

# 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*

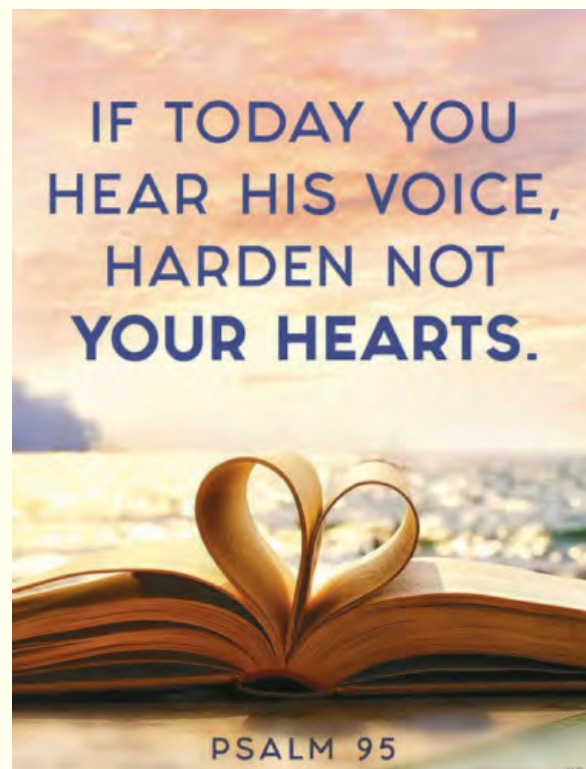
## CONTACT INFORMATION

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)



**JULY 31, 2022 - THE 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/01	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Tue. 08/02	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 08/03		
Thur. 08/04	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Jesus Today Prayer
Fri. 08/05		
Sat. 08/06		
Sun. 08/07		Casserole Club Drop Off Monthly Food Pantry Collection



## 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 INTENTION UPDATE

We are unable to schedule new Mass Intentions at this time. Due to the limited weekday Mass schedule, the rescheduling of missed Mass Intentions will take top priority. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/25	8:30 a.m.	Irene Abbate (Jerry & MaryAnn Aniskiewicz)
Tue. 07/26	8:30 a.m.	Clemens & Millie Herrmann (Family)
Wed. 07/27	8:30 a.m.	<b>NO MASS</b> - COMMUNION SERVICE
Thur. 07/28	8:30 a.m.	Damien & Mercedes Zolczak (The Exteins)
Fri. 07/29	8:30 a.m.	<b>NO MASS</b> - COMMUNION SERVICE
Sat. 07/30	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 07/31	8:30 a.m.	Marsha Rzodkiewicz (Ken & Pat Marshall)
	11:00 a.m.	Floyd Brochey (Joan Brochey)

## We Remember... *In Loving Memory*

Fr. Ritchie  
& Tom Pitts, brother in law of Beth Sammartino;  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold them and their families in prayer  
during this difficult time.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

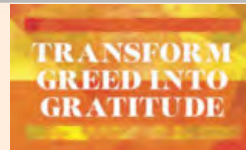
Offertory for the weekend of July 24, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	57	\$ 2,403.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	141	\$ 3,763.70
Loose Change:		\$ 39.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 6,205.70</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/01	Jer 28:1-17	/ Mt 14:13-21
Tue. 08/02	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22	/ Mt 14:22-36
Wed. 08/03	Jer 31:1-7	/ Mt 15:21-28
Thur. 08/04	Jer 31:31-34	/ Mt 16:13-23
Fri. 08/05	Na 2:1-3; 3:1-3, 6-7	/ Mt 16:24-28
Sat. 08/06	Dn 7:9-10, 12-14	/ Lk 9:28b-36
Sun. 08/07	Wis 18:6-9 / Heb 11:1-19	/ Lk 12:32-48

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### LUKE 12:13-21

"I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones."

In Jesus' parable, enough was not enough. The rich man already had not one barn, but multiple barns. He was already rich and held enough land that its normal produce filled more than one barn.

Then he was given an unusually bountiful harvest. He woke up one morning and had the multi-million-dollar lottery ticket. And his first thought was not what good he could do with such bounty. It was to tear down what he had and make room for even more - all for himself.

God would call him that night with the words, "You fool."

From Psalm 14, we know the Jewish audience understood: "The fool says in his heart, "there is no God.'" In the Jewish tradition, the fool was the opposite of the wise and faithful. In fact, the fool was not merely witless, he was ethically reprehensible. He insulted the devout; he insulted God himself. In the final analysis, the rich man as fool is an atheist.

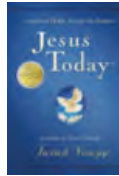
"Thus will it be for all who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God."

For Reflection: In what ways do I use my treasure?  
In what ways does my treasure "use" me?

