

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



MARCH 6, 2022 - THE 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 03/07	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Fireside Chatters SCC
Tue. 03/08	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.	AGIFT Meeting
Wed. 03/09	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
	6:10 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Pastus Speaker
Thur. 03/10	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:15 a.m.	Core Team Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 03/11	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 03/12	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 03/13		2ND SUNDAY OF LENT
	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-1&7-8 Religious Ed.
	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 a.m.	First Eucharist
		Parent Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Parish Mission



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 02/07	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18	/ Mt 25:31-46
Tue. 03/08	Is 55:10-11	/ Mt 6:7-15
Wed. 03/09	Jon 3:1-10	/ Lk 11:29-32
Thur. 03/10	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25	/ Mt 7:7-12
Fri. 03/11	Ez 18:21-28	/ Mt 5:20-26
Sat. 03/12	Dt 26:16-19	/ Mt 5:43-48
Sun. 03/13	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18	/ Phil 3:17-4:1 / Lk 9:28b-36

We Remember...

Margaret Stoner &
 Bishop Donald Trautman, former
 Bishop of the Diocese of Erie;
 who passed away recently.

In Loving Memory

Please hold them and their families in prayer during
 this difficult time.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of February 28, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	63	\$ 3,023.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	146	\$ 3,655.58
Loose Change:		\$ 101.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,779.58

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. 03/07	8:30 a.m.	Irene Abbate (Ted & Marge Nowak)
Tue. 03/08	8:30 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions (Todd Beckes)
Wed. 03/09	8:30 a.m.	Marsha Rzodkiewicz (A Friend)
	5:30 p.m.	Martha Tylinak
Thur. 03/10	8:30 a.m.	Bishop Donald Trautman
Fri. 03/11	8:30 a.m.	Carl Nagorski (Joe & Rose Tarquinio)
Sat. 03/12	6:00 p.m.	Theresa Ignasiak (Susie & Family)
Sun. 03/13	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Mary Ella Eaglen (Maureen Koseff)

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



LUKE 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil.

It may be a frightening thought to imagine being face-to-face with the devil, but in some ways wouldn't our spiritual battle be simpler if our confrontations with evil were as straightforward as those in today's Gospel? If the devil stood before us, and asked us to reject God and worship him, surely we would stand strong in faith.

The problem in our humanity, we often do not recognize evil right at first. Our vanity can make us blind. Any gift we possess - intellect, beauty, eloquent speech, athleticism - can be a source of joy for us if it is shared, or a pitfall if used only for personal gain. Jesus is tempted to use his gifts to ease his hunger, to gain worldly riches, and to perform spectacular feats for the crowd. Any of these actions might have made him an overnight success - an instant leader.

We might seem to be successful, at least in the eyes of the world, if we use our gifts for self-promotion rather than the service of others. Ultimately, if we use our gifts only for ourselves, we fail the test.

Reflection: In what ways am I tempted to use my gifts other than in the service of God and neighbor?

Roy Goetz

Lenten Soup Suppers are Back!

We're looking for soup makers to make soup for our dinners for Lenten Pastus. We need 2 kinds of soup to feed 30-40 people. The dates are **March 9, 23, and 30**. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering space. Call Sue McCreary with questions at **814-602-0146**.



Book Group



Join us at 7:00 p.m. on **March 16** at the home of Pat Marshall to discuss The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles. Our April book will be The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony

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

If you desire to have Our Lady of Mercy initiate your CSA donation from Faith Direct and you have used Faith Direct in the past, please indicate that by signing the pledge form. 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.



Update Census Forms

We are updating our parish information. If you did not review your census form when you had your picture taken, then look for your form in the gathering space. If you would like your form mailed to you, please contact the parish office.



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. 27 was **Lydia Peters, grade 1**, who knew that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.

Lenten Pastus

Our first Lenten Pastus presentation will be **March 9**. Join us at **5:30 for Mass, 6:10 for a simple soup supper and/or 7:00 for a presentation**. 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 Final Call: Register Today for the 2022 Catholic Women's Conference!

