

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*

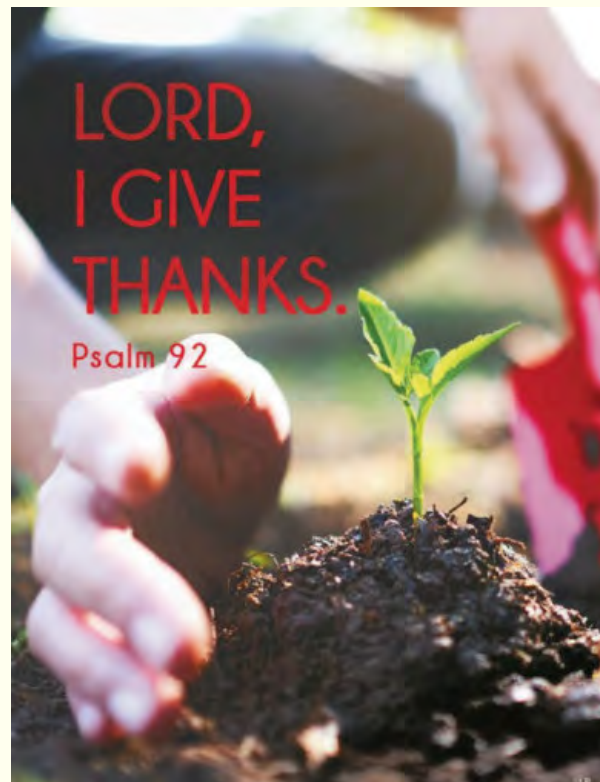
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



FEBRUARY 27, 2022 - THE 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 02/28	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 03/01	1:00 p.m.	Potter's 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.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 03/02	ASH WEDNESDAY	
	8:30 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass
Thur. 03/03	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Synod Meetings
Fri. 03/04	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 03/05	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 03/06	1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	
	Casserole Club Drop Off	
	Monthly Food Pantry Collection	
	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-1&7-8 Religious Ed.
	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	12:15 p.m.	Gr. 11 Interviews



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 02/28	1 Pt 1:3-9	/ Mk 10:17-27
Tue. 03/01	1 Pt 1:10-16	/ Mk 10:28-31
Wed. 03/02	Jl 2:12-18	/ 2 Cor 5:20-6:2
		/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thur. 03/03	Dt 30:15-20	/ Lk 9:22-25
Fri. 03/04	Is 58:1-9a	/ Mt 9:14-15
Sat. 03/05	Is 58:9b-14	/ Lk 5:27-32
Sun. 03/06	Dt 26:4-10 / Rom 10:8-13	/ Lk 4:1-13

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LUKE 6:39-45



What we say and how we say it reveals the true intentions of our hearts. The content and manner of our speech is a window into the recesses of our souls. Our consciences, attitudes, sentiments, weaknesses, and motives are displayed. As much as we think we can hide the truth of our lives from others, we cannot. Who we really are is not only expressed on our lips but is written on our faces. Jesus says precisely this, "For every tree is known by its own fruit." What does the fruit of our lives say about us?

Because we like to play the game of hide and seek with ourselves, in pretending that we are hiding we deflect attention others may give to us by becoming more critical of others. After all, the more time one can spend analyzing others' behavior the less time one has to look at his or herself. Often, the behaviors we abhor most in others are the very ones we are guilty of ourselves. We just don't know it yet. The more we put ourselves in the role of a judge, the more satisfaction and control we seem to achieve. Yet, what about ourselves? In focusing our attention on the beams in others' eyes, the aridity and barrenness of our lives goes unchecked. St. Ambrose reminds us that "no one heals himself by wounding another." Bringing our brothers and sisters down by being overly critical, serves no positive purpose.

