

# 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*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant  
& Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

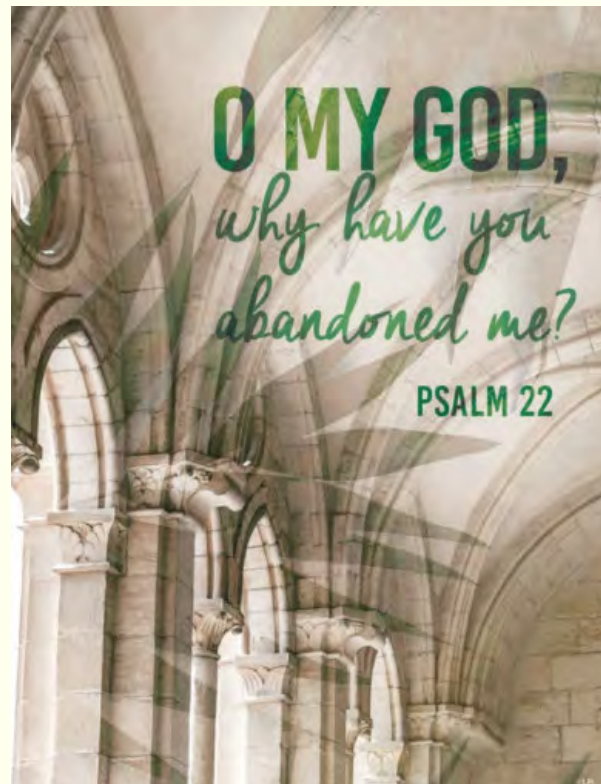
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



**APRIL 10, 2022 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 04/11	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 04/12	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed.
Wed. 04/13	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
	7:00 p.m.	Pilgrimage Through Holy Week
Thur. 04/14		<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
Fri. 04/15		<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
	1:00 p.m.	Outdoor Stations of the Cross
	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Sat. 04/16		<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>
	11:30 a.m.	Blessing of Easter Food
	9:00 p.m.	The Great Easter Vigil
Sun. 04/17		<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of April 3, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	68	\$ 5,314.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	138	\$ 3,602.58
Loose Change:		\$ 60.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 8,976.58</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



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/11	Is 42:1-7	/ Jn 12:1-11
Tue. 04/12	Is 49:1-6	/ Jn 13:21-38
Wed. 04/13	Is 50:4-9a	/ Mt 26:14-25
Thur. 04/14	Ex 12:1-8, 11-14	
	1 Cor 11:23-26	/ Jn 13:1-15
Fri. 04/15	Is 52:13-53:12	
	Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9	/ Jn 18:1-19:42
Sat. 04/16	Gn 1:1-2:2 / Ex 14:15-15:1 / Is 54:5-14 / Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4 / Ez 36:16-28 / Rom 6:3-11 / Lk 24:1-12	
Sun. 04/17	Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 or Cor 5:6-8	/ Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

## We Remember...

Richard Wilhelm,  
husband of Erika Wilhelm;  
who passed away recently.

In Loving Memory

Please hold him and his family in prayer during this difficult time.

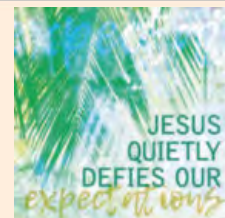
## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 04/11	8:30 a.m.	Bob Latchford
Tue. 04/12	8:30 a.m.	Eleanor Boris (The Extein's)
Wed. 04/13	8:30 a.m.	Norm & Barb Schlosser (Liana Wathen)
Thur. 04/14	7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
Fri. 04/15	3:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Sat. 04/16	9:00 p.m.	The Great Easter Vigil
Sun. 04/17	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### LUKE 19:28-40

Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem.



The evangelist Luke has Jesus' journey beginning in Jerusalem with his presentation in the Temple. Now, we see the end of the journey approaching, again, in Jerusalem. Christ's journey has been one of mentoring the apostles and the other disciples. As a mentor he not only teaches about the Kingdom and its values, he models the way to live these ideals. He comes as one who serves others.

Today begins the commemoration of the holiest week of our liturgical calendar. As we journey with Christ this week, we are invited to reflect on our own paschal journey, our own dyings and risings.

Jesus did not look forward to the suffering he knew would come to him in Jerusalem, but he knew following God's will would have difficult consequences. He knew, he trusted, that the suffering would lead to something better.

This might be a good time for us to reflect on our own journey. What have been the important events of our lives? Where has God been at those times?

Reflection: Where have I personally encountered the cross? Where have I found new life?

Susan McCarthy, R.D.C.



### 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).



### Pilgrimage Through the Symbols of Holy Week

**HOLY WEEK** After a 2 year hiatus, we will once again be making our pilgrimage through the beautiful symbols of the Holy Week liturgies. Our pilgrimage will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13 in the large classroom. From there, we will journey through the objects and actions that embody the story at the heart of our faith, the story that promises to transform each of our lives. Bring a wine glass, wear comfortable shoes, and open your heart to what these holy moments have to say to you. It will bring the celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter alive in new ways.



