

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*

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



MAY 22, 2022 - THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 05/23	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
Tue. 05/24	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Continuum Gathering
Wed. 05/25	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	7:00 p.m.	Festival Meeting
Thur. 05/26	The Ascension of the Lord	
	8:30 a.m.	Holy Day Mass
	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Jesus Today Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Day Mass
Fri. 05/27		
Sat. 05/28	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/29		

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/23	Acts 16:11-15	/ Jn 15:26-16:4
Tue. 05/24	Acts 16:22-34	/ Jn 16:5-11
Wed. 05/25	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1	/ Jn 16:12-15
Thur. 05/26	Acts 1:1-11	/ Eph 1:17-23
	or Heb 9:24-28, 10:19-23	/ Lk 24:46-53
Fri. 05/27	Acts 18:9-18	/ Jn 16:20-23
Sat. 05/28	Acts 18:23-28	/ Jn 16:23-28
Sun. 05/29	Acts 7:55-60/ Rv 22:12-20/ Jn 17:20-26	

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. 05/23	8:30 a.m.	Our Lady's Intentions (Todd Beckes)
Tue. 05/24	8:30 a.m.	Steve Zak (Ed & Judy Hess)
Wed. 05/25	8:30 a.m.	Theresa Simonelli
Thur. 05/26	8:30 a.m.	Joe Cosentino (John Abbate)
	7:00 p.m.	C.J. Regner
Fri. 05/27	8:30 a.m.	Francis & Marie Ritchie
Sat. 05/28	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 05/29	8:30 a.m.	Sr. Caroline Extein (The Exteins)
	11:00 a.m.	John & Joanne Puzarowski (Tim & Judy Iesue)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 15, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	61	\$ 3,287.10
Faith Direct Deposits:	143	\$ 3,697.45
Loose Change:		\$ 15.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,989.55

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, Lottery Tree, 55 inch TV, Quilt, 50/50, Restaurant Gift Cards, Wine Basket & Craft Beer Basket!

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

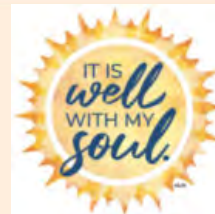
Thank you to all who volunteered. We are still in need of someone to handle publicity, 2 co-chairs.

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

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

JOHN 14:23-29

"The Holy Spirit...will teach you everything."



It has been my privilege over many years to be part of a catechumenate team that works with adults who are discerning how God is calling them. We are always challenged by the depth of their questions and the intensity of their seeking a more intimate relationship with Jesus. Each year as we approach Easter I feel a bit apprehensive. Have we been able to give these new friends in the faith enough formation opportunities? Will they know how to live discipleship and be able to stand firm in their faith?

Perhaps Jesus is feeling the same way in today's gospel as he reminds the apostles, "whoever loves me will keep my word and my Father will love him." He prepares them to receive the Holy Spirit who will teach them and remind them of what they have already learned by being close to Jesus. Rejoice, he reminds them. He is leaving because the Holy Spirit can produce from their stumbling efforts a rich harvest for the Father.

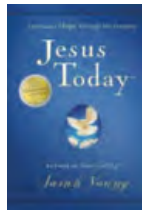
This same advocate guides us today. We can experience the same peace that is promised in the gospel. Just as Jesus let go of the disciples and entrusted them to the Advocate we also trust that the same Advocate will be with us.

Reflection: How does the Holy Spirit continue to instruct me and strengthen me in my faith?

Mary J. Glynn, S.J.C.

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.



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.

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.



Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on **June 15** to discuss *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School registrations are now being accepted. Fliers and forms can be found on the bulletin tables, in the current issue of For Mercy Sake and on the parish website. Children age 3 to 6th grade are invited to a week of fun, faith and friends. And it is all free. Non-parish members are welcome. We are also looking for volunteers to help with that week. You can volunteer for the entire week or just a day or two. Questions, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or 814-899-6132.



Summer Scripture Study

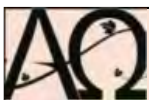
Have you ever wondered how the parables of Jesus would have been heard and understood by the Jewish audience who listened to Jesus in real time? The Prodigal Son, The Good Samaritan, The Lost Sheep, these stories are as familiar as our own names. They have been explained to us from childhood. We know 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 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.



Golf Raffle Thank You



The Knights of Columbus would like to say thank you to all who played any part in making our Golf and Sports Raffle a great success. As you can imagine, after cancelling the last two due to Covid, we were very concerned. Then, initial ticket sales came in better than expected indicating things were going to be okay. That reason for hope proved true and we had an event like those of the past. We are grateful for those who purchased and sold tickets, donated items and their time in countless ways, the ladies who organized the ever-popular and profitable basket raffle and for those who attended on Friday night and made our guests feel welcome. The Golf Raffle reaches out further than just our church and has become an Area Community Event, bringing people together in a way our world needs - especially today. Again, thank you – for making the Golf Raffle enjoyable and successful. I believe all of us are already looking forward to next year.



Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
On April 9, 2001 Bishop Trautman visited Our Lady of Mercy for the Dedication of the new Worship Space.



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!

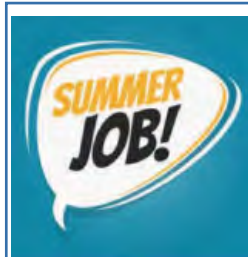
ANYONE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER FOR THESE POSITIONS:

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.



Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Fundraiser Update

Country Fair is participating in the Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle fundraiser. The Country Fair's in our area have 1-2 pumps clearly marked "Pump for Charity" specifically for donations. From now until 10/31/22, two cents a gallon will be donated to five charities selected by Country Fair that will share in the money collected. The Women's Care Center's funding for the ultrasound van is one of them! Please patronize Country Fair as often as possible and watch for the specially marked pump. If you purchase a Country Fair gas card, it gives you a discount at the pump of anywhere from five to ten cents off per gallon. With gas prices as high as they are, every little bit helps, and it provides an additional incentive to frequent them.



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.

JOB OPENING FOR PART-TIME DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

**WE'RE
HIRING**

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. 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.

Celebrate!

It's the
Birthday of the
Church



And we're the one who
has been given the gift.

The Holy Spirit has been sent to us!

Cake & punch after all Masses
in Sperry Hall

Pentecost weekend -

June 4/5

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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.