But the one who knows how easy it is to fall into sin and weakness and how quickly errors in judgment can be made, knows the depth of true compassion, mercy, and kindness. Having recognized our own poor choices, misguided opinions, negative emotions, and ability to do horrendous things, we can be more sympathetic and understanding of where others may be. We are designed to be mentors and guides to one another. In walking the journey together, we can help each other become the best we can be. Humility is the order of the day and the primary virtue that prevents us from being hypocrites.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of February 20, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	51	\$ 2,958.10
Faith Direct Deposits:	146	\$ 3,657.83
Loose Change:		\$ 20.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,635.93

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

Mon. 02/28	8:30 a.m.	George Ritchie
Tue. 03/01	8:30 a.m.	Thomas Liebel (The Liebel Family)
Wed. 03/02	8:30 a.m.	Barbara Schlosser (Janet Smith)
	7:00 p.m.	
Thur. 03/03	8:30 a.m.	Dr. Loren Prichard (Carole Peters)
Fri. 03/04	8:30 a.m.	Joe Sell
Sat. 03/05	6:00 p.m.	George Dietrich (Fred & Kay Kaerberlein)
Sun. 03/06	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Family)

CSA 2022

Today is commitment Sunday for the 2022 CSA. Only by working together can we make it possible for our parishes, Catholic schools, Catholic Charities, clergy and the Catholic faithful to live and share Christ's teaching. You may wonder why you should support the CSA. The truth is, as members of the Diocese of Erie, we play an important role in the diocesan activities of Catholic education, evangelization, promoting justice and serving people in need throughout our diocese. Our diocese has work to do on behalf of the Lord and we are all asked to share our gifts to help advance the mission of the church. Our bishop assures us that donations to the CSA are placed in a designated account and used solely to support the programs and ministries of the diocese and cannot be used for any other purpose. Your gift is important. Thank you for giving.



Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on March 16 to discuss The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles. Our April book will be The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony. Unvaccinated members, PLEASE wear masks.



Prayer Service for those who are Grieving.

On March 21 at 7 p.m. the Grief ministry will host a prayer service with an opportunity for people to share their experience and receive support during the grieving process. The journey is easier when walking with others who understand. For questions or to attend this meeting by zoom contact Donna Clark in the parish office.

Using Faith Direct for your CSA Pledge

It is easy to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift through Faith Direct. Sign up using the Faith Direct button found on the right hand column of our web page: www.ourladyofmercychurch.org or by visiting www.faith.direct/PA647 or call the parish office or Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757 for further assistance.



Help for Heating – LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was open to help alleviate heating bill stress on low income families. A family of four with a gross annual income of \$39,750, qualifies for a grant. To find out if you qualify based on your household size and income, how to apply and what you need to apply, see the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space.



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 Feb. 13 was **Colton Catrabone, grade 5**, who knew that Holy Orders is the only Sacrament that cannot be celebrated by a female.

Lenten Pastus

Our first Lenten Pastus presentation will be at 7:00 p.m. on March 9. Our season will open with an inspiring presentation by a loved and admired member of our parish family. Kellysbrother will offer a glimpse into the hidden world of simplicity and joy that has been revealed to them through their sister with special needs - Kelly Mae. Speaking through true stories and revelations they have personally experienced, they look forward to sharing through their original music a testimony of love. How, through love, we learn to abandon our predetermined notions of "what is" to make room for "what can be" when we learn to become present to one another and allow ourselves to see God in everyone and everything we encounter. Kellysbrother - Charlie Krugger and Brittany Barko Krugger, songwriters/singers/multi-instrumentalists, are young adults native to Erie who identify as spiritual seekers of truth and the common good.



1:38 Women Just Two More Weeks Until 1:38 Women – Register Now!

Enjoy a dynamic experience with women from around the Diocese of Erie and beyond! The 7th annual 1:38 Women's Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** and you may attend as follows: Live in-person at St. Jude's Parish; Virtually at satellite parishes via Zoom at participating parishes to be announced on the website at 138women.com; Virtually via Zoom at your own home. Don't miss this opportunity to grow in your relationship with the Lord through inspiring national speakers and opportunities for prayer, and reconciliation as well as Mass with Bishop Lawrence Persico. All you need to have is an open heart! The event is just \$20. For more information and to register visit www.138women.com or call 814-455-7364.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Occurring in Fr. Ritchie's first term as pastor, were renovations to the church proper as well as to Mary's Chapel and the building of a new garage. But what became most apparent to him was the need for more space - more room for meetings, for religious education classes, for social gatherings.





SYNOD KEY TERM

What is discernment?

