

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



SEPTEMBER 26, 2021 - THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 09/27	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Tue. 09/28	9:00 a.m.	Creative Writing Group
	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Wed. 09/29	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	9:15 a.m.	"The Creed"
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	7:00 p.m.	"The Creed"
Thur. 09/30	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 10/01		
Sat. 10/02	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/03		Casserole Club Drop Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-2 & 7-8
	12:00 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 09/27	Zec 8:1-8	/ Lk 9:46-50
Tue. 09/28	Zec 8:20-23	/ Lk 9:51-56
Wed. 09/29	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12	/ Jn 1:47-51
Thur. 09/30	Neh 8:1-12	/ Lk 10:1-12
Fri. 10/01	Bar 1:15-22	/ Lk 10:13-16
Sat. 10/02	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29	/ Mt 18:1-5, 10
Sun. 10/03	Gn 2:18-24 / Heb 2:9-11	/ Mk 10:2-16

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. 09/27	8:30 a.m.	Rita Desser (Family)
Tue. 09/28	8:30 a.m.	John Nowakowski
Wed. 09/29	8:30 a.m.	Denise Carroll
Thur. 09/30	8:30 a.m.	Marlene Calder (Nancy & Larry Huss)
Fri. 10/01	8:30 a.m.	Anthony Massaro Jr. (Clay & Rita Smith)
Sat. 10/02	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
	6:00 p.m.	Deb Cleer (Todd Beckes)
Sun. 10/03	8:30 a.m.	Don McCurdy (Margaret McCurdy)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

We Remember...

David Morgan, brother-in-law
of Elizabeth Gerlach, Marjorie Johnson,
mother of Joe Johnson
& Keith Dunkle who passed away recently.

*Loving
Memory*

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of September 19, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	62	\$ 2,951.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,584.33
Loose Change:		\$ 63.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,598.33

UPDATED OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be open from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Monday-Friday beginning Thursday, September 23rd. Regular office hours of 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. will resume on Tuesday, October 5.

*Happy Feast Day,
Our Lady of Mercy!*

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MERCY SEPTEMBER 24TH

The title of "Our Lady of Mercy" is almost 900 years old. Tradition holds that around the year 1218 AD, both St. Peter Nolasco and King James I of Aragon and Catalonia experienced separate apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary requesting them to establish a religious order entrusted with the responsibility of rescuing the many Christians who were being held captive by the Moorish armies who invaded the Iberian peninsula.

In 1235 AD, the Order of Our Lady of Mercy received papal approval by Pope Gregory IX, and succeeded in liberating thousands of Christian prisoners from captivity. The Order was later able to shift its mission toward education and social work.

Today, the Virgin Mother is honored under the title of "Our Lady of Mercy" throughout the world by countless parishes, schools and hospitals who embrace her as their Patroness.



Thursday Midday Prayer

Need a spiritual boost during the week? Join us on **Thursdays at Noon** for 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.



A Creative Writing Group

It is not too late to join the writing group if you are interested. Come on **Tuesday Sept. 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and concluding on Nov. 2, 2021**. Please contact the parish office to let us know if you will be join us on Sept 28. Bring a journal and pen. A free will offering would be gratefully received. 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.

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.



Daytime Grief Support

Tuesday Oct. 5 at 3 p.m. is our daytime grief support group. This is an opportunity for people to gather and share their experience or listen to others. This exchange of experiences helps in the healing process. To arrange a one on one meeting please contact Donna Clark in the parish office.



Question & Answer With The Pastor

Got questions? Fr. Ritchie has answers. Join us **Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 7:00** for a Q & A w/t Pastor. This will be an in-person event unless the COVID situation changes. All welcome.



