

# 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)



**MAY 15, 2022 - THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

|             |            |                           |
|-------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Mon. 05/16  | 9:00 a.m.  | Quilters                  |
|             | 9:30 a.m.  | Steel Magnolias SCC       |
|             | 1:00 p.m.  | Sisters of Scripture SCC  |
|             | 6:30 p.m.  | Fireside Chatters SCC     |
|             | 7:00 p.m.  | Grief Support Group       |
| Tue. 05/17  | 1:00 p.m.  | Potter's Clay SCC         |
|             | 2:00 p.m.  | Prayer Shawl              |
|             | 6:30 p.m.  | Roman Candles SCC         |
|             | 7:00 p.m.  | Lifelong Faith Formation  |
| Wed. 05/18  | 8:30 a.m.  | Food Pantry Distribution  |
|             | 1:00 p.m.  | Diamonds in the Rough     |
|             | 1:00 p.m.  | Legion of Mary            |
|             | 7:00 p.m.  | Festival Meeting          |
|             | 7:00 p.m.  | OLM Book Group            |
| Thur. 05/19 | 9:15 a.m.  | CORE Team Meeting         |
|             | 12:00 p.m. | Jesus Today Prayer        |
|             | 6:00 p.m.  | Music Rehearsal           |
|             | 6:00 p.m.  | Prayer Shawl              |
| Fri. 05/20  | 6:00 p.m.  | YM Babysitters Club       |
|             | 8:00 p.m.  | YM Boba Bar & Bingo Night |
| Sat. 05/21  | 1:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal           |
|             | 4:30 p.m.  | Sacrament of Penance      |
| Sun. 05/22  |            |                           |

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

|             |                    |               |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Mon. 05/16  | Acts 14:5-18       | / Jn 14:21-26 |
| Tue. 05/17  | Acts 14:19-28      | / Jn 14:27-31 |
| Wed. 05/18  | Acts 15:1-6        | / Jn 15:1-8   |
| Thur. 05/19 | Acts 15:7-21       | / Jn 15:9-11  |
| Fri. 05/20  | Acts 15:22-31      | / Jn 15:12-17 |
| Sat. 05/21  | Acts 16:1-10       | / Jn 15:18-21 |
| Sun. 05/22  | Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 |               |
|             | Rv 21:10-14, 22-23 | / Jn 14:23-29 |

## 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. 05/16  | 8:30 a.m.  | Harry Extein<br>(The Exteins)                     |
| Tue. 05/17  | 8:30 a.m.  | Msgr. James Sperry                                |
| Wed. 05/18  | 8:30 a.m.  | Carl Nagorski<br>(Joe & Rose Tarquinio)           |
| Thur. 05/19 | 8:30 a.m.  |   |
| Fri. 05/20  | 8:30 a.m.  | Rich DiPlacido<br>(Robert & Nancy Nietupski)      |
| Sat. 05/21  | 6:00 p.m.  | For the People of OLM<br>(Fred & Kay Kaerberlein) |
| Sun. 05/22  | 8:30 a.m.  | Marsha Rzodkiewicz<br>(A Friend)                  |
|             | 11:00 a.m. | Lewis Peters<br>(Carole Peters)                   |

## The BEST FESTIVAL EVER is back in full swing!



July 10, 2022 12 to 5 p.m.

In addition to our WORLD FAMOUS BBQ Chicken Dinner, the Festival will also offer...Chinese Auction – Bake Sale – Bingo – Adult Outdoor Games - Children's Area – Pony Rides

Raffles: \$1000 Grand Prize, Quilt, 50/50, Restaurant Gift Cards, Wine Basket & Craft Beer Basket!

### The Book Sale is BACK! July 7th - 10th

Thank you to all who volunteered. We are still in need of someone to handle publicity, 2 co-chairs.

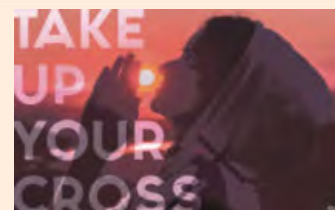
Please contact Karen Sweeney with any questions or concerns 814-323-1890.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 8, 2022

|                         |     |                    |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Envelopes sent:         | 357 |                    |
| Envelopes returned:     | 57  | \$ 3,845.00        |
| Faith Direct Deposits:  | 143 | \$ 3,685.95        |
| Loose Change:           |     | \$ 113.00          |
| <b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b> |     | <b>\$ 6,622.95</b> |

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### JOHN 13:31-35

"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."

What do these things have in common: disciplining a disobedient child, donating a kidney to your sister, taking the keys away from an inebriated friend? They are all acts of the kind of love with which Jesus has loved us.

The word "love" is used in so many ways in our society, from the sublime (love of God) to the ridiculous (love of puns), that it is difficult to know in some cases exactly what is meant to be conveyed by the word.

With gospel love, the issue is simple: love means to want what is best for the other and do the best that you can for the other. It is primarily a decision, not a feeling, though feelings from the heart may accompany decisions of love. But if there is no decision about what is best for the other, it is not love, no matter how good it feels or what it is called.