Discernment is the process for finding out what we should be doing. It might involve doing research or making a list of pros and cons, as you would for any major decision, but it is more than that. Especially in a religious context, discernment means trying to recognize God's will. Fruitful discernment takes place in a space of prayer and study. It includes sincere conversations with appropriate people, self-reflection, and attempting to read the signs that God may be placing around us.

We often speak of someone "discerning their vocation," which is something every person should do. In a similar way, discernment also happens on a communal level, from the local all the way up to the universal Church. Councils and Synods are always attempting to discern the will of the Holy Spirit, so that what they decide and teach may be what God wishes in that particular context. For communal discernment, dialogue is always more helpful than debate. Discernment should help us to understand our own needs and desires, but the final goal is to accept the will of God.



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- Sunday through Tuesday March 13 through 15; 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Morning Sessions after the 8:30 Mass from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Monday through Wednesday March 14th to 16th.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Mar. 2	Sage Skarzenski	2	Mar. 12	Mila Burick	9
Mar. 5	Thomas Pohl	15	Mar. 13	Justin Tersigni	17
Mar. 5	Sophia Sartori	8	Mar. 15	Zachery Pinetti	12
Mar. 6	Bailey Haislip	11	Mar. 16	Oliver Beckman	8
Mar. 7	Claire Stauffer	4	Mar. 16	Will Lunger	13
Mar. 9	Noah Sacco	18	Mar. 17	Leah Corey	16
Mar. 9	Nicholas Sacco	18	Mar. 19	Lydia Peters	7
Mar. 9	Lynzey Reinsel	16	Mar. 24	Tyler Bryan	6
Mar. 9	Mila Pearson	13	Mar. 25	Alaina Duda	1



MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr K - 2 Family Faith Event 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias Day Info Session 12:00 PM Jr. High Retreat	28 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	1 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay SCC 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Rel. Ed. 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM Pastoral Council 7:30 PM AA	2 Ash Wednesday 8:30 AM Ash Wednesday Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Mass	3 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM Synod Meetings	4 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	5 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
6 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF Monthly Food Pantry Collection 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Rel. Ed. 12:15 PM Gr. 11 Interviews	7 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture 6:30 PM Fireside Chatters	8 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Rel. Ed. 6:30 PM AGIFT Meeting 7:30 PM AA	9 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Knights of Columbus 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	10 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 9:15 AM Core Team Meeting 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	11 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	12 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
13 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Rel. Ed. 9:45 AM First Eucharist Parent Mtg 12:00 PM GR Group 7:00 PM Parish Mission	14 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Parish Mission 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 7:00 PM Parish Mission	15 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Parish Mission 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Hallelujah Girls 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Rel. Ed. 6:30 PM Roman Candles 7:00 PM Parish Mission 7:30 PM AA	16 8:30 AM Food Pantry Distribution 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Parish Mission 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM OLM BOOK GROUP	17 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	18 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	19 10:00 AM AA 12:00 PM Mission Trip Bingo @ St. James Place 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
20 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 & 7-8 Rel. Ed. 12:00 PM Gr. 9 & 10 Lenten Day of Service	21 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias 5:30 PM Sisters of Scripture 6:30 PM Fireside Chatters 6:30 PM Pastoral Facilitator Meeting	22 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Rel. Ed. 7:00 PM Jacquelin Continuum 7:30 PM AA	23 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	24 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM Confirmation @ Mt. Carmel	25 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	26 10:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Sacrament of Penance 6:00 PM Mass
27 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30 AM Gr. K-2 Rel. Ed. 11:00 AM Gr. 4 Class Mass 12:00 PM Baptismal Prep Class 12:00 PM Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event	28 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Steel Magnolias	29 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Potters Clay 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl 4:00 PM Gr. 3-6 Rel. Ed. 5:30 PM OLM Youth Open Gym 7:00 PM LFF Mtg. 7:30 PM AA	30 8:30 AM Mass 1:00 PM Diamonds in the Rough 7:00 PM Lenten Pastus	31 8:30 AM Mass 9:00 AM Angels in Training 9:00 AM Painting Class 1:00 PM Legion of Mary 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl	1 8:30 AM Mass 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross	2 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 _____

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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.