

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*

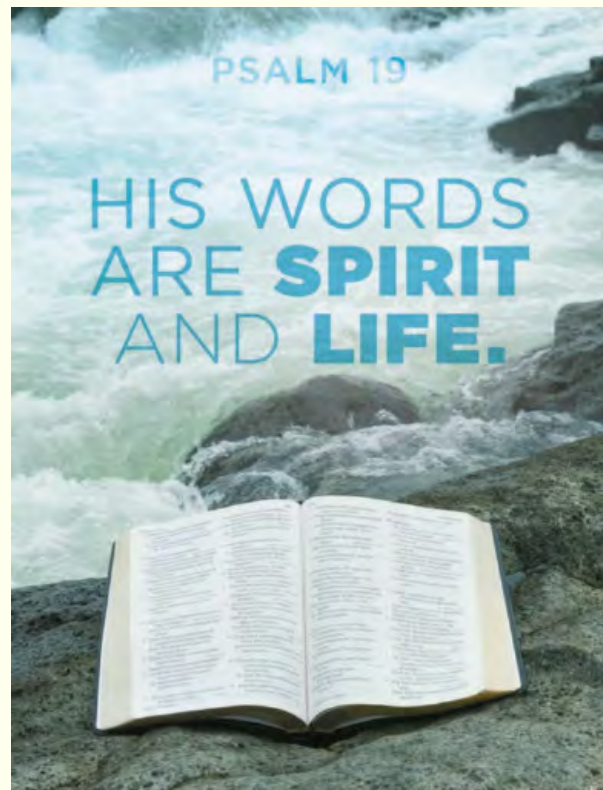
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



JANUARY 23, 2022 - THE 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 01/24	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Fireside Chatters
Tue. 01/25	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	2:00 p.m.	Hallelujah Girls SCC
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed.
	5:30 p.m.	Youth Open Gym
Wed. 01/26	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
Thur. 01/27	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 01/28		
Sat. 01/29	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 01/30	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-2 Religious Ed.
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday CAFE
	11:00 a.m.	Gr. 6 Class Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event

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



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of January 16, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	51	\$ 3,185.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	139	\$ 3,511.70
Loose Change:		\$ 57.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,753.70

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 01/24	2 Sm 5:1-7, 10	/ Mk 3:22-30
Tue. 01/25	Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22	/ Mk 16:15-18
Wed. 01/26	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5	/ Mk 4:1-20
Thur. 01/27	2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29	/ Mk 4:21-25
Fri. 01/28	2 Sm 11:1-10a, 13-17	/ Mk 4:26-34
Sat. 01/29	2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17	/ Mk 4:35-41
Sun. 01/30	Jer 1:4-5, 17-19	
	1 Cor 12:31-13:13	/ Lk 4:21-30

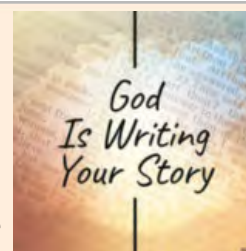
MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 01/24	8:30 a.m.	Leo Kosobucki (The Patchwork of Friends)
Tue. 01/25	8:30 a.m.	Joseph DeLoss (The Perrotto's)
Wed. 01/26	8:30 a.m.	MaryAnn Spring (Elizabeth Gerlach)
Thur. 01/27	8:30 a.m.	Barbara Abbate (John Abbate Family)
Fri. 01/28	8:30 a.m.	Eleanor Boris (The Extein's)
Sat. 01/29	6:00 p.m.	David Szura (Dick & Ann Nagosky)
Sun. 01/30	8:30 a.m.	Helen Heise (Lois Heise & Family)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LUKE 1:1-4; 4:14-21

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.



Today's Gospel will be proclaimed from the pulpit by a priest or a deacon. But it begs for more. It begs to be enacted with great drama. Why? Two reasons.

