

# 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)



**MARCH 20, 2022 - THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 03/21	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
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 03/22	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed.
	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Jacquel Continuum
Wed. 03/23	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	1:00 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
	6:10 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Pastus Presentation
Thur. 03/24	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation @ Mt. Carmel
Fri. 03/25	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 03/26	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 03/27		<b>4TH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-1 Religious Ed.
	11:00 a.m.	Gr. 4 Class Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class
	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 March 13, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	41	\$ 2,615.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	138	\$ 3,588.08
Loose Change:		\$ 57.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 6,327.58</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 03/21	2 Kgs 5:1-15	/ Lk 4:24-30
Tue. 03/22	Dn 3:25, 34-43	/ Mt 18:21-35
Wed. 03/23	Dt 4:1, 5-9	/ Mt 5:17-19
Thur. 03/24	Jer 7:23-28	/ Lk 11:14-23
Fri. 03/25	Is 7:10-14; 8:10	
	Heb 10:4-10	/ Lk 1:26-38
Sat. 03/26	Hos 6:1-6	/ Lk 18:9-14
Sun. 03/27	Jos 5:9-12	
	2 Cor 5:17-21	/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### LUKE 13:1-9

"Do you think they were more guilty?"



Jesus asks his listeners to consider the fate of those who recently died, some in a senseless slaughter, others in a tragic accident. One was an act of government-sponsored terrorism, in the other, a building collapsed. Were the victims somehow responsible? Had their sins caught up with them?

Today we sometimes hear of an irresponsible figure claiming that a devastating earthquake or storm was punishment from God. Jesus rejects the notion. But he does warn us all: disaster could overtake any one of us. Have we turned our lives over to God?

Jesus then tells a parable about a patient laborer, a gardener, that will wait even a fourth year for a fig tree to bear fruit, despite the owner having run out of patience. When we look for the hand of God in human affairs, do we look for signs of judgement, or signs of mercy? Jesus seems to be telling us that God is the one who comes to forestall judgement, to call for mercy, to urge reconciliation.

Too often we look for God in the conclusion of matters, when God is striving to change our course while we are still in the middle of the matter.

**Reflection: Have I been patient enough with myself or others?**

Clifford Yeary

## We Remember...

Renee Dennen;  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold her and her family in  
prayer during this difficult time.



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 03/21	8:30 a.m.	Charles Graham (Potter's Clay SCC)
Tue. 03/22	8:30 a.m.	Florence Adameck (Joanne Fournier)
Wed. 03/23	8:30 a.m.	Mary & Richard Kozik (John Abbate)
	5:30 p.m.	Bob Lutten
Thur. 03/24	8:30 a.m.	Joanne Smith (Liana Wathen)
Fri. 03/25	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 03/26	6:00 p.m.	Barb & Jim Payne (Susan Payne)
Sun. 03/27	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Anthony Massaro (The Massaro's)

### Confirmation Penance Service

All are invited to join our Confirmation candidates and their sponsors and families tonight, Sunday, March 20 @ 6:00 p.m. to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. They will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, March 24 at Mt. Carmel church. Please hold these young people in your prayer.



## 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.

### 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.

### Lenten Pastus

Our second Lenten Pastus presentation will be March 23. Join us at 5:30 for Mass, 6:10 for a simple soup supper and/or 7:00 for a presentation. Our season will continue with an exploration of how the media we use every day can enable us to be bold and creative witnesses of Jesus Christ, "Would Jesus Use Facebook?" Sr. Allison Regina Gliot is a Daughter of St. Paul. She will join us from Boston where she lives.



### Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting



It is time to begin planning for Vacation Bible School 22. If you would like to be part of this amazing week of fun and faith, join us at 5:30 Tuesday, March 22 in the parish library.

### Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on April 20 to discuss The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony.



### For Mercy Sake Deadline

Items for the spring issue of For Mercy Sake newsletter is due by April 10. Submissions can be sent to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Family Fun After 11 a.m. Mass

A young family has been visiting the OLM gym for some play time fun after the 11 a.m. Mass on Sundays and would like to invite other young families to join them. Stop on by with your young ones for a few minutes of Sunday fun!



## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of March 8 was Ryder Daniels, grade 6, who knew that the 4th Commandments instructs us to honor our parents.

### 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.



### 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](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org) or by visiting [www.faith.direct/PA647](http://www.faith.direct/PA647) or call the parish office or Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757 for further assistance.



### Baptismal Prep Parent Session

The next Baptismal Preparation Session for Parents and Godparents will be held on Sunday, March 27 at noon. All parents wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with their child are required to attend a session to prepare for this sacrament. These sessions are held semi-annually at OLM. To register for the March 27 session, please call the parish office at 814-899-5342. Participants are asked to register prior to attending to ensure sufficient materials.



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

On February 8, 1995, Bishop Trautman granted the request of the Pastoral Council to initiate a renovation process of the parish facilities. Members of the Council at that time were Tim Eisert, Pete Froess, Marilyn Garwig, Sr. Rosemary O'Brien, Kay Ray, Fr. Ritchie, Claudette Terrill, Tom Wuerstle, and Lorie Daughtery.



