

# 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.

## 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](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

## 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.*

## Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, Breath of the Creator,  
as advocate whom the Father sent,  
fall afresh with the sparks of faith  
on this community.

Ignite our hearts to give bold witness of your love;  
creating a culture of belonging.

Open our eyes to the present,  
enable us to see your vision for our future;  
showing us the way to go.

Give us the wisdom to wait for you  
as we trust you to teach us and guide us.

May we be filled with passion and desire  
to intentionally and eagerly journey  
the path you have laid out for us.

Amen

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 - THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MERCY**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 09/26	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Tue. 09/27	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed Gr 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Youth Open Gym
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
Wed. 09/28	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
Thur. 09/29	9:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	12:00 p.m.	Jesus Today Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 09/30		
Sat. 10/01	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/02		<b>Casserole Club Drop-Off</b>
		<b>Monthly Food Pantry Collection</b>
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-2 & 7-8
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 09/26	Jb 1:6-22	/ Lk 9:46-50
Tue. 09/27	Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23	/ Lk 9:51-56
Wed. 09/28	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16	/ Lk 9:57-62
Thur. 09/29	Dan 7:9-14 or Rv 12:7-12	/ Jn 1:47-51
Fri. 09/30	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5	/ Lk 10:13-16
Sat. 10/01	Jb 42:1-6, 12-17	/ Lk 10:17-24
Sun. 10/02	Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4	
	1 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14	/ Lk 17:5-10

## 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. 09/26	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith (Janet Smith)
Tue. 09/27	8:30 a.m.	Jack Case (Family)
Wed. 09/28	8:30 a.m.	<b>NO MASS</b> <b>- COMMUNION SERVICE</b>
Thur. 09/29	8:30 a.m.	Peter Jacquel (Deacon Paul & Deb Barko)
Fri. 09/30	8:30 a.m.	<b>NO MASS</b> <b>- COMMUNION SERVICE</b>
Sat. 09/01	6:00 p.m.	Anthony Massaro (the Massaro's)
Sun. 09/02	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Linda Kobielski (Sisters of Scripture SCC)

# Happy Feast Day, Our Lady of Mercy!

## Presentation of the Gifts of Bread and Wine

We will be processing the gifts of bread and wine again at all Masses. You can sign up in advance for this ministry at the kiosk in the gathering space. The procession of bread and wine symbolizes all that we give of ourselves to God and our support to those who are in need. If you have not had the honor of bringing up the gifts at a weekend Mass please do sign up or tell an usher before Mass that you are willing.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of September 18, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	62	\$ 2,277.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	140	\$ 3,813.70
Loose Change:		\$ 67.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 6,157.70</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



## THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MERCY SEPTEMBER 24TH



The title of "Our Lady of Mercy" is almost 900 years old. Tradition holds that around the year 1218 AD, both St. Peter Nolasco and King James I of Aragon and Catalonia experienced separate apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary requesting them to establish a religious order entrusted with the responsibility of rescuing the many Christians who were being held captive by the Moorish armies who invaded the Iberian peninsula.

In 1235 AD, the Order of Our Lady of Mercy received papal approval by Pope Gregory IX, and succeeded in liberating thousands of Christian prisoners from captivity. The Order was later able to shift its mission toward education and social work.

Today, the Virgin Mother is honored under the title of "Our Lady of Mercy" throughout the world by countless parishes, schools and hospitals who embrace her as their Patroness.

### Parent Baptismal Prep Session

It is an awesome responsibility and amazing privilege to bring your child to the waters of Baptism. Parents who wish to schedule the Sacrament of Baptism for their child are asked to prepare for this new life of grace by attending a preparation session. These sessions are held twice a year at OLM. Our next session will take place on **Sunday, Oct. 2 at noon**. Registration prior to the session is required. Register by calling the parish office at **814-899-5342** between 9:00-3:00. Another session will not be held until 2023.



## 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.

### Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of September 13 was **Ava Still, grade Kindergarten**, who knew that in Baptism, we become members of God's family.

### What Does The Eucharist Mean To Me?



Would you be willing to share what the Eucharist means to you? As the U.S. Bishops launch a multi-year period of Eucharistic renewal, Our Lady of Mercy is taking a moment to think about what the Eucharist means to each of us.

Would you take a moment to witness to the power of the gift of the Eucharist in your life? The Holy Spirit can use each of us to bring another person to a renewed appreciation of the Eucharist in their life. We are asking people to create short 2 to 3 minute reflections on the Eucharist for us to post on our parish website and FB page. If your heart is moving you to share but you don't know how to make a video on your phone, you can come in to the parish and Katie will record you. If you have thoughts that you would like to share but do not relish the idea of speaking on camera, you can submit your thoughts in writing and someone else will read it on camera for you. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space along with instructions and prompts to get you started. Many people are not in church to hear a homily or attend a speaker, but they will listen to another parishioner's sincere thoughts on a post. Through each of us, God will touch many hearts.

