

# 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*

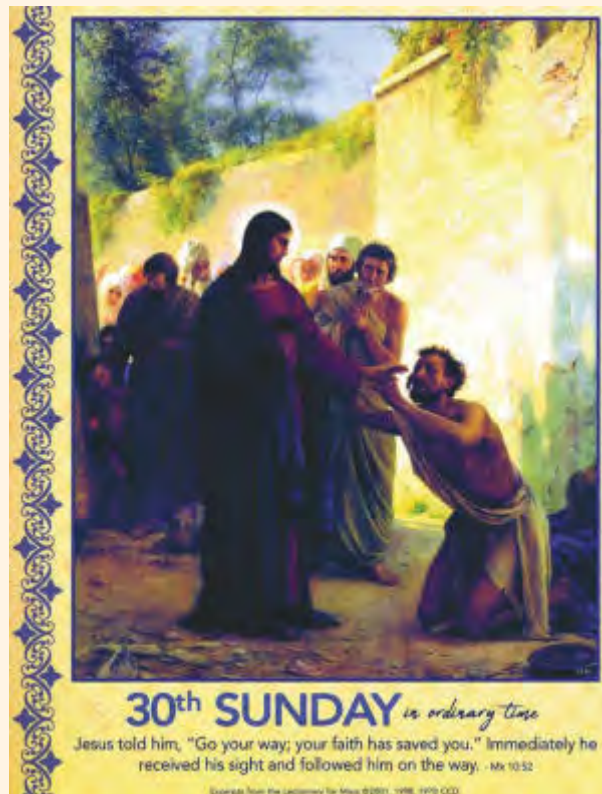
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



**OCTOBER 24, 2021 - THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 10/25	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Fireside Chatters SCC
	9:00 a.m.	Creative Writing Group
Tue. 10/26	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	2:00 p.m.	Hallelujah Girls SCC
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Jacqueline Continuum Mtg.
	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
Wed. 10/27	9:15 a.m.	"The Creed"
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
Thur. 10/28	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Ministry Committee Mtg.
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 10/29	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	3:00 p.m.	Trunk or Treat
Sat. 10/30	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/31	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-2 Family Faith Event

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 10/25	Rom 8:12-17	/ Lk 13:10-17
Tue. 10/26	Rom 8:18-25	/ Lk 13:18-21
Wed. 10/27	Rom 8:26-30	/ Lk 13:22-30
Thur. 10/28	Eph 2:19-22	/ Lk 6:12-16
Fri. 10/29	Rom 9:1-5	/ Lk 14:1-6
Sat. 10/30	Rom 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-29	/ Lk 14:1, 7-11
Sun. 10/31	Dt 6:2-6 / Heb 7:23-28 / Mk 12:28-34	

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 10/25	8:30 a.m.	Don McCurdy (John & Sandi Matts)
Tue. 10/26	8:30 a.m.	Louis Spizarny (Rose Kobel)
Wed. 10/27	8:30 a.m.	Msg. Desmond McGee
Thur. 10/28	8:30 a.m.	Irene Abbate (Marilyn Garwig)
Fri. 10/29	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Rathers
Sat. 10/30	8:30 a.m.	<del>NO MASS</del>
	6:00 p.m.	Ken Whitney (The Walsh Family)
Sun. 10/31	8:30 a.m.	Dr. John Kraus (Jon & Jane Sedelmyer)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

## We Remember...

Kevin Wilczynski,  
brother of Larry Wilczynski, who  
passed away recently.  
Please hold him and his family in  
prayer during this difficult time.



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of October 17, 2021

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	54	\$ 2,192.70
Faith Direct Deposits:	138	\$ 3,507.08
Loose Change:		\$ 75.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,503.78</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 10:46-52



"What do you want me to do for you?"

When the blind Bartimaeus approached Jesus, the last thing he probably expected from Jesus was this question. Surely it would have been obvious to Jesus that Bartimaeus could not see. Surely there would have been whisperings among the crowd of his plight. Jesus must have known that those vacant, empty eyes yearned for sight.

But first, there was that question: "What do you want me to do for you?"

It is a question we might ask of ourselves, especially when our days seem slightly out of focus. What do I want Jesus to do for me? What is my heart's desire? The issue is not that Jesus does not know what I need, but do I know what I really want?

Bartimaeus may have always dreamed what he would do if he was sighted. He may have had hopes and dreams of leading an ordinary life, of having a wife and children, of living a blessed ordinary life much like you and I. But once he receives his sight, a new aspiration leads him forward - a desire to follow Jesus.

Bartimaeus received more than he asked for. With physical sight he was also given a vision.

For Reflection: How would I respond to Jesus when he asks, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Jerre Roberts

### 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?



### 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.

### Advent Reflection Book



We still have seven daily readings for Advent left for parishioners to choose from to write a reflection for our booklet. Pick up the readings in the Gathering Space then turn in the reflection by Oct 25 by e mail (preferred) to Janet Smith.

[refereesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:refereesmith@roadrunner.com) . Hard copies may be brought to the office.