Jesus wanted what is best for us so much that he did the ultimate toward bringing it about, giving his life for our salvation. "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."

Reflection: In what ways has Jesus' love for me equipped me to want the best for those I encounter in life?

Abbot Jerome Kodell, O.S.B.

### Grief Support Group

May 16 at 7:00 p.m. we gather to share our experiences of losing someone we love. Sometimes we have unexpected experiences. It is helpful to share those experiences so that we know we are not alone in our struggle. For one-on-one meetings contact Donna Clark in the Parish office.



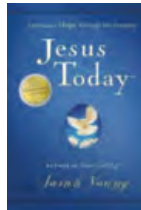
### Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on May 18 at the home of Sue McCreary to discuss Then She Was Gone by Lisa Jewell. Our June title will be The Girl Who Wrote in Silk by Kelli Estes.



### Heard from Jesus Lately?

Join us on **Thursdays at noon** as we read from the book Jesus Today. Sometimes we need to hear an encouraging word to enliven our spirit. Join this small group in the parish parlor to read a short spiritual reflection from the book then share the message or the challenge you received. Questions – contact Donna Clark.



### Housing Help

Guided by the Holy Spirit, our search for a pastoral music minister for Our Lady of Mercy continues. We have received an application and we will interview and audition a young musician for the position in May. As in the past, some candidates may need assistance finding an apartment. If this candidate were to be hired, she would need to relocate, and we would like to make it easier for her to live in or near Harborcreek. Do you know of an in-law apartment or small efficiency or other rental in the area? Please contact the OLM office and let Katie or Donna know. Thank you for your gracious hospitality.



### Pentecost Party

Fifty days after Jesus rose from the dead, he sent His Holy Spirit upon a frightened and confused group of His disciples. It looked like burning fire, sounded like rushing wind and felt like the birth of the Church. Pentecost is our birthday, the birthday of we who are the Church. Birthdays need to be celebrated with cake and balloons and pop. Let's gather in Sperry Hall **after each Mass June 4 & 5** for cupcakes or muffins, pop or coffee and the chance to celebrate our birthday.



## 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.

### Summer Scripture Study

Have you ever wondered how the parables of Jesus would have been heard and understood by the Jewish audience who listened to Jesus in real time? The Prodigal Son, The Good Samaritan, The Lost Sheep, these stories are as familiar as our own names. They have been explained to us from childhood. We know what they mean. But do we know what they meant? In our Summer Scripture Study, we will try to hear these stories with the ears of a first century Palestinian Jew. Our study guide will be "Short Stories by Jesus: Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi" the Study Guide by Amy-Jill Levine. Levine is a highly respected Scripture scholar and a Jewish theologian. Participants who would like to order the guide for \$10 should contact Irene Lucas by June 10 at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132. Participants should feel free to purchase the study guide on their own or to attend without a book. This study will meet **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. June 23 - July 28** on the back patio of Irene Lucas 1019 Bartlett Rd. Each week will look at a different parable, so there is no need to commit to attend every week.



### Youth Ministry Babysitter's Club and Game Night!



Friday May 20th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Need a few hours of alone time, maybe a date night out or an uninterrupted trip to the grocery store...bring your little kiddo to BABYSITTER'S CLUB! OLM Youth in grades 7-12 will provide fun supervised care for children ages 3-11. Sign up by **Wednesday, May 18th** by emailing Katie at [youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

**Youth Ministry Game Night: Friday May 20th 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.** BINGO and Boba Bar night! ALL YOUTH in grades 7-12 are invited to this event! Bring a friend, enjoy different flavored boba tea and lemonade while playing some BINGO for pretty cool prizes!



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

From the beginning of the new church project, the Building Committee had always envisioned January 1, 2000 as the completion date of the building project. On New Year's Day 2000, the parish community celebrated the Laying of the Cornerstone.





# 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.



# SUMMER FESTIVAL 2022



We are still in need of:

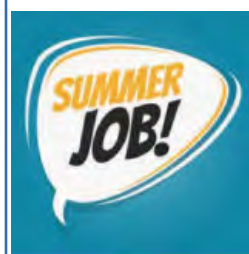
- 2 co-chairs or people who would be willing to act as a liaison between Outdoor Activities and Chair Karen Sweeney & Gym Activities and Chair Karen Sweeney.
- Someone to handle publicity

**Calling all Bakers:** We will need cookies to be used as desserts this year in place of sweet breads! We will have 1600 dinners this year, so we need 3200 cookies!!!

**WANTED:** Crafters, Gardeners, Sewers, Painters, Woodworkers, Metal workers, and any other Hand Crafted Items that you can donate to Summer Festival 2022 for sale at the Craft Table Sales!

### ANYONE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER FOR THESE POSITIONS:

PLEASE KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE GIVEN MUCH SUPPORT FROM ANY AND ALL WHO ALREADY HAVE VOLUNTEERED AND FROM THE STAFF AT OUR LADY OF MERCY.