### Join Our Choir

Choir practice will be every Thursday night from now on, starting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! Please contact Linda Peters, choir director, with any questions at **607-731-5908**, or you can email her at: [ispeters001@gmail.com](mailto:ispeters001@gmail.com).



### An Invitation to Explore the Catholic Faith

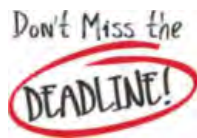


Some days, the world feels as if it is spinning out of control. Natural disasters, international crisis, political discord, economic uncertainty, ecological threat, we often find

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.

### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the autumn issue of the parish newsletter is **Sunday, Oct. 23**. Send items to [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



### Going to Canada



Need some money? The parish has some Canadian change from the weekly offertory that we would like to exchange. Please see Donna Clark.

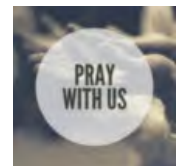
### Book Group

Join us on **October 19 at 7:00** to discuss **Thicker Than Water** by Tyler Schultz.



### Prayer to the Holy Spirit

A vision statement defines where we are going, our 'why' for everything that we do. Last year the Parish Council started working on a vision for the parish. As we move forward with this process, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in recognizing a vision that will help us as a community to embrace our full potential as the Body of Christ. And now that there may be a delay in the appoint of a new pastor for this community perhaps this prayer that the council wrote takes on a larger meaning of guiding the best pastoral leader to our community. We ask everyone in our community to pray this prayer each day. Prayer cards are available in baskets in the worship space. It is also available online.



# Happenings Around the Diocese

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Fundraiser

Our Lady of Mount Carmel invites you to mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 9th**, as Betsy Annunziata of Nunzi's fame prepares a spaghetti dinner! The dinner is an excellent way to support a neighboring parish and ENJOY one of Erie's favorite pasta meals! The dinner cost is \$12.00 and will be held from **12 noon until 5:00 p.m.** in Scheffner Hall. Dine-in or Carry out will be available.

## Erie Diocesan Rosary March planned for Oct. 9

The 28th annual Erie Diocesan Rosary March will be held **Oct. 9 at 2 p.m.** in the parking lot of St. Jude the Apostle Church, 2801 W. 6th St., Erie. The rosary also will be prayed inside the church at the same time for those who are unable to march. Following the rosary, there will be a special prayer service inside the church with exposition and Benediction. Father David Renne, vice rector of St. Mark Seminary, Erie, and a member of the faculty of Gannon University, Erie, will be the guest homilist. This event is sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima. For more information, contact John Walsh at **814-868-1100**.

## Diocesan Respect Life Sunday Mass with Bishop Persico

Bishop Lawrence Persico will celebrate a Mass for Respect Life Sunday on **Oct. 2 at 11:30 a.m.** at The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, 353 Pine St., Meadville. A reception immediately follows Mass. Pro-life groups are encouraged to RSVP and attend together. Groups can RSVP by visiting the Social Justice and Life webpage at [www.ErieRCD.org/socialjusticelife](http://www.ErieRCD.org/socialjusticelife) or by calling **814-824-1250**. Questions can be directed to Patrice Swick, director of the Social Justice and Life Office, at [sjl@ErieRCD.org](mailto:sjl@ErieRCD.org).

## Diocesan middle school retreats scheduled this fall

Registration is now open for diocesan middle school NET retreats scheduled this fall. Sponsored by the Office of Faith Formation and the Catholic Schools Office, middle school NET retreats for sixth- through eighth-graders will be hosted on the following date/site: •**Oct. 29** — Our Lady of Peace School/Our Lady of Peace Parish, 2401 W. 38th St., Erie. The NET Retreat theme for 2022 is "Love One Another: Authentic Friendship." Our relationships are meant to reflect our relationship with God and bring us closer to him. To register and to read more information, go to <https://www.eriecd.org/youth/net.html>.

## Bingo to benefit Erie Night to Shine

Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie is sponsoring a bingo night **Oct. 9** at JPT Bingo Hall, 2319 W. 38th St., Erie, to benefit Erie Night to Shine, a prom-style experience for people with special needs. **Doors open at 12:30 p.m., with bingo starting at 2 p.m.** Tickets are \$30 each in advance or \$35 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Our Lady of Peace Church office, 2401 W. 38th St., or Ambridge Rose Salon, 3344 W. 26th St., Erie. BYOB and snacks. There also will be a basket auction and 50/50. Erie Night to Shine is sponsored by the parish.