### Sunday Morning \*C\*A\*F\*E\*

We are delighted to announce that the Sunday Morning CAFÉ is back! On Sunday, Nov. 7, we will host our first Sunday CAFÉ in nearly 22 months. Join us in Sperry Hall for fresh coffee and baked goods. "I Was A Stranger And You Welcomed Me", In the 25th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, the judgment of the world is likened to a shepherd separating sheep from goats. When the perplexed crowd asks why they find themselves among the rewarded or banished, Jesus answers "I was hungry and you fed me...I was a stranger and you welcomed me... Whenever you did it to the least, you did it to me." Currently, the globe is seeing the largest movement of refugees since the Second World War. Erie has become home to a number of those seeking a new life. But, what is life like for a refugee in Erie? What resources are available to them? And, what could a community of faith or individual Christians do to welcome the stranger in our midst? Senada Alihodzic, Program Coordinator for Community Resources at the Erie International Institute, will share with us the journey of a typical refugee arriving in Erie.



### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Oct. 11 was Bailey Haislip, grade 5, who knew that Trinity is the name for 3 Divine Persons in 1 God.

### 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 which meets on Sunday between the two Masses. 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).



### Family Faith Event

Oct. 31 is a special celebration for families with children enrolled in Kdg.-Gr. 2 religious education. It will take place at the regularly scheduled religious education time. Children, parents, siblings should gather in Sperry Hall for a time of family faith and fun.

### Mission of Friendship 50th Anniversary Celebration

Our Lady of Mercy is honored to be asked to host the diocesan celebration of 50 years of partnership with the Diocese of Merida. All are invited to join Bishop Persico for a Mass at 5:00 on Friday, Nov. 12 followed by an authentic Mexican dinner and a fashion show. Please RSVP by Nov. 1 to [isuares@erieRCD.org](mailto:isuares@erieRCD.org) if you plan to join this celebration.



### For Mercy Sake Mailing Party



Can you help us get the newsletter folded, stuffed into envelopes and ready for the mail? We will have a mailing party at 9:00 a.m. Monday,

Nov. 8 in Sperry Hall. If you can lend a hand, contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132.



### Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 17 @ 7:00 to discuss *The Mountains Sing* by Nguyễn Phan Quế. Unvaccinated members, PLEASE wear masks.

### 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

Permission to build a new rectory was granted on October 20, 1965, and the new rectory was completed in 1966. In this year also, ties with Harborcreek School for Boys were finally dissolved with the appointment there of a new administrator.






## Social Justice

"It's the age old struggle – the roar of the crowd on one side and the voice of your conscience on the other."  
*General Douglas MacArthur*


**Attention Lectors**  
 Your Lector Workbooks for 2022 are in the Sacristy! Please make a point to pick them up at your earliest convenience. Thank you. **LECTORS**

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

**Help Wanted**  
 Long time parishioners are looking for a little help with housework. If you would like to take on this job please contact Donna Clark.



**Prayer For Racial Healing**  
 The Erie community is invited to gather to pray for racial healing on **Thursday, Nov. 4 @ 7:00 p.m.** in the Mary Seat of Wisdom chapel at Gannon. Bishop Persico will lead this time of prayer.



**Thank You Notes...**  
 Thank you to the Bereavement Ministry and the Funeral Luncheon Committee for the lunch you prepared. Everything was delicious. It was very thoughtful and very appreciated. God Bless.  
 – The Family of Emily Pohl.



ERIE CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS INVITE YOU TO

# Murder at the Juice Joint

Murder Mystery Party  
 Friday, October 29, 2021 - 6p-10p  
 Saint George Church  
 5145 Peach St. Erie, PA 16509  
 aboyd@eriercd.org  
 (814) 864-0622 ext. 354

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://ERIEYA.ORG/MURDERMYSTERY](https://erieya.org/murdermystery)



**Junior High Youth Event**  
 All 7th and 8th graders are invited and encouraged to attend the Youth Event **TODAY 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.

**Senior High Trunk or Treat Prep Event**  
 All students in grades 9 through 12 are invited to Sperry Hall **TODAY 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.

**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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ We will be attending Trunk or Treat.

Number of Treaters \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ We will be attending Trunk or Treat and Pass out Candy.

Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

# JOIN US

## Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021

### 9:45-10:45

#### @ the OLM CAFE

**Continuing Adult Faith Enrichment**



## *Welcoming the Refugee*

**Senada Alihodzic**

### **International Institute of Erie**

“I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” In Matthew 25, Jesus compares the Final Judgment to the separation of sheep from goats. When asked what differentiated these groups, he replies, “I was hungry and you fed me... a stranger and you welcomed me...” The International Institute of Erie has been welcoming the stranger to our community for many years. In order to feed and clothe, care for and welcome Christ present in the most vulnerable, we must understand their needs, listen to their stories. Learn about the experience of refugees who settle in Erie, what services they can access and how we, as the Body of Christ, can help to welcome the stranger in our community.

*Senada Alihodzic is the Community Resource Coordinator at the International Institute of Erie since 1994. She has experience in all Refugee Service Programs. Over the past five years she worked with different refugee groups as a certified Relationship Enhancement trainer. She is presently working as a direct supervisor for Community Outreach Services and Language Services. As a Bosnian refugee, she knows the refugee experience first-hand.*

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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.