

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.

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Matthew Kujawinski, *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

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

DECEMBER 4, 2022 - THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 12/05	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Healing Service
Tue. 12/06	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6
	6:00 p.m.	New SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 12/07	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	12:00 p.m.	Sofia's Circle SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Thur. 12/08	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
	8:30 a.m.	Holy Day Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Holy Day Mass
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 12/09		
Sat. 12/10	10:00 a.m.	Mass of Remembrance
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 12/11	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	12:15 p.m.	Gr. 9-11 Service Event

STAFF EXTENSION NUMBERS

Our new phone system allows someone to dial the staff extension directly if you get our recorded message. Here is the staff directory:

- Fr Matt.....226 • Kirk.....216
- Deacon Paul.....233 • Linda.....211
- Katie.....210 • Donna.....213
- Irene.....214

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. 12/05	8:30 a.m.	No Mass
Tue. 12/06	8:30 a.m.	Rosemary Shaffer (Niece: Joan)
Wed. 12/07	8:30 a.m.	Irene Abbate (Ted & Marge Nowak)
Thur. 12/08	8:30 a.m.	Ruth Extein (The Exteins)
	6:00 p.m.	
Fri. 12/09	8:30 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)
Sat. 12/10	6:00 p.m.	Gertrude Peters (Ross Peters)
Sun. 12/11	8:30 a.m.	Helen Szklenski (Joe & Lois Heise)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

Parish Photo Directory

If you have not yet picked up your photo directory, please stop by the parish office after Mass. Or weekdays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. To arrange for another time please call the office.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of November 27, 2022

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	56	\$ 2,463.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	142	\$ 3,534.95
Loose Change:		\$ 73.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,025.95

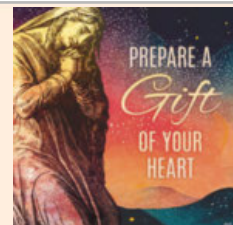
SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 12/05	Is 35:1-10	/ Lk 5:17-26
Tue. 12/06	Is 40:1-11	/ Mt 18:12-14
Wed. 12/07	Is 40:25-31	/ Mt 11:28-30
Thur. 12/08	Gn 3:9-15 / Eph 1:3-12	/ Lk 1:26-38
Fri. 12/09	Is 48:17-19	/ Mt 11:16-19
Sat. 12/10	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11	/ Mt 17:9-13
Sun. 12/11	Is 35:1-10 / Jas 5:7-10	/ Mt 11:2-11

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MATTHEW 3:1-12

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."



John the Baptist not only heralds the coming of the kingdom, but proclaims the same message that Jesus would soon preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" He tells us that we should prepare, with some degree of urgency, for the fullness of God's power and presence in our world by turning away from evil and turning toward God. This turnaround requires a radical and deeply internal change of direction in our lives. This internal conversion then expresses itself in external acts and works of penance.

With our hearts thus moved by God's grace, we bear good fruit - offering gestures of reconciliation, showing concern for the poor, and seeking to end injustice. During Advent, for example, we might seek to heal the alienation caused by a family conflict or offer forgiveness to someone who has hurt us. We could provide a meal or Christmas gift for someone less fortunate. We also might choose to fast or deny ourselves some comfort in order to more fully embrace the gift.

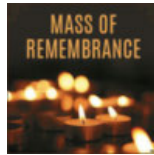
Repentance is a continuing task, an ongoing process of conversion. But with hope in God's mercy and trust in his grace, we can be ready for God's power and presence in our world and in our lives.

For Reflection: How does repentance look in my life? Have I become aware of a change in direction?

Dan Hennessey

Mass of Remembrance

The annual Mass of Remembrance is **Saturday, December 10th 2022, at 10 a.m.** The Bereavement Ministry invites all members of Our Lady of Mercy to attend this annual Memorial Mass to support the families of our parish who have lost loved ones during the past year. After the Mass, please join us for a social gathering in Sperry Hall sponsored by the members of the Bereavement Meal Ministry. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, some of our parishioners may be uncomfortable attending this Mass, although they would dearly want to attend. Our parish will be live streaming the Mass, through YouTube and Facebook.