**DIOCESE of ERIE**  
Sharing the Catholic faith in northwest Pennsylvania



Oct 2	Connor Barber	10
Oct 4	Aidan McLaughlin	18
Oct 4	Bryce Skarzenski	12
Oct 5	Colette Landfried	10
Oct 7	Emma Skelly	11
Oct 8	Sienna Blood	10
Oct 8	Gavin Bleil-Tersigni	10



Oct 9	Lily Juhas	5
Oct 12	Eleanor Shamburg	4
Oct 13	Parker Nguyen	16
Oct 13	Julia Chludzinski	14
Oct 14	Gage Galbreath	7
Oct 17	Anthony Bly	10
Oct 18	Gabrielle Peters	10
Oct 20	Luca Burick	8
Oct 21	Lizzie Scully	2
Oct 21	Lillian Festa	12
Oct 23	Jacob R zodkiewicz	16
Oct 31	Zoe Redford	13
Oct 31	Kevin Juhas	6



# OCTOBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> <b>Parish Feast Day</b> <b>10:30am Feast Day Mass</b> 12:00pm Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event	<b>26</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias 6:30pm Roman Candles SCC	<b>27</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay SCC 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 5:30pm Youth Open Gym 6:00pm Sister Parish 7:30pm AA	<b>28</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 9:00am Painting Group 10:15am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>29</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:00am Angels in Training 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b>	<b>1</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>
<b>2</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS <b>Casserole Club DROP OFF</b> <b>Monthly Food Pantry Collection</b> 9:30am Gr. 7&8 Religious Ed 9:30am Gr. K-2 Religious Ed 9:30am Healing Ministry 12:00pm Baptismal Prep	<b>3</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias	<b>4</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 7:00pm Pastoral Council 7:30pm AA	<b>5</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 9:00am Painting Group 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>6</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 10:00am Sisters of Scripture	<b>8</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>
<b>9</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30am Gr. 7&8 Religious Ed 9:30am Gr. K-2 Religious Ed 12:15pm Gr. 10 & 11 Interviews	<b>10</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias 6:30pm Roman Candles	<b>11</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 7:30pm AA	<b>12</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 9:00am Painting Group 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough 6:30pm AGIFT Meeting 7:00pm Knights of Columbus	<b>13</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:00am Angels in Training 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>
<b>16</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30am Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed 9:30am Gr. K-2 Religious Ed 9:30am Healing Ministry	<b>17</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias 6:30pm Eucharistic Exposition 7:00pm Grief Support Group	<b>18</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 7:00pm LFF Mtg. 7:30pm AA	<b>19</b> <b>8:30am Food Pantry Distribution</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 9:00am Painting Group 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough 7:00pm OLM Book Group	<b>20</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 10:00am Sisters of Scripture	<b>22</b> Gr. 10 & 11 Rite of Presentation 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>
<b>23</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS Gr. 10 & 11 Rite of Presentation 9:30am Gr. 7&8 Religious Ed 9:30am Gr. K-2 Religious Ed 9:45am First Reconciliation Parent Mtg. 12:15pm Gr. 10 & 11 Candidate/Sponsor Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias 6:30pm Roman Candles	<b>25</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 7:30pm AA	<b>26</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 9:00am Painting Group 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>27</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:00am Angels in Training 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b>	<b>29</b> Trunk or Treat 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>
<b>30</b> 8:30 & 11:00 AM MASS 9:30am Gr. K-2 Family Faith Event 12:00pm Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event	<b>31</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:30am Steel Magnolias	<b>1</b> <b>All Saint's Day</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 1:00pm Potter's Clay 2:00pm Prayer Shawl 4:00pm Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed 7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting 7:30pm AA	<b>2</b> <b>All Souls' Day</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 9:00am Painting Group 1:00pm Diamonds in the Rough	<b>3</b> <b>8:30am Mass</b> 12:00pm Midday Prayer 6:00pm Prayer Shawl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b> <b>8:30am Communion Service</b> 10:00am Sisters of Scripture	<b>5</b> 9:00am AA Womens Conference 10:00am AA 4:30pm Sacrament of Penance <u>6:00pm Mass</u>

**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.lynychmedical.com](http://www.lynychmedical.com)

*Where There's Always  
 Something GROWING On!*

**Stan's GARDEN CENTER**

Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

*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

85 West Main  
 814-347-9090  
 Northeast, PA

• Sales • PA Inspections  
 • Notary • Detailing

**DUSCKAS - TAYLOR**  
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION 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 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.