSITIVITY
 KNOWING THAT NO MATTER
 WHAT COMES THEIR WAY,
 THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.
 AMEN

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Samuel Group

If you as a young adult are wrestling with big questions about your future, don’t worry - you are not alone! The Samuel Group is for young adults ages 20-30 who seriously desire to discern God’s will for their lives. The Samuel Group is a seven-month journey that includes: monthly gatherings at Saint Mark Catholic Center, spiritual direction, prayer, talks, small group discussion, and accompaniment. The goal of the Samuel Group is for each participant to grow in self-knowledge and to hear and respond to God’s call with an open heart. Applications are due **September 1**. Please visit our website for our informational video and application details: <https://www.eriercd.org/youth/samuelgroup.html> For more information, contact Director of Vocations, Fr. Scott Jabo at SWJabo@eriercd.org, or Jillian Zaczyk, Director of Youth Adult & Youth Ministry, at jzaczyk@eriercd.org



Smile for Our Lady of Mercy

To link to our Amazon Smile charity listing visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1563277>. If you shop Amazon please consider using Amazon Smile and naming “Our Lady of Mercy – Harborcreek” as your charity.



Religious Education Registration

If you were unable to register your children for religious education last weekend, please visit the Faith Formation Office during normal working hours to complete the paper work. Classes will begin on Sept. 7



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.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 11144**



**OLM Knights of
Columbus dance
featuring The Groove**



**Friday September 17, 2021
7 - 11 p.m.**

Our Lady of Mercy Church Gym 837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek

**Cost is \$15/person and tickets are available to
purchase after Mass and in the Parish office
Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

50-50 RAFFLE

To benefit projects for
Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

**DRAWING TO BE HELD ON
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
AT THE OLM KoC DANCE
FEATURING THE GROOVE**

Suggested Donation:
\$1/1 Ticket
\$5/ 6 Tickets
\$10/15 Tickets

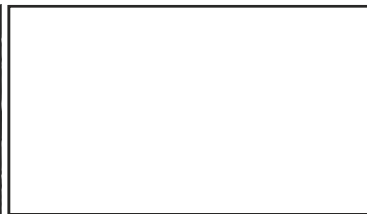
Tickets on sale after Masses and may be picked up in the parish office.

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