### NEED A SUMMER JOB?

If you are a high school or college student looking for a summer job, Our Lady of Mercy is looking for summer help with maintenance and landscaping. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 814-899-5342.

### BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Our Knights of Columbus council has joined all the other councils in Erie and Crawford Counties to conduct a Baby Bottle fundraising drive to benefit the Women's Care Center of Erie with a goal of purchasing a mobile ultrasound van. This medically equipped vehicle will visit rural areas, as well as our five local universities to provide valuable lifesaving services. In 2021, our OLM and St. Gregory's K of C councils partnered to provide an ultrasound machine to the Care Center, and in less than a year 63 previously abortion bound women chose life for their unborn children, after viewing them on this state of the art machine. While this is certainly an achievement, we are now focusing on helping to raise \$250,000 to purchase a mobile ultrasound van. If the K of C along with other entities is able to achieve this goal, the K of C Supreme council in Connecticut will pay the entire cost of the mobile ultrasound machine, amounting to about \$50,000. Baby bottles will be distributed as you leave church on Mother's Day. If you are financially able, we ask that you fill them with change, currency or checks and return them on Father's Day. All proceeds will go to the purchase of the mobile ultrasound van.



### 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).

# OUR LADY OF MERCY PRESENTS... VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022



## JULY 25-29, 2022

### 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

#### All travelers - age 4 thru entering 6th grade

For more information call:

Irene Lucas 814-899-6132 or the Parish Office 814-899-5342

Or email [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

\*Registration Deadline is July 17th\*

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

| Child's Name | Age | Grade 2022/2023 | Special/Dietary Needs |
|--------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------------|
|              |     |                 |                       |
|              |     |                 |                       |
|              |     |                 |                       |

### Adult & Teen Volunteers

(Teens must be entering 9th Grade or above - Adults MUST provide current clearances)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which area you would like to help out:

Teacher: \_\_\_\_ Story Time: \_\_\_\_ Craft: \_\_\_\_ Games: \_\_\_\_ Music: \_\_\_\_

Aide: \_\_\_\_ Kitchen: \_\_\_\_ Set-Up: \_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_



**LYNCH**  
**Home Medical Supply**  
**TIMOTHY P. LYNCH**  
 Parishioner, Owner, Certified Orthotic Fitter  
 Lift Chairs & Scooters  
 Wound Care • Walkers • Wheelchairs  
 Commodes & Much More  
 4020 Main St. • Lawrence Park  
**899-3636**  
[www.lynchmedical.com](http://www.lynchmedical.com)

Where There's Always  
 Something **GROWING** on!

**Stans' GARDEN CENTER**

Jim Skarzenski & Bob Rocky - Parishioners

East  
 5001 Buffalo Road  
 Erie, PA 16510  
**899.5424**

West  
 5341 West Lake Road  
 Erie, PA 16505  
**835.6960**

**William D. Elkin**  
**Funeral Home**  
 65 South Lake St. • North East  
**725-4511**  
*Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.*  
*William D. Elkin, F.D.*  
 Pre-Arrangements Available

**Brevillier Village**  
 5416 East Lake Road  
 Erie, PA 16511  
**814-899-8600**  
[www.brevillier.org](http://www.brevillier.org)

Ball Pavilion  
 Short Term Rehab  
 Long Term Nursing  
 Care

Barnabas Court  
 Licensed Personal  
 Care, Residency &  
 Independent Living.

Conrad House  
 Independent Living

"Your Computer  
 Professional"

**JDL Computers**

**NEW SYSTEMS  
 USED • REPAIRS**

"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"

**898-8300**  
*Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners*

**JDLCOMPUTERS.COM**

**OLLINGER**  
**PLUMBING, HEATING  
 & AIR CONDITIONING**

Residential • Commercial  
 Quality Installations & Service  
**899-2809**

**FIDDLE INN**  
 HARBORCREEK, PA  
 "Home of the EVERYTHINGS"

6615 Buffalo Road  
**814-899-9005**  
[www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn](http://www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn)

Place Your Ad Here and  
 Support our Parish!

Instantly create and purchase  
 an ad with

**AD  
 CREATOR  
 STUDIO**



[4lpi.com/adcreator](http://4lpi.com/adcreator)

**HARBORCREEK  
 AUTO  
 Gallery**

[www.harborcreekautogallery.com](http://www.harborcreekautogallery.com)  
 6850 Buffalo Rd. • **814-315-4051**  
 Harborcreek, PA

- Sales
- PA Inspections
- Notary
- Detailing

**DUSCKAS - TAYLOR**  
 FUNERAL HOME & CREATION SERVICES, INC.



5151 BUFFALO RD.  
 ERIE, PA 16510

ROBERT D. TAYLOR, SUPERVISOR  
 814-315-0911

[WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM](http://WWW.DUSCKAS-TAYLORFUNERALHOME.COM)

**GROW YOUR BUSINESS  
 BY PLACING AN AD HERE!**

**CONTACT US!**

Contact Timothy Weir to place an ad today!  
[tweir@4LPi.com](mailto:tweir@4LPi.com) or (800) 477-4574 x6568

**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.