

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 29, 2021 - THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/30	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 08/31	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Jacqueline Continuum Team
	7:00 p.m.	Youth Ministry Core Team Meeting
Wed. 09/01	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
Thur. 09/02	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Fri. 09/03		
Sat. 09/04	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 09/05		Casserole Club Drop Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 22, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	50	\$ 2,106.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,584.33
Loose Change:		\$ 102.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 5,792.33

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/30	1 Thes 4:13-18	/ Lk 4:16-30
Tue. 08/31	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11	/ Lk 4:31-37
Wed. 09/01	Col 1:1-8	/ Lk 4:38-44
Thur. 09/02	Col 1:9-14	/ Lk 5:1-11
Fri. 09/03	Col 1:145-20	/ Lk 5:33-39
Sat. 09/04	Col 1:21-23	/ Lk 6:1-5
Sun. 09/05	Is 35:4-7a / Jas 2:1-5	/ Mk 7:31-37

A Special Thank You...

The family of Charles Kobel would like to thank the Bereavement Ministry and the Funeral Dinner Ministry 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/30	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Latchford
Tue. 08/31	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 09/01	8:30 a.m.	Edward C. Spellman (Family)
Thur. 09/02	8:30 a.m.	Frances Somolani (Tony & Carol Gilmore)
Fri. 09/03	8:30 a.m.	Robert David (John Abbate)
Sat. 09/04	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS-
	6:00 p.m.	John Eckendorf (Fruit of the Vine SCC)
Sun. 09/05	8:30 a.m.	Don McCurdy (Margaret McCurdy)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

We Remember...

Sally Furey & Betty Bliss 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

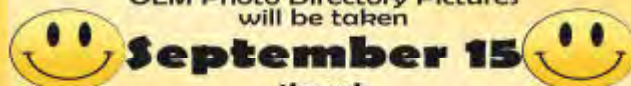
4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Call Gerri Extein at 814-490-9681



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

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

"This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me"

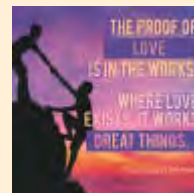
There is a television show entitled "Keeping Up Appearances." It is a satire. Yet many people identify with the characters because we realize that sometime we are more concerned about what others think of us than how we truly are before God. We pay great attention to behaviors and customs that are popular and accepted instead of acting on principles and conviction.

This tendency leads us even to be "funny" in our prayer life and in our relationship with God. We may go to church and we may wear a medal or cross because it is fashionable. We say certain prayers and practice some devotions because our friends do that. There is no knowledge of the meaning and importance of that practice, but everyone does it.

We see the outside, God sees the inside. Our thoughts and our words reveal what is in our hearts: "The things that come out from within are what defile" (7:16). Honesty and gratitude are beautiful characteristics of a person that speaks from the heart and not simply utters sayings that may seem proper but are not sincere. "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye," said the fox to the Little Prince. That is what really counts.

For Reflection: Has my concern for appearances clouded my commitment to God's ways?

Rosa Maria Icaza, C.C.V.I.



History Photos for the 75th Anniversary

Please drop off your photos by Sept 5 or send an electronic copy to:

dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org. We

are collecting photos of past events at Our Lady of mercy dating back to the start at the Boys Home around the topics of: "Prayer, Community, Service, Care". We hope to put together a timeline to include in our new picture directory celebrating our 75th Anniversary.



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 contact Donna Clark to share your story.

Day Time Grief Support

Tuesday Sept 7 at 3:00 p.m. To attend this meeting by zoom contact Donna Clark. Grief moves in and out of our lives like a meandering stream. We often don't know when we will be overcome with emotion and can't always see where it is taking us. To get our bearings sometimes it is helpful to talk to others who have had similar experiences. Questions? Contact Donna.

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.

A Creative Writing Group

Writing can be healing. It can assist with decision-making and offer clarity in times of transition. The unconscious can become conscious and we can experience love from the Divine Writer of Words. Please join us on Tuesdays beginning Sept. 21, from 9:00am to 10:00am, and concluding on Nov. 2, 2021. Bring a journal and pen. RSVP to the Parish Office appreciated but not required. A free will offering would be gratefully received. The facilitator, Suzanne Hudson, M.S. Ed., studied with San Francisco poet Jane Hirshfield in the Los Padres National Forest for Writing Conferences.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

On October 12, 1961, Fr. Hastings became pastor of St. Stephen's in Oil City and Fr. James Sperry became pastor of Our Lady of Mercy as well as superintendent of Harborcreek School for Boys.



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.

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 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.

Religious Education classes begin on Sept. 7.

There are several important parent meetings during the first week of religious education.