First, because Isaiah's words, and Jesus' dramatic reading of them, so powerfully describe and preview his ministry. This is crucial to our understanding of Christianity.

Second, the words Jesus read in 30 A.D. now describe our ministry. In baptism, all of us were given the responsibility for bringing glad tidings to the poor, liberating captives, and freeing the oppressed. How well are we doing that?

One way to measure that is to search our thoughts and attitudes for "isms." The late Father Joseph Biltz of Little Rock taught me about "isms" and how to recognize them. An "ism" results when we believe certain negative things about a whole group of people. We treat them as "less than," withholding from them the respect they deserve as children of God. "Isms" may be defined as a combination of power, prejudice and discrimination. Racism, ageism, sexism, elitism - these "isms" keep whole groups of people poor, captive and oppressed. Our baptism requires us to recognize and fight against all of them.

For Reflection: When have I been able to recognize and reject false portrayals of certain groups of people?

Judy Hoelzeman

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.



Gift Basket Fundraiser

Gift basket auction tickets will be sold after all Masses the weekend of Feb. 6, during the spaghetti dinner and on Friday, Feb. 4 between 9:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.



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.



For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

We will be preparing the newsletter for the mail at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 7. If you can lend a hand, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or call 814-899-6132. Please wear a mask.



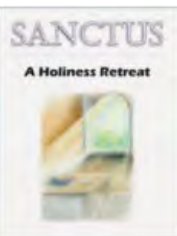
Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Feb. 16 to discuss of My Antonia by Willa Cather. Unvaccinated members, PLEASE wear masks.



Sanctus: A Holiness Retreat

Let your New Year's resolution be a deeper connection with Christ, a greater life of faith. Join other parishioners on a one day retreat on Feb. 19. All meals are included. There is no cost. Register by Feb. 1. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin tables or the parish website. Questions, contact Irene Lucas.



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 Jan. 16 was Maddie Rizzo, grade 6, who knew that Jesus is fully God and fully human.

Need someone to talk to about experiencing abuse?

Reach out to PurpleOne. Services provided are not only for crisis situations but also for those currently living in domestic violence, or those who have experienced it in the past. We have a 24-hour hotline.(814) 438-2675



Grief Support available

Losing someone we love can lead to a confusing time. Our feelings are all over the place. We can't seem to concentrate, or we are completely unmotivated. It can be isolating. Talking can help. Reach out to our grief ministry by contacting Donna Clark for some one on one support.



Cursillo

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



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.



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.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
Fr. Ritchie was formally installed as pastor on September 24, 1990.



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, 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.



A Special Thank You!

Dear Friends & Supporters, The Baby Box Committee really appreciated your wonderful support this past year. In spite of all the turmoil Haiti has experienced in recent months, our program has been able to continue. With your help, we were able to ship 390 Baby Boxes to Haiti to enable babies there to have a safe place to sleep. It also enabled us to hire a nurse in Haiti to provide Child Care Classes for the moms prior to the birth of their infants. Many now often get their child care advice from the local witch doctor. After the moms complete these classes, they are provided with a Baby Box complete with bedding, clothing and other items she will need for her newborn. These Baby Boxes provide many smiles on the faces of the moms who receive them. We are excited to learn that the new Birthing Center located at the Dorothy Frederickson Health and Education Community Center will soon be completed. This will provide moms with a safe place to deliver their infants. They plan for the completion of this facility is the end of this year. Thanks to all of you who are helping us save the lives of some babies and moms in Haiti where the infant and maternal mortality rate is among the highest in the world.



May God richly bless you with a joyous holiday season,
The Baby Box Committee

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.



Join Us
Sunday, Jan. 30
9:45-10:45
@ The OLM CAFE
Continuing Adult Faith
Enrichment

Called To Serve: The Role of the Permanent Diaconate 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.

Enjoy fresh brewed coffee, delicious baked goods, warm fellowship in a friendly parish hall.



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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IN THE PARISH OFFICE

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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.