

# 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*

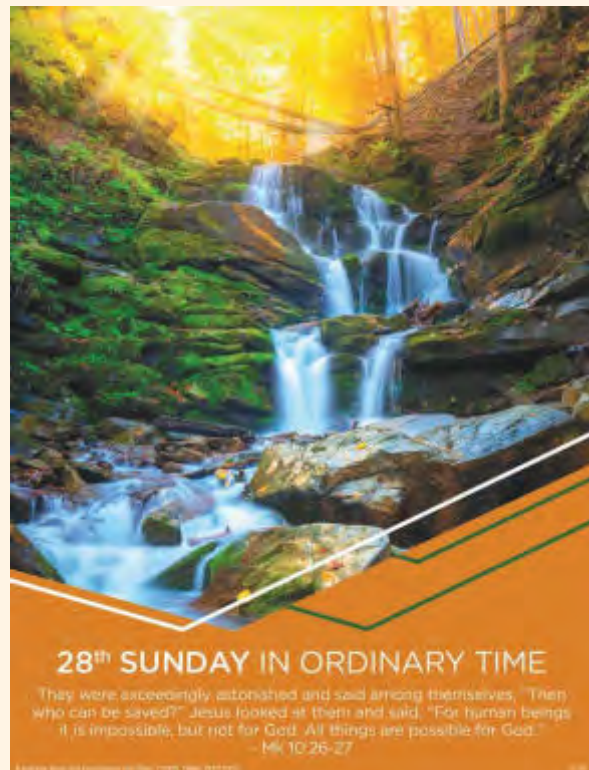
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



### 28<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God."

Mk 10:26-27

# OCTOBER 10, 2021 - THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

<b>Mon. 10/11</b>	9:00 a.m. Quilters 9:30 a.m. Steel Magnolias 5:30 p.m. Sisters of Scripture SCC 6:00 p.m. Sister Parish Committee
<b>Tue. 10/12</b>	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 7:00 p.m. Q & A With the Pastor
<b>Wed. 10/13</b>	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"
<b>Thur. 10/14</b>	7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus 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
<b>Fri. 10/15</b>	
<b>Sat. 10/16</b>	4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 10/17</b>	<b>Gr. 11 Rite of Presentation at all Masses</b> 9:30 a.m. Religious Ed Gr. K-2 & 7-8 9:30 a.m. Healing Ministry 9:45 a.m. First Eucharist Parent Meeting 12:15 p.m. Gr. 11 Candidate/ Sponsor Meeting

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 10/11</b>	Rom 1:1-7	/ Lk 11:29-32
<b>Tue. 10/12</b>	Rom 1:16-25	/ Lk 11:37-41
<b>Wed. 10/13</b>	Rom 2:1-11	/ Lk 11:42-46
<b>Thur. 10/14</b>	Rom 3:21-30	/ Lk 11:47-54
<b>Fri. 10/15</b>	Rom 4:1-8	/ Lk 12:1-7
<b>Sat. 10/16</b>	Rom 4:13, 16-18	/ Lk 12:8-12
<b>Sun. 10/17</b>	Is 53:10-11 / Heb 4:14-16/ Mk 10:35-45	

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 10/11</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Joe Ryan</b>
<b>Tue. 10/12</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Florence Kobylinski</b> (Butch & Gerri Extein)
<b>Wed. 10/13</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Thelma Sabella</b>
<b>Thur. 10/14</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Denny Smith</b> (Janet Smith)
<b>Fri. 10/15</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Mary Bartnik</b> (Jan & Jon Kennedy)
<b>Sat. 10/16</b>	8:30 a.m. <del>NO MASS</del> 6:00 p.m. <b>For the People of OLM</b>
<b>Sun. 10/17</b>	8:30 a.m. <b>Paul DeLuca</b> (Rose Marie DeLuca) 11:00 a.m. <b>Lewis Peters</b> (Family)

## We Remember...



Linda Kobielski, who passed away recently.

Please hold her and her family in prayer during this difficult time.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of October 4, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	69	\$ 4,716.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,584.33
Loose Change:		\$ 80.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 8,380.33</b>

## PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Call Joanne Cargioli at 814-898-1068  
4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Call Gerri Extein at 814-490-9681



## THIS SUNDAY'S

### REFLECTION

#### MARK 10:17-30

Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said..."Go, sell...give...come, follow me."



Many say this story of the rich young man is the saddest story in the Gospel, and I would agree. He runs to Jesus with so much enthusiasm and falls to his knees at Jesus' feet. Raising his eyes to Jesus he asks, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" It's evident that he's heard about Jesus and about this new kingdom of God. Today he has his chance and finds Jesus at last. His inheritance has given him status in life, but he wants to be part of this kingdom of which Jesus speaks.

But Jesus has a challenge for the man. Eternal life is a gift of God and obeying the commandments is only the beginning of accepting that gift. Jesus, looking at him with love, asks him to leave all and "follow me." Not the response the man expected. The face so full of joy now falls, and he turns and walks away from Jesus. Being part of God's kingdom means putting God first and the man seems torn because he treasures his status and wealth.

This story deserves to be heard with new ears each time we hear it. It's not just about the rich man, it's about us. Again, and again, Jesus is looking with love at me and asking, "Am I first in your life?"

**For Reflection: What would it mean to make Jesus first in my life?**

Lilly Hess

### 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. We will gather in the large classroom. Bring a friend, a snack to share, all your questions, or just yourself.



