

# 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)



**JANUARY 16, 2022 - THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

<b>Mon. 01/17</b>	9:00 a.m. Quilters 9:30 a.m. Steel Magnolias SCC 2:00 p.m. Sofia's SCC 5:30 p.m. Sisters of Scripture SCC
<b>Tue. 01/18</b>	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. Lifelong Faith Formation
<b>Wed. 01/19</b>	8:30 a.m. Food Pantry Distribution 1:00 p.m. Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 p.m. OLM Book Group
<b>Thur. 01/20</b>	9:00 a.m. Painting Class 9:00 a.m. Angel's in Training SCC 9:15 a.m. CORE Team Meeting 12:00 p.m. Mid Day Prayer 1:00 p.m. Legion of Mary 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
<b>Fri. 01/21</b>	
<b>Sat. 01/22</b>	4:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 01/23</b>	9:30 a.m. Gr. K-2&7-8 Religious Ed. 10:30 a.m. Gr. 9 & 10 Retreat

## We Remember...

**Stephen Hardy**  
 Brother in law of Ken Marshall;  
 who passed away recently.  
 Please hold him and his family in  
 prayer during this difficult time.

In Loving Memory

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 01/17</b>	1 Sm 15:16-23	/ Mk 2:18-22
<b>Tue. 01/18</b>	1 Sm 16:1-13	/ Mk 2:23-28
<b>Wed. 01/19</b>	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51	/ Mk 3:1-6
<b>Thur. 01/20</b>	1 Sm 18:6-9, 19:1-7	/ Mk 3:7-12
<b>Fri. 01/21</b>	1 Sm 24:3-21	/ Mk 3:13-19
<b>Sat. 01/22</b>	1 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27	/ Mk 3:20-21
<b>Sun. 01/23</b>	Neh 8:2-6, 8-10	/ 1 Cor 12:12-30 / Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of January 9, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	49	\$ 3,125.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	139	\$ 3,511.70
Loose Change:		\$ 51.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 6,687.70</b>

## 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

<b>Mon. 01/17</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary</b> (The Legion of Mary)
<b>Tue. 01/18</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Our Lady's Intentions</b> (Todd Beckes)
<b>Wed. 01/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Marie Ritchie</b>
<b>Thur. 01/20</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Betty Bliss</b> (The Perrotto's)
<b>Fri. 01/21</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Irene Lion</b>
<b>Sat. 01/22</b>	6:00 p.m.	<b>Chet Szymecki</b> (Susie & Kids)
<b>Sun. 01/23</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Florence Adameck</b> (Friends of the Ella Cochran Food Pantry)
	11:00 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### JOHN 2:1-11

"Do whatever he tells you."

This is a phrase we have heard and will continue to hear from birth to death. From the time we were of age to talk, we were told, "do whatever he/she tells you." It continued when we were left with a babysitter, then at church, then at school, then in sports, then at our jobs, then when we were married. Throughout all stages in life, over and over again, these dynamic words resound in our minds and hearts.

The important time, however, is the time in our lives when we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior - then do the words mean more and more to us. The New Testament writers in all kinds of ways instruct us to "do whatever he tells us." When we follow their urging, we rejoice in the miracle of transformation in our lives knowing that God is at hand.

So, as we listen to his teachings and we read the Scriptures, and as we learn the lessons of life, in the background we hear echoes of Mary's words to the wine stewards. When we "do whatever he tells us," if we listen closely, we may hear God applaud.

For Reflection: Am I listening so I can "do what God tells me"?

*Tim Massanelli*



### 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.



### 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.

### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the winter issue of the parish newsletter is **Sunday, Jan. 16.**

Send items to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



### Grief Support



Grief is usually an individual experience. Sometimes talking one on one can help with sorting out the many confusing feelings. Call Donna Clark in the parish office for compassionate support.

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

**Called To Serve: The Role of the Permanent Deacon in the Church** The deacon is a ministry that dates back to the first decades of the Church.

Some of our greatest saints such as St. Lawrence and St. Francis of Assisi, were permanent deacons. This past May, two of the members of our parish were ordained to this ministry. But what is the unique ministry of the permanent deacon? On Jan. 30 Deacon Paul Barko will help us to understand this ordained ministry. He will share his own calling and the process by which men are prepared to become a deacon Join us at 9:45 on Jan. 30 for fresh brewed coffee, home baked treats and a fascinating story of responding to God's call.



### Ink Jet Fundraiser



Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.

## 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

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Jan. 9 was **Landon Stephenson, grade 3**, who knew that our sins, both original and personal sins are washed away in baptism.

### Our Neighbors' Place

Shelter for the homeless during the winter months is supported by the community.