Gregory C. Wolfe

### Jesus Calling

Many people remember the book, Jesus Calling, by Sarah Young. She has written a few more books like this one. Every **Thursday at noon** a small group gets together to read from one of Ms. Young's other books, Jesus Today: Enjoying Hope through His Presence. The insights we gain from the reading and from the group reflection strengthen our faith. Join us any Thursday. Books provided.



### For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

Can you lend a hand? We will be folding the newsletter and stuffing envelopes at **9:00 a.m. Monday August 8** in Sperry Hall.

### Playmates for your kids - community with other parents

Little Hearts, sponsored by Sacred Heart Church invites children up to age 10 with their parents to attend a playground meet-up at Glenwood Park (zoo) **Thursday, August 4 from 6-7:30pm**, drop in any time to play. Crafts and snacks provided. Questions – [jessiesacredheart@gmail.com](mailto:jessiesacredheart@gmail.com) or text 814-392-5377. Or Chalk Mural Fest at , 816 W 26th St, **Saturday, August 13 from 9-11:30am**. **RSVP by Aug 6** to [jessiesacredheart@gmail.com](mailto:jessiesacredheart@gmail.com) or text 814-392-5377. Also coming up Social Night for Parents **Oct 6 and 13**.



### Blessing Our Athletes

Another season of youth sports is about to get underway. We are grateful to God for the gift of our physical abilities, the chance for healthy competition, the opportunity to push our bodies and achieve greater things. We will hold a Blessing of Youth Athletes on **Sunday, Aug. 14 at 4:00 p.m.** This prayer service is open to all youth, families, coaches and fans from every religious group in our community. We ask God to protect our young people from injury and to grant them a spirit of reverence for their teammates, their competition and themselves during the coming year. The prayer service will be followed by refreshments.



### Book Group

Join us on **August 17 at 7:00** to discuss The Last Ship Home by Heather Webb.



### Music & Liturgy Update

Our Lady of Mercy has hired a music director, Linda Peters, who auditioned with us last year and has played for some of our Saturday 6pm masses. Linda will begin playing for all Masses and leading our choirs on August 20. The staff supports forming a Music and Liturgy Team with Linda and Matt Clark, who has been acting as our interim music and liturgy directory. This team will work with us as a parish community to strengthen our liturgies and prepare engaging prayerful liturgies.



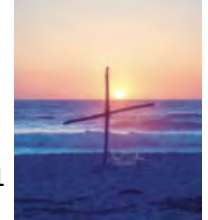
## FORMED.ORG



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.

### Sunset Mass

As we bring another summer season to a close, we gather to give thanks to the God who created the beauty of the world we live in. We will celebrate our annual Sunset Mass on **Sunday, Aug. 21 at 7:00 p.m.** on the grounds of Faith Lutheran Church. This is the Mass of the day. There are benches at the site, but you may want to bring additional chairs. Please bring cookies to share. And, don't forget the bug spray.



### An Invitation to Explore the Catholic Faith



Some days, the world feels as if it is spinning out of control. Natural disasters, international crisis, political discord, economic uncertainty, ecological threat, we often find ourselves grasping for an anchor to steady our lives. God is the one anchor that remains sure and stable, no matter what troubles shake the ground under our feet. A relationship with God, our Creator, our Savior, our Advocate lived in the supportive arms of the Church family and nourished by the grace of the sacraments can help us live with peace and joy no matter what life throws at us. Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith? Have you toyed with the idea of being baptized? Would you like to explore your questions about what life as a Catholic Christian would mean? If you would like to start a conversation or learn more about the process of preparing to join the Catholic faith, contact Irene Lucas at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132.

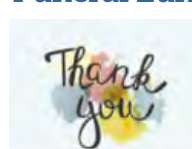
### Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.



### Funeral Luncheon Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who donated food and helped in the kitchen for the funeral luncheons in the past 16 years. It has been a blessing for me to serve in this ministry. I could not have done it without the support of so many generous people.



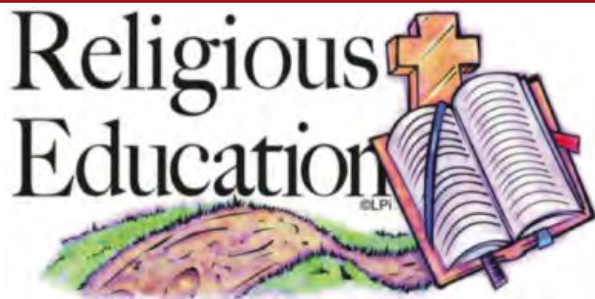
– Judy Mitcheltree

## In Loving Memory of Fr. Ritchie

God has called Fr. Ritchie home. After a lifetime of faithful and selfless service to God's people, Fr. Ritchie now knows the absolute joy of the presence of God. The community of Our Lady of Mercy is left with heavy hearts and a hole in our midst which no one can fill. Yet, we are sustained by the hope in the Resurrection, a hope which the life of Fr. Ritchie witnessed to in all he said and did.