The 7th Annual 1:38 Women's Conference for Catholic women in the Diocese of Erie, is scheduled for this coming **Saturday, March 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The event is \$20. You may attend as follows: Live in-person at St. Jude's Parish; Virtually at satellite parishes via Zoom at participating parishes listed on the website at www.138women.com; Virtually via Zoom at your own home. Hear inspiring national speakers Patty Breen from Michigan and Lisa Hendeay from California. For more information and to register visit our website or call **814-455-7364**.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Fr. Ritchie came to a parish that had almost doubled in size since the beginning of Msgr. Sperry's pastorate, with a complex of buildings built mostly in the 1950's and 1960's. Fr. Ritchie addressed his concerns over the lack of space in the May 1995 issue of "For Mercy Sake".



Remembering Bishop Donald W. Trautman

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL, Bishop of Erie, was born in Buffalo, N.Y., on June 24, 1936. Bishop Trautman was ordained a priest in Innsbruck on April 7, 1962. On Feb. 27, 1985, Pope John Paul II named him titular bishop of Sassura and auxiliary bishop of Buffalo. Bishop Trautman was named the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Erie by Pope John Paul II on June 12, 1990. On July 16, 1990, Bishop Trautman was formally installed as bishop during a Mass at St. Peter Cathedral. He retired as bishop of the Diocese of Erie in 2012.



During preparation for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of his episcopal ordination, Bishop Donald Trautman reflected on being moved by the words of a priest who spoke at a banquet following his own ordination.

"This young man quoted the Scriptures and then said, 'I've only done my duty.' That is the perspective from which I view my life as well," Bishop Trautman said. "I've only done my duty."

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Father in Heaven, have mercy on us
and on the whole world!

You sent Your Son, the Prince of Peace,
for the salvation of the world.

We pray that the Peace of Christ will reign in Ukraine.
Please protect and send aid
to those in Ukraine and all who are at-risk.

We pray for peace –
we pray for all who are working towards it
and for all who are in danger
from this conflict.

We pray for an end to violence and war –
we pray for wisdom for all leaders
who have a hand in this.

Lord God, please help those in most need of thy mercy.
Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace,
pray for us!

St Joseph, Protector of Mary, Jesus and the Church,
pray for us!

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace,
may your kingdom reign in Ukraine
and all the world.

Amen.

CSA 2022

A sincere thank you to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. You have joined together with Catholics throughout the Diocese of Erie to share of your blessings to help advance the mission of the Church. I am grateful. If you have not yet made a commitment, it is not too late. Just drop your pledge sheet or envelope marked "CSA" in the collection basket or turn it in at the parish office. Your generosity is appreciated.



Mission trip
Gift basket

BINGO

St. James Place
2622 Buffalo Rd.

Contact Maggie Santiago
814-490-4275

March 19th

12-4

Fun

Laughter

Food

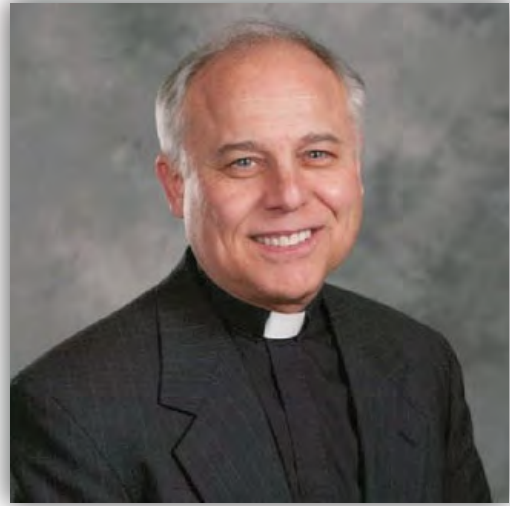
Doors open 11

Tickets 20.00

Games of Chance

Drinks

LUKE LIVE



PAULIST FR. JAMES DILUZIO

@ Our Lady of Mercy
For LENT

A dramatic proclamation of the Gospel of Luke with preaching & sacred and secular songs as meditations.

Fr. James will share his insights from over 15 years of proclaiming Luke's Gospel throughout the USA.

Sunday - Tuesday

March 13th through 15th

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the church.

Monday - Wednesday

March 14th through 16th.

Morning Sessions from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

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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.