### Advent Reflection Book



Next week you are invited to choose a daily reading for Advent, write a reflection for our booklet and turn in the reflection preferably by e-mail to Janet Smith at [refereesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:refereesmith@roadrunner.com). Hard copies may be brought to the office.

### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline for the November issue of For Mercy Sake newsletter is **Oct. 17**. Please send items to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Monthly Grief Support



**Monday Oct 18 at 7 p.m.** Every Third Monday of the month we host an evening grief support group at 7 p.m. This is open to anyone, even if they don't belong to the parish. The

gathering is an opportunity for people to 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.

### 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. Unvaccinated members, PLEASE wear masks.



### Halloween Decorations Needed



Our Lady of Mercy Youth Ministry is decorating a "Haunted Horse Trailer" for the OLM Trunk or Treat event this October. We will be decorating the trailer on **Sunday, October 24** and we are in need of decorations. If you have Halloween decorations you are willing to let us borrow, please drop

them off in the Parish Office **before Sunday, October 24** with your name on them so we know who to return them to. We are also making our own decorations, so we are accepting donations of Halloween crafting materials. Thank you in advance for your generous contribution to the OLM Youth Ministry Program.

## 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. 27 was **Levi Gilchrist, grade 1**, who knew that the archangels are Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

### 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 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Grade 4, 5, 6 Retreat

The annual retreat for youth in grades 4-6 will take place **Tuesday, Oct. 19**. It will begin at the normal class time and extend to 7:00. Supper will be provided. Our theme will be "PRAYER".

### Parish Stories

We are still collecting stories about parish life. Please contact Donna Clark in the parish office to share your experience. Is there some experience that made an impression on you or changed your understanding of God? Something that helped to give you a sense of community, prayer, service, or care?

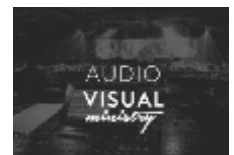


### Puzzled?

Need a new puzzle to work on? There are some available in the parlor on the bottom shelf of the bookcase.

### AV Ministry

We are looking for a few more people to learn how to work our livestream camera. Please contact Donna Clark.



## Celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish



The new social hall/catechetical center was formally dedicated on July 7, 1963 and consisted of a new kitchen, permanent pews, a central entrance created with a vestibule, a portico built to make the building look more churchlike and a balcony over the vestibule to provide a space for the choir.





## Social Justice

Racism is not merely one sin among many; it is a radical evil that divides the human family and denies the new creation of a redeemed world. To struggle against it demands an equally radical transformation, in our own minds and hearts as well as in the structure of our society.

*Brothers and Sisters to Us, U.S. Catholic Bishops, 1979.*

### 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 may 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.



### Hearing Assisted Sound System

If you have difficulty hearing during Mass contact a staff member who can assist you with getting a receiver and ear piece.

### 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.



### Junior High Youth Event

All 7th and 8th graders are invited and encouraged to attend the Youth Event on **Sunday, October 24th from noon to 3 p.m.** We will take this time together to learn more about the Mexican tradition of Dia De Los Muertos. A taco bar lunch will be provided, so come with an empty stomach. Please RSVP to Katie by Oct. 20 at [youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

### Senior High Trunk or Treat Prep Event

All students in grades 9 through 12 are invited to Sperry Hall on **Sunday, October 24th from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.** to help us prep for our Trunk or Treat Haunted Horse Trailer. A taco bar meal will be provided. Many hands make light work and we need your help. Please RSVP to Katie at by Oct. 20 at [youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

### OLM Youth Ministry's Haunted Horse Trailer

The OLM Youth Ministry Program is putting together a Haunted Horse Trailer for the upcoming Trunk or Treat event on Saturday October 30th beginning at 3 p.m. We need the help of our Youth Ministry Program to run the horse trailer. Volunteers are needed in the following areas: cosplay, guides, and candy. Please sign up to volunteer in any of these departments to Katie at [youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

**OUR LADY OF MERCY PRESENTS...**

**TRUNK OR TREAT**

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 30 @ 3:00 P.M.**

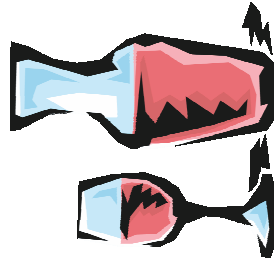
**PLEASE RSVP ON THE FACEBOOK EVENT PAGE, OR TO THE PARISH OFFICE @ 814-899-5342**

# What You Always Wanted to Know About...

Tuesday, Oct. 12 @ 7:00 PM

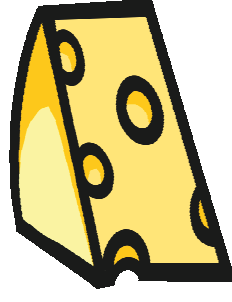
Join Us For A

## @ & A With Fr. Ritchie



Informal gathering in the Conference Room  
Wine, Cheese and Your Questions

*(Feel free to bring a snack to share, if you wish)*



*This is your opportunity to chat with your pastor about those questions concerning the Bible, the Church, Catholic beliefs, etc. that you have never known how to answer. Every question is worthwhile as we will learn from one another. Whether you have a specific question in mind or just want an opportunity to learn and discuss, bring a friend and join us.*



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**OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
*Membership Form*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Change of Address     Moving out of the Parish

New Parishioner

To start the new member process please call the parish office at 899-5342; or request a phone call by filling out this form and returning it to the office by mail or collection basket.