

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*

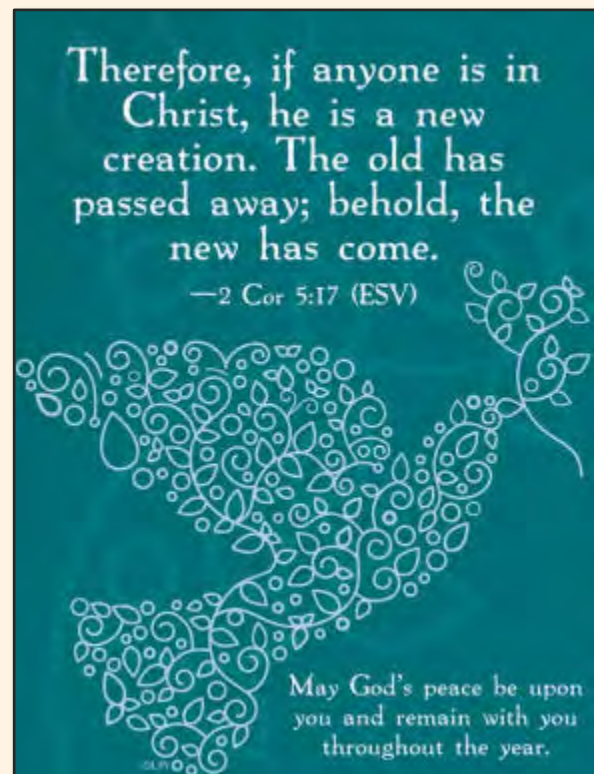
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



DECEMBER 26, 2021 - THE HOLY FAMILY

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 12/27	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 12/28		
Wed. 12/29	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive
Thur. 12/30	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	12:00 p.m.	Mid Day Prayer
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 12/31		Parish Office Closed
Sat. 01/01		NEW YEAR'S DAY
	10:00 a.m.	New Year's Day Mass
Sun. 01/02		Casserole Club Drop-Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 12/27	8:30 a.m.	Hilbert Jordan (Sandra Jordan)
Tue. 12/28	8:30 a.m.	Doris Extein (The Extein Family)
Wed. 12/29	8:30 a.m.	Capt. Norman Schlosser (Morning Mass Group)
Thur. 12/30	8:30 a.m.	Andrew Cerula (Rose Galeza)
Fri. 12/31	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 01/01	10:00 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Charles Kobel (Mary Jordano)
Sun. 01/02	8:30 a.m.	Mary Ella Eaglen (Terry Miller)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

We Remember...

Rich DiPlacido,
who passed away recently.
Please hold him and his family 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



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 12/27	1 Jn 1:1-4	/ Jn 20:1-8
Tue. 12/28	1 Jn 1:5-2:2	/ Mt 2:13-18
Wed. 12/29	1 Jn 2:3-11	/ Lk 2:22-35
Thur. 12/30	1 Jn 2:12-17	/ Lk 2:36-40
Fri. 12/31	1 Jn 2:18-21	/ Jn 1:1-18
Sat. 01/01	Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7	/ Lk 2:16-21
Sun. 01/02	Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-6	/ Mt 2:1-12

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LUKE 2:41-52

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem...they went up according to festival custom.

Mary and Joseph were observant Jews, faithful to the law of Moses. Jesus, now twelve years old, travels with them to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. Since his infancy, we don't know if or how often Jesus may have visited the Temple. What is significant about this visit is that Jesus, according to Jewish law, has entered adulthood.

But much to his parents' dismay, Jesus stays behind and remains in the Temple area. As an "adult" Jew, Jesus listens to the teachers and asks questions. His wisdom in understanding the Law is greater than the teachers, and they are astounded. As we look ahead, we see that Jesus' wisdom and understanding of the Law grows through the years. When he begins his ministry and proclaims the reign of God, his message will challenge the religious leaders.

Jesus returns with his parents and continues to grow "in wisdom and age and favor before God and man." Jesus' formation began in his family circle and the encompassing religious community. He went to the synagogue with his parents and heard the Word of God proclaimed and explained. His beliefs and practices were shaped by that formation.

For Reflection: What are some ways in which my religious beliefs were formed?

Lilly Hess



PICTURE BOOK PHOTOS

If your family was not able to reschedule the photos from Sept 15, 16, or 17 please contact Donna Clark about getting a family photo submitted to the picture book.

Call the parish office or email:
dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org

Blood Drive

Wednesday Dec. 29 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Sperry Hall parking lot. Sign up in the Gathering Space. Walk-ins welcome. Choose to give life by donating blood if you are able. There is a critical shortage of blood in the Erie area at this time. You can donate at other times at the community blood bank on Peach Street. (814) 456-4206 <http://fourhearts.org/>



Religious Education Fundraiser

Can you or your group donate a basket for the Feb. 6 religious education spaghetti dinner? Our Spaghetti Dinner will return in 2022 with dining in and dining out options. The gift basket auction raised about \$1,500 last time. If you can donate a gift basket, please bring it to the Faith Formation Office by Jan. 30.

