

# 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)



**JUNE 5, 2022 - PENTECOST SUNDAY**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 06/06	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Tue. 06/07	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 06/08	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Mtg.
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 06/09	9:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Jesus Today Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Music Rehearsal
Fri. 06/10		
Sat. 06/11	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 06/12		

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 06/06	Gn 3:9-15 or Acts 1:12-14 / Jn 19:25-34
Tue. 06/07	1 Kgs 17:7-16 / Mt 5:13-16
Wed. 06/08	1 Kgs 18:20-39 / Mt 5:17-19
Thur. 06/09	1 Kgs 18:41-46 / Mt 5:20-26
Fri. 06/10	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16 / Mt 5:27-32
Sat. 06/11	Acts 11:21b-26, 13:1-3 / Mt 5:33-37
Sun. 06/12	Prv 7:22-31 / Rom 5:1-5 / Jn 16:12-15

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 22, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	49	\$ 1,889.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	145	\$ 3,705.45
Loose Change:		\$ 114.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,708.45</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



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 06/06	9:00 a.m.	Mary Ella Eaglen (Pat & Roger Urmann)
Tue. 06/07	8:30 a.m.	Richard Wilhelm (Sandra Jordan & Family)
Wed. 06/08	8:30 a.m.	Warren North
Thur. 06/09	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
Fri. 06/10	8:30 a.m.	Irene Abbate (Ted & Marge Nowak)
Sat. 06/11	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 06/12	8:30 a.m.	Carl Nagorski (Joe & Rose Tarquinio)
	11:00 a.m.	Chet Szymecki (Susie & Kids)

## PRAYING FOR UVALDE



Let us pray:  
Heavenly Father, we are your humble servants. We come before you today in need of hope. We pray for serenity and joy that overcome trouble and tragedy. We pray for love and kindness that overcome hatred and hostility. We pray for peace and safety for all our children, everywhere. While today seems very dark and full of anguish, we pray to be filled with your light and your peace and to share that light and peace with others. Help us live in hope that you will restore us. In your name, we pray. Amen.

### Helping the People of Uvalde

The Catholic parish in Uvalde is collecting notes of support and gift cards and distributing them to the families who lost children in the recent school shooting. Cards can be sent to: **Sacred Heart Parish-408 Fort Clark Road-Uvalde, TX 78801**  
*Gift card Ideas: - Amazon - Visa - Starbucks - HEB - Walmart*

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### JOHN 20:19-23

Jesus came and stood in their midst.

The disciples had locked themselves in, hoping to be protected from any who would do them harm after the death of Jesus. Surely they were pondering all that had happened, maybe even commiserating together about all they had given to the cause, only to have it end in defeat. And Jesus simply came and stood in their midst.

Such simplicity to describe a profound moment. There was little need to adorn the story with details - no detail could add to the wonder of his presence in the midst of the fear and confusion that the disciples were experiencing.

Jesus was in their midst physically for a time, but through the Spirit is present throughout all time. He did not abandon the disciples to their fears, nor did he bolster them with only words of encouragement as if that would be enough to sustain them.

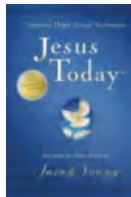
Jesus' gift of the Spirit is his way of remaining with his followers, even today, in every moment of our lives. The Spirit is Jesus standing in our midst, and walking with us, directing and gifting us, equipping us for the word of the kingdom.

*Reflection: In what ways is God standing with me even when I have "locked the doors"? How is the Spirit helping me to step out in faith?*

Cackie Upchurch

### Spirituality Boost

We can boost our credit and we can boost our protein intake, but did you ever consider a boost to your spirituality? Join us on **Thursdays at noon** for a short reflection taken from the book *Jesus Today*. Share your thoughts on the uplifting words and listen to input from others about how God is moving in their lives. Guaranteed to help lift your spirits. Questions contact Donna Clark in the parish office.



### 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132.

### Book Group

Join us at 7:00 p.m. on June 22 at the home of Kay Kaeberlein to discuss *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes. Our July title will be *The Guardian* by John Grisham.



**Food Pantry Shampoo Drive**  
Food pantry is collecting shampoo to distribute to clients on June 15. Please put bottles in the baskets by the bulletin tables.

### 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.



## FORMED.ORG



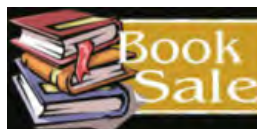
If you are new to the parish, you can enjoy formed.org for free by signing up as part of the parish subscription. All you need is your email, then select the option for an "institution or parish" subscription and search for Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek.