### Job opening for part-time director of music ministries

Our Lady of Mercy Parish is seeking a director of music ministries who will be actively engaged in the worship life of the parish and support the song of the assembly at weekend and special liturgies. Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree in music or equivalent experience and have knowledge and understanding of Catholic liturgy. Additional requirements include the ability to plan liturgies, excellent organizational and communication skills, and adaptability. For a pastoral musician with additional skills, this part-time music director position can be expanded to full-time coordinator of liturgical ministries. Applicants should send a cover letter and resume to [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org). For more information and a complete job description, contact the parish at 814-899-5342. To learn more about Our Lady of Mercy Parish, go to [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Cards Appreciated!

The new mailing address for parishioners Ed and Judy Jackson is: **Niagra Village, 2380 Village Common Dr., Apt 213 Erie, PA 16506**

Ed and Judy experienced a total loss of their possessions in a house fire this year. Please take a second to send them a card to let them know you are continuing to pray for them.

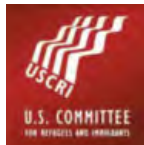


### Tech Owl

TechOWL finds tools and technology for people across PA. A specialist will work with a senior citizen to find the right device, load software and apps and teach the person how to use the technology. For more information: <https://techowlp.org/library/> or 800-204-7428 or [TechOWL@temple.edu](mailto:TechOWL@temple.edu) See the posters on our bulletin boards.

### Help Needed!

To help a group of immigrants the International Institute/USCRI is looking for donations of sewing machines and volunteers to help set up apartments. Contact Lydia Laythe, Program Coordinator – Health, Wellness & Compliance, 814-452-3935 ext. 2023 These machines offer the women a chance to be productive, hone their skills, and potentially develop a business of their own; some of these women also the clothes they wear are very culturally specific and the local stores don't sell the types of clothes they wear, so they need to make it for themselves. Interchurch Ministries will also collect gift cards for JoAnn's for the women to use to purchase material and other sewing supplies. They can be delivered to First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant. Please make sure they are marked clearly for Interchurch Ministries Monetary donations can also be sent to the address below. Inter-Church Ministries of Erie County, 250 West 7th Street Erie, Pennsylvania 16501 (814)454-2411 [icm@icmeriecounty.org](mailto:icm@icmeriecounty.org)



## 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.



## UKRAINIAN RELIEF

The 7,000 Knights of Columbus members in Poland are heading a massive effort to provide food, shelter, clothing and support for Ukrainian refugees on both sides of the Polish-Ukraine border. The Knights of Columbus of our Parish are heading a drive to assist our brother Knights in their effort. 100% of funds collected will be channeled through the Knights of Columbus national organization and will go directly to the Polish Knights relief efforts. We will have baskets at both entrances this weekend, in the office during the week and at all Masses next weekend. We urge you to be as generous as possible to assist in this humanitarian crisis. Your Knights of Columbus.

27th Annual Knights of Columbus  
Our Lady of Mercy Council 11144

# **GOLF AND SPORTS RAFFLE**

## **Casino Night**

*Benefitting Youth Activities at Our Lady of Mercy Parish*

**Friday, May 13, 2022**

**Our Lady of Mercy Church, Sperry Hall**

Bartlett and Dutton Roads, Harborcreek / Doors Open 6-11 pm

**FREE FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS**

**ALL TICKETS ELIGIBLE FOR ALL DRAWINGS  
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

**CASH PRIZES AWARDED  
FOR THOSE IN ATTENDANCE**

All prizes must be claimed by August 31, 2022

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### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF AND SPORTS RAFFLE PRIZE LIST**

1. Bermuda 6 Night Cruise for Two - September/October - **STAN'S GARDEN CENTER**
2. \$300 Value Vehicle Services - **MCMILLEN'S CAR CARE**
3. Two Steelers Tickets / 50 Yard Line "You Pick Game" - **WIDGET FINANCIAL**
4. Four Tickets Bridgestone Sr. Tourney Akron, OH - **ROSETO-SUTER OVERHEAD DOOR**
5. Callaway Rogue ST MAX Mens Irons 4-PW - **OLLINGER PLUMBING & HEATING**
6. Garmin Golf Rangefinder - **GERY T. NIETUPSKI ESQ.**
7. 55" HDTV - **PSB INDUSTRIES**
8. Membership for One Year - **FOX RUN**
9. Callaway Rogue ST MAX Driver - **H AND H DIRECTIONAL DRILLING**
10. Golf for Four - **WHISPERING WOODS GOLF COURSE**
11. Scenic Heights Golf Course - One Year Membership - **WAC**
12. Sun Mountain Golf Bag - **JOE B'S CARPET**
13. Three Walleye Passes - **TELL NO TALES CHARTER - N.E. TIRE & SERVICE**
14. **GREEN MEADOWS GOLF** and **RICARDO'S Dinner for Four**
15. White Hot OG Putter - **BATES COLLISION**
16. Kellar's Magical Comedy Tickets - **LAKEVIEW MOTEL**
17. Golf for Four with Cart - **LAKESIDE GOLF COURSE**
18. Four Seawolves Tickets at 2 Games - **THE WILKINS COMPANY**
19. Ladder Tree Stand - **EAST ERIE MOOSE**
20. Two 3 Hour Sessions - **THE CLUBHOUSE INDOOR GOLF**

**DONATION  
\$10.00 EACH  
OR  
3 FOR \$25.00**

Tickets may be purchased at: Fiddle Inn, Stan's Garden Center & McMillen's Car Care

**MUST BE 21 AND OVER TO ATTEND**

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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.