The family of Fr. Ritchie has posted the arrangements on the Caring Bridge site which had kept us informed of his condition over the past couple of weeks. **Visitation will be at OLM on Sunday, July 31 from 1:00-6:00 with a 5:30 prayer service.** **Mass of Christian burial will be at 11:00 on Monday, Aug. 1 at OLM.** Let us give thanks for the life and ministry of this remarkable servant of God and let us hold each other in prayer as we adjust to a world without his physical presence. He will always be with us in spirit.



### Religious Education Registration

Another summer is flying by. It is time to register children for the 2022-2023 year of religious education. Registration will take place after all Masses the weekend of Aug. 13-14. All children need to be registered each year that they participate in the parish program.

### Catechist Needed

The ministry of the catechist is one of the oldest and most revered ministries in the history of the Church. It is a privilege and an honor to be able to pass along the gift of our faith to a new generation of believers. We are looking for a few faith-filled people to share in this ministry. Training will be provided. In particular, we are looking for

- Grade 2 Sunday morning
- Grade 6 Tuesday afternoon
- Grade 7/8 Sunday Morning
- Grade 9 Home Session Leader.

For more information, contact Irene Lucas at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132.

## August Birthdays



Aug. 1	Kelsey Wedzikowski	2	Aug. 20	Owen Drabic	14
Aug. 1	Haley Wedzikowski	2	Aug. 22	Abigail Still	14
Aug. 2	Lucas Ollinger	12	Aug. 24	Zac Henry	11
Aug. 6	Lachlan Eighmy	8	Aug. 26	Olivia Stephenson	12
Aug. 10	Parker Lewandoski	12	Aug. 26	Seamus Marshall	16
Aug. 16	Benjamin McKeel	17	Aug. 27	Kayden McKeel	15
Aug. 17	Lily Czerwinski	10	Aug. 28	Brooke Owens	16
Aug. 18	Georgia Hordych	2	Aug. 29	Anthony Kohut	15



# AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS	<b>1</b> 8:30am Mass 10:00am Sisters of Scripture SCC	<b>2</b> 8:30am Mass 6:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting 7:30pm AA	<b>3</b> 8:30am Communion Service 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>4</b> 8:30am Mass 9:00am Angels in Training 12:00pm Bereavement Meeting 12:00pm MIDDAY Prayer	<b>5</b> 8:30am Communion Service	<b>6</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance 6:00pm Mass
<b>7</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Casserole Club DROP OFF Monthly Food Pantry Collection	<b>8</b> 8:30am Mass 9:00am Newsletter Mailing Party	<b>9</b> 8:30am Mass 7:30pm AA 5:30pm YM Core Team	<b>10</b> 8:30am Communion Service 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough 6:30pm AGIFT Meeting 7:00pm Knights of Columbus	<b>11</b> 8:30am Mass 12:00pm MIDDAY Prayer	<b>12</b> 8:30am Communion Service	<b>13</b> Religious Ed. Registration - All Masses 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance 6:00pm Mass
<b>14</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Religious Ed. Registration - All Masses	<b>15</b> ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM 8:30am Mass 10:00am Sisters of Scripture SCC 7:00pm Grief Support Group	<b>16</b> 8:30am Mass 7:30pm AA	<b>17</b> 8:30am Food Pantry Distribution 8:30am Communion Service 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough 7:00pm OLM Book Group	<b>18</b> 8:30am Mass 9:00am Angels in Training 9:15am Core Team Meeting 12:00pm MIDDAY Prayer 4:00pm Blood Drive	<b>19</b> 8:30am Communion Service 7:00pm Youth Ministry Back to School Bash	<b>20</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance 6:00pm Mass
<b>21</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30am Healing Ministry 7:00pm Sunset Mass	<b>22</b> 8:30am Mass	<b>23</b> 8:30am Mass 7:00pm LFF Mtg. 7:30pm AA	<b>24</b> 8:30am Communion Service 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>25</b> 8:30am Mass 12:00pm MIDDAY Prayer	<b>26</b> 8:30am Communion Service	<b>27</b> Mission Co-op 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance 6:00pm Mass
<b>28</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Mission Co-op	<b>29</b> 8:30am Mass	<b>30</b> 8:30am Mass 6:00pm KoC Dinner 7:30pm AA	<b>31</b> 8:30am Communion Service 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>1</b> 8:30am Mass 9:00am Angels in Training 12:00pm MIDDAY Prayer	<b>2</b> 8:30am Communion Service	<b>3</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance 6:00pm Mass

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**OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
*Membership Form*

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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.