Gr. 9 Parent and Youth Meeting
@ 6:00 p.m. Sept. 8

Gr. 11 Parent and Youth Meeting
@ 6:00 p.m. on Sept. 9

Gr. K-2 Family Session
@ 9:30 a.m. in Sperry Hall on Sept. 12.

The Kdg-Gr. 2 ministry will begin with a shared family event on the first day of class. After a half hour of shared time, the children will meet in grade specific groups with their catechists and parents will remain for a meeting.

Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, Sept. 15 @ 7:00 to discuss Woman 99 by Greer Macallister. Our October title will be The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell by Robert Dugoni.



Cursillo Update

Cursillo will not be held in 2021, but we hope to continue in 2022. We will keep you informed of any new developments. Until then be safe and God's peace be with you!





Social Justice

“Let justice surge like water,
And goodness like an unfailing stream.”
Amos 5:24

Special Collection for Haiti 2021

We have all heard about the horrific earthquake, as well as the torrential rains of tropical storm Grace, which have devastated the nation of Haiti. Our hearts go out to the many, many people who have lost not only home and livelihood, but also family members and friends.

As Catholics, we know that it is not enough simply to have pity for those who are suffering. We are called to prayer and to action by that suffering. For this reason, at the suggestion of the president of the USCCB, the Diocese of Erie will be taking donations for our suffering brothers and sisters in Haiti and in other disaster areas. The money from this collection will go directly to the USCCB Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund, which supports pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church as well as the efforts of Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA as they respond to immediate emergency needs, including those in Haiti.

In the Diocese of Erie, these donations will be accepted the weekend of September 11 and 12. I ask you to give generously to help our brothers and sisters in Haiti and other disaster areas. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

****To make a donation, please place money in an envelope marked “Haiti” and put in collection basket in the back of the Worship Space. You can also donate through a “One-Time Payment” on Faith Direct. Just add Haiti 2021 in the comments.****



ADORATION WORSHIP CONCERT

Worship by Harmony's House with violinist, Louis Nicolai and organist, Corey Spacht

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021
7 PM - 9 PM
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Sept 2	Reagan Kelly	3
Sept 7	Kayla Kohut	16
Sept 8	Georgia Weber	16
Sept 9	Logan Gerrans	8
Sept 10	Aiden Ollinger	14
Sept 11	Louis Morgan	6
Sept 11	Riley Whitney	13



Sept 12	Ryder Daniels	12
Sept 12	Sadie Lander	13
Sept 14	Annie Sarvis	17
Sept 17	Anthony Allegretto	14
Sept 19	Morgan Gallagher	17
Sept 22	Clara Camillo	13
Sept 27	Lillian Zielinski	13
Sept 27	Montgomery Varo	15
Sept 28	Cole Maloney	4
Sept 30	Annabelle Cillessen	2



September 2021

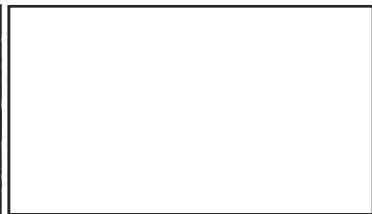
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 6:00 PM Environment Committee Meeting	30 8:30 AM Mass 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	31 Parish Office Closed 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 7:00 PM Jacques continuum Team 7:30 PM AA	1 8:30 AM Mass 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting	2 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 12:00 PM Midday Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary	3 8:30 AM Mass	4 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
5 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF Monthly Food Pantry Collection	6 8:30 AM Mass Labor Day - Parish Office Closed	7 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 3:00 PM Grief Support Group 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Education 6:00 PM Pastoral Council Picnic 7:30 PM AA	8 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 6:00 PM Gr. 9 Parent/Candidate Mtg. 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus	9 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM Midday Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary/ Candidate Mtg. 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	10 8:30 AM Mass	11 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
12 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:00 AM Pre-Cana 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 Religious Education 12:00 PM Weenies and Wisdom SCC Promotion Picnic	13 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture 6:30 PM SCC PF and Core Team Fall Kickoff	14 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Education 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 7:30 PM AA	15 Picture Directory Photo Sessions 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	16 Picture Directory Photo Sessions 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM Midday Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	17 Picture Directory Photo Sessions 8:30 AM Mass 6:00 PM KoC Dance With The Groove	18 Picture Directory Photo Sessions 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
19 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 Religious Education 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 12:15 PM Gr. 11 Interviews	20 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias SCC Committee 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	21 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Creative Writing Group 1:00 PM Potters Clay SCC 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Education 7:30 PM AA	22 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	23 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM Midday Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	24 8:30 AM Mass	25 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance
26 10:30 AM MASS Parish Feast Day	27 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture	28 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Creative Writing Group 1:00 PM Potters Clay SCC 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Education 6:30 PM Roman Candles SCC	29 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Angels in Training 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	30 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM Midday Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	1 8:30 AM Mass	2 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass

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