The Eastside Catholic

Churches support this ministry

under the guidance of Erie United Methodist Alliance (EUMA). For the March shelter weeks (Mar 9-22, 2022), there is a need for volunteers willing to pack 35 "heavy snack" bags for the guests. If you can help please contact Mary Ellen Lieb [melieb4@gmail.com](mailto:melieb4@gmail.com), 814-873-1284 to sign up. A snack bag can include a sandwich, fruit or veggies, cheese & crackers, cookies, a drink & napkin. Bags need not be huge, just enough to tide guests over until morning. Monetary donations to EUMA are appreciated.



Our Neighbors' Place

### Children's Worship Bulletins

Help the young child in your life to engage with the Sunday readings by using the Children's Worship Bulletins which can be found on the bulletin tables. Each weekly 4-page booklet has activities related to the Sunday readings designed for young children.



### 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.



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



On July 10, 1990, Bishop Michael Murphy would write to Father Gerald Ritchie, Pastor of St. Francis Parish in Clearfield: "You are a source of joy and pleasure for me; you're my last personnel appointment as Diocesan Bishop!" That appointment would be as pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish.



**Harborcreek Youth Movie Night**  
**“Soul”**  
**Sunday, January 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**  
**at Faith Lutheran Church,**  
**5414 East Lake Road**



We're getting together with youth and families from three other Harborcreek churches for a movie night with snacks and fun activities. We'll be watching "Soul", the critically acclaimed 2020 Disney/Pixar film. All are welcome!

*Sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy, First Presbyterian Church of Harborcreek, South Harborcreek United Methodist, and Faith Lutheran Church*

**From the Community Women's Club of North East**

Dear OLM,  
 Thank you so very much for thinking of the Community Women's Club of North East and offering to donate many baby items to our Diaper Bag Project. We are grateful to the Our Lady of Mercy Church Missions Group for all of the blankets, socks, shoes, clothing and diapers. These will be included in our next group of diaper bags that we will give to the North East WIC Agency for the staff to give to WIC mothers. We appreciated your compassion.



Sincerely,  
*Sue Hammond*



**Cursillo**

Men's Cursillo 251 is **February 11-13th** at Our Lady of Mercy. Applications can be obtained at [eriecursillo.org](http://eriecursillo.org). Make time for yourself and God. He is waiting for you!

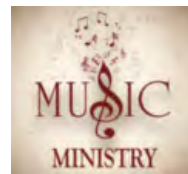
**A Special "Thank You"**

The family of Mike Brown would like to extend the most sincere, heartfelt "thank you" to the Our Lady of Mercy community. All of the thoughts, prayers and cards that were sent after the passing of Mike's sister, Suzanne Wieman, are so appreciated. Thank you, Our Lady of Mercy!



**Did you know...**

Our Lady of Mercy subscribes to ONELICENSE, a service that allows music directors to print music for church congregations pulled from many music publishers. This affords congregations the opportunity to sing older hymns and newer hymns that are not found in their hardbound hymnals. During Advent and Christmas our worship aids enabled Our Lady of Mercy's music director to choose treasured pieces of music from such sources and share them with all of you. In addition, many of the responsorial psalms we sing during our masses are using music settings not found in our hymnal. Some of the reasons for not using our hymnal settings are difficulty and vocal range (too high).



As we embark on the season of Ordinary Time I will be going back to the use of our hardbound hymnals and listing the hymn numbers on our numbers board. The psalm number will not be listed if it is not in our hymnal.

In addition, because we no longer have a Processional during the Preparation of the Gifts a congregation song is typically not listed in our worship aid. Only a short instrumental background piece or short choir song while the gifts are prepared is utilized.

Hope these explanations answer some of your questions!

Your servant in Christ,  
*Patti*  
 Music Director for OLM

**Youth Ministry Update**

Our Lady of Mercy Youth Ministry is alive and on fire. Over the last few months, we have spent time together in prayer, serving our community and building friendships based on our common love for Christ. Though these memories are wonderful to look back on, there is a great big future for OLM Youth Ministry to get excited about. Here's what's going on in our busy winter months!

**January 16th at 6 p.m.**

Youth in grades 6-12 across Harborcreek will gather at Faith Lutheran for a movie night. We will be watching the Disney Pixar movie "Soul". Before the movie we will engage in some "ice-breaker" activities and we will have a discussion following the movie.

**January 23rd at 10:30 a.m.**

OLM 9th and 10th graders will gather at OLM for their annual retreat. We will begin our day together with Mass. Our time spent with one another will consist of prayer, discussions, games, presentations, activities and a meal. This event is mandatory for all 9th and 10th graders.

**January 30th at 12 p.m.**

OLM students in 7th and 8th grade will come together for their monthly Youth Event. Though plans are still being finalized, our youth can expect another fun event that will incorporate prayer, fellowship service...and of course...lunch.



For the  
Religious  
Education  
Ministry

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6 12:00 - 3:00**

- 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.**

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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.