Book Group

Join us on **Thursday, Oct. 21 @ 7:00** at the home of Donna Huff to discuss *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni. Our November title will be *The Mountains Sing* by Nguyễn Phan Quế



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.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Sept. 13 was, **Falyn Baker, Gr. 1** who knew that Jesus taught us to pray the Our Father

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 2nd grade and Jr. High. All of these groups meet on Sunday. We also need volunteers to serve as substitute catechists. If you are interested, contact Irene at 814-899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



“The Creed” with Bishop Robert Barron

Every week at Mass, we recite The Creed. Sunday after Sunday, we pledge our lives to the faith that is professed in its ancient lines. In this 6 week series, we will unpack the mysteries contained in this prayer. Dynamic video presentation by Bishop Robert Barron using stunning documentary footage along with group conversation will characterize each gathering. Each session will be offered twice, at 9:15 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday from Sept. 29 to Nov. 3**. There is no cost, no need to register, no need to commit to every week. For more information, contact Irene at 814-899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org



The Creed Zoom Version

There was a request to offer The Creed over zoom. If you are interested, please contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org with a time that would be good for you.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

What existed in 1962, as Fr. Sperry described in a letter to parishioners, was “a hall that was on occasion a Church;” and using it as a hall required moving every pew, making it “a hall with a handicap.”





Social Justice

Ponder the words of one of the sages of antiquity: "Not to share one's wealth with the poor is to steal from them and to take away their livelihood. It is not our own goods which we hold, but theirs" (quoting from Saint John Chrysostom in the 4th Century.) *Evangelium Vitae* ("The Gospel of Life"), Pope John Paul II, 1995, #57.

Our Lady of Mercy Celebrates 75 Years



History Photos for the 75th Anniversary

Please drop off your photos soon 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.

Thank you!

From our OLM Music Director Patti Reavel:

A very special extension of thanks to the very talented musicians from our parish who have donated their time and talents in helping to create a very memorable Feast Day celebration.

Thank you!!
Patti



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Free Bus Ride To PA March For Life

The Pennsylvania March for Life is coming up on **September 27, 2021**. We will be in the capital meeting with our area legislators to convince them to support the right to life in the face of the most repressive abortion bill yet in Pennsylvania. We have been gifted with a free bus that carries a total of 56 passengers. Currently we have about 50 seats left. While there is no charge for the bus itself, we will be accepting donations to cover the cost of the local shuttle services. Anyone wishing to ride to Harrisburg on the bus should contact either of the following below with their name, email address, and cell phone number (in case we need to contact you about the trip as well as for your security and protection on the trip.) We will be leaving Erie at about 3 a.m. on **September 27th** from the St. George R.C. Church for the trip down to be there in time for a 9 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. We will be leaving Harrisburg at approximately 3 p.m. and arrive at about 9 p.m. back in Erie. Mike Case - 814-504-0251 Lewis Nordin - 814-790-9341

Knights News

Congratulations to Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus receiving the Star Council Award for 2020-2021. This is a well-deserved prestigious award that only a few councils ever receive. Way to go Knights!



Oct. 2	Conner Barber	9
Oct. 4	Bryce Skarzenski	11
Oct. 4	Aidan McLaughlin	17
Oct. 4	Jacob Ramalho	18
Oct. 7	Emma Skelly	10
Oct. 9	Lily Juhas	4
Oct. 12	Eleanor Shamburg	3



Oct. 13	Parker Nguyen	15
Oct. 14	Gage Galbreath	6
Oct. 17	Anthony Bly	9
Oct. 18	Gabrielle Peters	9
Oct. 20	Luca Burick	7
Oct. 21	Lillian Festa	11
Oct. 21	Lizzie Scully	1
Oct. 22	Anthony Viscuso	18
Oct. 23	Jacob Rzodkiewicz	15
Oct. 31	Kevin Juhas	5
Oct. 31	Zoe Redford	12



OUR LADY OF MERCY
PRESENTS...

TRUNK OR TREAT
SATURDAY OCTOBER 30
@ 3:00 P.M.

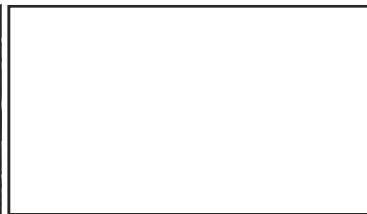
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EVENT PAGE, OR TO THE PARISH
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