

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*

Linda Peters, *Director of Music*

Matthew Clark, *Director of Liturgy*

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



AUGUST 14, 2022 - THE 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/15	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM	
	8:30 a.m.	Holy Day Mass
	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
Tue. 08/16		
Wed. 08/17	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 08/18	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Jesus Today Prayer
	4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive
Fri. 08/19	7:00 p.m.	Youth Ministry Back to School Bash
Sat. 08/20		
Sun. 08/21	7:00 p.m.	Sunset Mass

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of August 7, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	63	\$ 3,987.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	141	\$ 3,766.20
Loose Change:		\$ 30.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,783.20

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. 08/15	8:30 a.m.	Edward C. Spellman (Family)
Tue. 08/16	8:30 a.m.	Dianne Nagosky (Dick & Ann Nagosky)
Wed. 08/17	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS - COMMUNION SERVICE
Thur. 08/18	8:30 a.m.	Analida Braeger (Tom Braeger)
Fri. 08/19	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS - COMMUNION SERVICE
Sat. 08/20	6:00 p.m.	Carrie Bongiorno (Todd Beckes)
Sun. 08/21	8:30 a.m.	Helen Heise (Joe & Lois Heise)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/15	Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6, 10 1 Cor 15:20-27	/ Lk 1:39-56
Tue. 08/16	Ez 28:1-10	/ Mt 19:23-30
Wed. 08/17	Ez 34:1-11	/ Mt 20:1-16
Thur. 08/18	Ez 36:23-28	/ Mt 22:1-14
Fri. 08/19	Ez 37:1-14	/ Mt 22:34-40
Sat. 08/20	Ez 43:1-7	/ Mt 23:1-12
Sun. 08/21	Is 66:18-21 / Heb 12:5-13	/ Lk 13:22-30



Congratulations OLM!

The Parish Festival 2022 was indeed, the BEST FESTIVAL EVER! The profit for our festival exceeded the previous best festival ever by \$134.50. Thank you to our festival coordinators and volunteers for all of your help. The success of this festival is because of your hard work and dedication to OLM!

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

LUKE 12:49-53

"Do you think that I have come to establish peace on earth?"

Jesus came to bring peace but not a peace understood in human terms. In today's gospel Jesus is speaking to all of us who discover that following him is not easy. We are reluctant to think that following Christ may cause division and discord in our own families. When we choose to put God's word into practice, painful conflicts with the values that our society embraces often result.

Through baptism we enter into the struggle that Jesus experienced when he proclaimed God's kingdom. The fire within our own spirits is set ablaze when we stand in opposition to those who devalue human life and oppress others. Our divisions challenge and strengthen us to be open to a fuller understanding of what it means to hear God's word and put it into practice. Christ's peace enters our lives through the struggle to embrace the cross and the loving response to life's difficulties.

The baptism Jesus spoke of is the baptism of suffering and death he is about to endure. This will release the Spirit as tongues of fire to set the earth ablaze. It is a fire to purify the way we live, to burn away that which encumbers us.

For Reflection: Where have I experienced internal or external conflicts because of my commitment to Christ? Can I discover Christ's peace there?

Mary J. Glynn, S.J.C.



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 TODAY, 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.

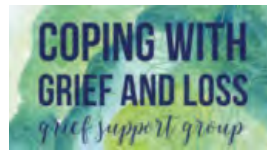


FORMED.ORG



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.

Grief Support

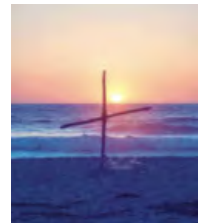


On Monday August 15 at 7 p.m. our grief support group will gather in the parish parlor. Share your thoughts and experiences or just listen to others. Then we close with

prayer and song. Questions call Donna Clark in the parish office.

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. 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 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.



Book Group

Join us on August 17 at 7:00 at the home of Cherri Longua, 4512 N. Woods Dr., to discuss The Last Ship Home by Heather Webb.

Technician needed

We are looking for one or two people willing to learn how our livestream and sound systems work. At the minimum learn how to set up the computer and start the livestream. Complete step by step instructions provided. See Donna Clark.



SAVE THE DATE



THE GROOVE IS BAAAACK FRIDAY SEPT 16 IN THE GYM. 7 to 11 pm The GROOVE has been Erie's most popular band for many years. We were fortunate to be able to have

them again this year after a two year absence. Tickets will be on sale after Masses in late August.

K OF C BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Congratulations Our Lady of Mercy! Our parish donated \$4,578.00 toward the Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Fundraiser, to benefit the Women's Care Center of Erie's goal to purchase an ultrasound van. The grand total of all donations from Erie and Crawford County Catholic churches and Seton Grade School, plus additional monies remaining from last year's Ultrasound Machine Fund Drive is over \$119,000.00. A job well done!

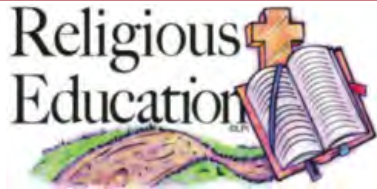


Get an Electronic Bulletin



To get our bulletin online sign up at <https://parishesonline.com>

Search for Harborcreek, PA and select Our Lady of Mercy. You can select the option to receive an e mail notice when there is a new publication.



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 THIS WEEKEND, Aug. 13-14. If you are unable to register your child at this time, please visit the Faith Formation Office during the week to sign the papers. 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 or 814-899-6132.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Documentation for working with children Working alongside the Bishop, the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth reinforces the ongoing implementation of policies and procedures that protect children. All clergy, employees, and volunteers in the Diocese of Erie who work with children must undergo criminal record checks.



The diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth screening guidelines and abuse prevention training programs emphasize the importance of knowing the employees and volunteers who have access to children in our schools and parishes. Parents should remain vigilant in insisting that those with access to their children have gone through an application process and obtained the required clearances and trainings before being granted access to their children. Visit www.eriecnd.org/childprotection/ to see what documentation and training is required for those who work with children and youth in our parishes/schools/agencies.

Harborcreek Youth Ministry

@ Our Lady of Mercy
837 Bartlett Road
HC, PA 16421

RSVP to Katie:
Youthminister
@ourladyofmercychurch.org
by August 16th



- Food
- Music
- Games
- Tie-Dye

Friday August 19 7:00 - 9:00 p. m.

Sunset Mass

Sunday, August 21

@ 7:00 PM

This Mass will count for your Sunday commitment

Let's gather to celebrate the gifts of summer and the joy of community!



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Faith Lutheran has benches for services but there
may not be enough for all of us.**

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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.