### Grief Support Group

Monday April 18 at 7 p.m. in the parish parlor the Grief Support Groups will meet for prayer and discussion about how journeying through grief can seem like a roller coaster. Sometimes just listening to another's story can help us to heal. Questions call Donna Clark in the parish office.



### Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on April 20 at the home of Donna Huff to discuss The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony. Our May title will be Then She Was Gone by Lisa Jewell.



### Sundae Sunday

Let's celebrate! God's blessings are beyond compare. Easter joy will fill our hearts. Our young people have spent a year of fun and faith growing as the disciples of Jesus. Join us for a celebration of God's amazing gifts on Sunday, April 24 at noon in Sperry Hall with a sundae bar and cake walk. We are looking for people to donate cakes for the cake walk. If you are willing to bake, please sign the list in the Gathering Space or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Need a Lenten commitment?

Why not commit to attending Women's Cursillo #258? It will be held at Our Lady of Mercy on April 29th - May 1st. Applications can be filled out on the [eriecursillo.org](http://eriecursillo.org) website. You must show proof of vaccination to attend or work the Cursillo. A list of candidates can also be found on the website. Questions, call Lois Heise at 814-882-9555.



## 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 March 29 was Joseph Lewandowski, grade 1, who knew that during Lent, we collect money for the poor in our "rice bowls".

### Pastoral Council and Visioning Process – Join Us!

The Pastoral Council is one of the key groups involved in visioning for the parish. We want to add new members who will help with this process. Sign up at the display in the gathering space to get more information about Pastoral Council and our visioning process. You will be invited to attend an informational session then take some time to discern what God is calling you to. We are looking for people who desire to go deeper in their walk with Christ, to discern how we create an environment for discipleship and how to meet people where they are and walk with them on the journey to discipleship.



### 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.

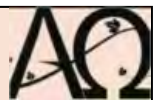


### Save the Date: Knights of Columbus Golf and Sports Raffle

The Knights of Columbus will once again host their annual Golf and Sports Raffle Casino Night at Our Lady of Mercy on Friday, May 13, 2022. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25 and include food and refreshments. All tickets are eligible for all drawings, need not be present to win. Cash prizes will be awarded for those in attendance. Proceeds from this event will benefit youth activities at Our Lady of Mercy. For a list of prizes, please see the flyer on the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space. Tickets and posters are available in the Parish Office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



**Celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish**  
February 22, 1999 was a day of mixed emotions as demolition began on the building that had been the familiar home of our worshipping community for many years.



**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).

**SAVE THE DATE**

Our Lady of Mercy has a reason to celebrate. Someone we love is turning 80 before the month ends. And we want to make his birthday as joyful as possible. Mark your calendar for Saturday evening, **May 7**. Join us for the 6:00 Mass followed by a birthday reception for Fr. Ritchie in Sperry Hall. Bring a finger food to share. All are welcome.



**GOOD NEWS - SUMMERFEST  
IS BACK IN FULL SWING!**

**Save the Date! July 10,  
noon to 5**

**NEW OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES!**

We would like to have a CHILDREN'S AREA outside to keep the kids busy while their parents on busy elsewhere. These children would be supervised and safe while playing their games. Can you give us suggestions of games or ideas that would keep kids busy? We are considering a CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT! How about a BADMINTON TOURNAMENT, or CROQUET TOURNAMENT? Would you be interested in something like this? We will have extra volunteers on hand to take your place if you are volunteering in another area of the Festival to free up time for you to participate in the tournaments. We are currently in the process of calling Coordinators for each activity. If you haven't heard from us or have any questions, please call or text Karen Sweeney 814-323-1890!



**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.



**Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**Be Vigilant**

Child Abuse Prevention Month should lead to heightened awareness of the need to be vigilant about providing a safe environment for all within the Church and for our communities. It is vitally important that we are constantly vigilant concerning the behaviors of those who interact with children and communicating our concerns to the appropriate parties. Each one of us can play an important role in strengthening this culture of prevention. For example, we can better prevent abuse by ensuring that the signs of abuse are identified and reported. Noticing these warning signs, taking them seriously, and reporting them could prevent abuse in the future. When we witness inappropriate behavior or something that just doesn't seem quite right, we must report our concerns through the appropriate channels. For particular questions you may call: Cindy Zemcik, Coordinator for the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth in the Diocese of Erie at 814-824-1195.



# Triduum at Our Lady of Mercy

## HOLY THURSDAY

April 14

7:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## GOOD FRIDAY

April 15

1:00 p.m.

OUTDOOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS

3:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

## HOLY SATURDAY

April 16

11:30 a.m.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

## THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, April 16

9:00 p.m.

## EASTER SUNDAY

April 17

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY MASS

Beginning on Palm Sunday,  
we enter into Holy Week  
—the most solemn week of the year—  
the final, intense days of Lent  
and the great days of the Triduum.



## Welcoming Guests for Holy Week and Easter

Please be mindful of people attending services and Easter Masses here who may not worship with us regularly. They could be returning home for a visit or trying out this community to see if they want to join. Please make these people feel welcome and be attentive to their needs. We have extra hearing assisted devices in the sacristy. We have the nursery in classroom area down the hallway near the front doors. If a new face is sitting near you please introduce yourself.



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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.