### 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.

### OLM Book Sale



The OLM Book Sale will be July 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for donations of books, CD's, DVD's and puzzles. Please NO Reader Digest, VHS tapes, magazines, encyclopedia's, and old/ripped books. Starting June 18<sup>th</sup>, you can drop off your books in Classroom 5. Anyone who would like to help, please call Jan Brown at 814-790-3115 or 814-899-8974.

### Festival Bake Sale

We will be having a bake sale at this year's Parish Festival on July 10th. Which means we will be needing the help of our wonderful bakers. Please mark your calendars, and get ready to bake. More information will be provided as the festival gets closer.



## 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).



### 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.

## SUMMER FESTIVAL

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 – Book Sale – 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**

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!

**Now Accepting Auction Items!**

Auction items can be dropped off in the Parish Office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thank you for your generosity!

## THE WORSHIP ENVIRONMENT FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PENTECOST

Pentecost fulfills Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples and its celebration brings the Easter Season to a close. The word itself, Pentecost, means 50 days and marks the 50th day after Easter Sunday. It also marks the coming of the Spirit in the life of the Church. For this reason, it is thought of as the beginning of the Church. At Pentecost we hear about the fear of the disciples as they wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit strengthens and emboldens them to go out and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. At the Pentecost liturgy we pray that we will be strengthened as well. We will need this strength as we walk with the disciples through the stories of the rest of the liturgical year and commit to accept fully our role as disciples.

The Pentecost scriptures and centuries of religious art often depict the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire. In the Our Lady of Mercy worship space we have added streamers of red fabric over the hangings of the Easter Season. An artistic interpretation of the tongues of fire, they are meant to remind us of the experience of the disciples and help us reflect on how the Holy Spirit, if we are open to allow it, strengthens us to overcome our own fears and uncertainties. You will remember that when we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation the Bishop and other clergy wear red vestments and the church is often

decorated in red to make this same connection with the Holy Spirit. We also see in the worship space the gradual return of leafy plants, a foretaste of the coming season, the return of Ordinary Time, usually signified by the color green.

Ordinary Time indicates those days that we count, such as, the 14<sup>th</sup> Week or the 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, etc., as we listen to the Scriptures about the ministry of Jesus and the disciples. But after Pentecost we begin with special name days that override the counted days. These days celebrate important theological concepts. First we celebrate the Holy Trinity which begins the 11<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time. The Spirit was fully revealed to the Church at Pentecost and so the following Sunday we celebrate the unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the Trinity. At the beginning of the 12<sup>th</sup> Week of Ordinary Time, we celebrate the Body and Blood of Christ. We might think of this as the celebration of our unity with the Father, Son and Spirit. Afterwards, we continue on with the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time and so on until Advent comes around again.

As we move through these days of Ordinary Time, we hear about the mission of the Church, that is, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ to all the world. We will hear these stories in the coming days along with the call to join in that mission ourselves, as we are able. And so we pray, *Come Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love.*

Matthew Clark

- on behalf of the Environment Ministry



## Short Stories By Jesus

Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi

By Amy-Jill Levine

We have listened to the parables of Jesus since childhood. But have we really heard them, heard them the way the 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestinian disciples would have heard them? In this Bible study, noted scholar Dr. Amy-Jill Levine will help us to understand these parables as they would have been understood by those who first followed Jesus. Each evening, we will look at a different parable, examine its Jewish context and hear its message afresh. Listening to these stories with an ancient perspective, we will find new meaning for our contemporary era.

*Participant guides for "Short Stories by Jesus" by Amy-Jill Levine can be ordered at Amazon or contact Irene Lucas by June 10 and she will order your copy for \$10.*

# Summer Scripture Study

7:00 PM

June 23-July 28

Home of Irene Lucas

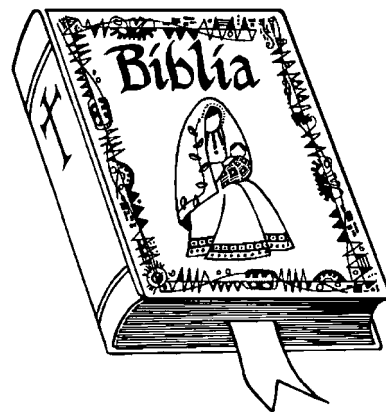
1019 Bartlett Rd.

Patio if weather permits

(extra lawn chairs appreciated)

Inside if weather is bad

**All Welcome... No  
Need to register or  
to attend every  
evening.**



Enjoy a cold drink, a casual summer evening and time with friends in faith as we explore a few fascinating parables of Jesus

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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.