Healing Ministry

We regret to say because of Covid we will not be having the Advent Healing Service. The Healing Ministry is available after the 8:30 Mass on the first and third Sunday of the month. Special requests may be made by calling the office.



Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Jan. 19 at the home of Donna Huff to discuss *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz. We will turn to the classics in February with a discussion of *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. Unvaccinated members, PLEASE wear masks.



FORMED.ORG

FORMED

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 Dec. 13 was **Madden Inthavong, grade 4**, who knew that Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem.

MASS FOR NEW YEAR'S:

Feast of the Solemnity of Mary:

**New Year's Day: Saturday,
January 1 10:00 a.m.**

*There will be no Mass on New Years
Eve at 6:00 p.m.*

**We will have the Vigil Mass for
Sunday on Saturday at 6:00 p.m.
and the regular 8:30 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday**



A Special Thank You!

We thank the bereavement committee and all those who donated food for the wonderful lunch that was given after Loren's funeral Mass. We thank all those who sent cards, food, gifts, remembrances and especially all the prayers after his passing. What a blessing it is to be part of this loving parish family. May God bless you all. The Prichard family.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
In 1984 the parish joined Msgr. Sperry in celebrating his being named a
Prelate of Honor by Pope John Paul II.





Social Justice

"Christmas reminds us that it is not enough to bring God into our hearts. When God comes, God never comes alone. Jesus asks us to take in his strange friends, his dispossessed and uprooted children, his unpopular causes and projects."

Doris Donnelly

Medical Equipment Needed

Chosen International Medical Assistance will take used medical equipment. The equipment is cleaned, refurbished, then given to those in need, both at home and abroad: Wheelchairs, walkers, transfer benches, shower chairs, canes, hospital beds, etc. They also collect diabetic supplies in their original packaging. Rolling walkers are in great demand. Questions about what is accepted contact jeff@chosenima.org or 833-3023. Bring to Chosen International located at 3638 West 26 St. 8am to 3pm M-F.



January Birthdays

Jan. 2	Hayley D'Angelo	14
Jan. 5	Ellie Stauffer	11
Jan. 8	Grace Galbreath	14
Jan. 11	Makenna Pearson	11
Jan. 20	Avery Ollinger	17
Jan. 23	Aidan Reinsel	18
Jan. 25	Ryan Stauffer	9
Jan. 26	Kenslie Inthavong	5
Jan. 27	Madison Rizzo	12
Jan. 28	Lila Bly	13



For the
Religious
Education
Ministry

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

- Spaghetti & Meatballs
- Refreshments
- Salad
- Italian Bread
- Cookies
- Chinese Auction

Sit down and take-out options are available

\$10 for Adults
\$5 for Children 10 and under

WE ARE REQUESTING DONATIONS OF GIFT BASKETS

PLEASE DROP OFF BASKETS TO THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 30.

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS	27 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	28 8:30 AM Mass 7:30 PM AA	29 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 4:00 PM Blood Drive	30 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM MIDDAY Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 8:30 AM Mass	1 10:00 AM AA 10:00 AM Mass 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
2 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM Healing Ministry	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture	4 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed. 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	5 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	6 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM MIDDAY Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 8:30 AM Mass	8 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
9 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Religious Ed. 12:00 PM GR Group	10 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 7:00 PM Fireside Chatters	11 8:30 AM Mass 11:30 AM Potter's Clay 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed. 7:00 PM Jacquiel Continuum 7:30 PM AA	12 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus	13 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:15 AM Core Team Meeting 12:00 PM MIDDAY Prayer 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30 AM Mass	15 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
16 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Religious Ed. 9:30 AM Healing Ministry 5:00 PM Gr.11 Candidate/Sponsor Evening of Reflection 6:00 PM HC Youth Ministry Event @ Faith Lutheran	17 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	18 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed. 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 7:30 PM AA	19 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	20 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM MIDDAY Prayer 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 8:30 AM Mass	22 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
23 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Religious Ed. 10:30 AM Gr. 9 & 10 Retreat	24 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 6:30 PM Pastoral Facilitator Meeting	25 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed. 7:30 PM AA	26 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	27 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 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30 AM Mass	29 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
30 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Religious Ed. 9:45 AM Sunday CAFE 11:00 AM Gr. 6 Class Mass 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event	31 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	1 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed. 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	2 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 12:00 PM MIDDAY Prayer 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 8:30 AM Mass	5 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass

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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.