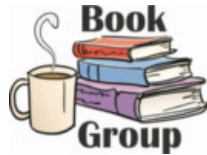
Help needed for slide show



We need someone willing to run a PowerPoint slide show for our Bereavement Mass of Remembrance on Dec 10 at 10:00 a.m. Training is available. Contact Donna Clark.

Book Group

Join us on **Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00**, to will watch and discuss *Father Stu*. We will gather at the home of Pat Marshall, 516 W. Eaglewood Dr. For anyone who wants to read ahead, our January title will be Elizabeth Is Missing by Emma Healey.

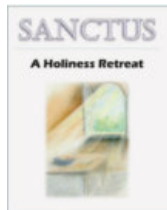


Daytime Grief Support Group

Many people do not care to drive during the winter nights. We are adding a daytime grief support group meeting **Dec 19 at 1 p.m. (and will continue with the third Monday of each month)**. In December we will consider how to handle Christmas now that our loved ones are gone. To arrange a one-on-one meeting or if interested in an evening group session please call Donna Clark in the parish office, ext 213.

Sanctus Retreat

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, Feb. 25**. Begin the Season of Lent with a day of prayer and reflection. Sign up for the Sanctus Retreat. It is free and open to all adults. For more information, see the recent issue of For Mercy Sake or contact Irene Lucas.



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Back by popular demand, the annual Religious Education Spaghetti Dinner & Gift Auction will be on **Feb. 5**. Tickets will go on sale the weekend of **Jan. 8**. Prices are \$10 adults and \$5 children. We are collecting **NEW** items for the gift auction. Consider re-gifting any unwanted Christmas gifts to our gift auction.



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.

Card makers needed

If you enjoy making cards, we would love to have you help make Valentines cards for our homebound parishioners. Please contact Donna Clark.



Check the Parish Calendar

Now that winter has arrived, please check the parish calendar on our website for any cancelations.

Room for wandering toddlers

We love to have children at Mass. However, when Toddlers start running or fidgeting and you want a contained space to let their energy flow but don't want to miss Mass then try our Toddler/Nursery room. Located in the classroom area just past the parish parlor (to the right as you come in the front doors.) This room has closed circuit TV of the church. There are rocking chairs for nursing mothers and toys to occupy a little one. Best of all . . . you can close the door.



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.



HOLY DAY MASS

Holy Day Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will take place on **Thursday, December 8 at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

A Time to Heal

Monday, December 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

837 Bartlett Road - Harborcreek



In what areas of your life do you need healing? Physical, mental, spiritual, emotional? In your daily life? In the world around you? Everyone seems to need healing at so many different levels and areas of their lives. Please join us for an evening of prayer, music, laying of hands and quiet reflection. Come for yourself and bring someone who needs healing.

WAYS TO GIVE THIS SEASON

Ella Cochran Food Pantry Caring Tree

If you took an ornament from the Food Pantry Caring Tree, please return the wrapped gift **THIS WEEKEND December 3 and 4**. If you have any questions, contact Aimee McKinney at 814-899-1361 or 814-460-9660.

Operation Assisting Santa

If you would like to help the children of needy veterans, the children's gift cards are available. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned by **December 11th**. If you cannot come in person to pick up a card please contact Janet Smith at 814-899-5495 or refereesmith@roadrunner.com Or Mochie Zielewski at 814-823-6505 or mzielewski999@hotmail.com

AROUND THE DIOCESE OF ERIE



Comfort & Joy concert

Our Lady of Peace Parish in Erie is hosting a Christmas concert on **Dec.9 at 7 p.m.** featuring Steve Angrisano and Sarah Hart. Tickets are available at www.olp.org or by calling 814-833-7701, ext. 202.

Annual Christmas market

The Holy Trinity Parish education program is hosting its annual Christmas market on **Dec. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m.** and **Dec. 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** at the Holy Trinity Social Center, 650 E. 23rd St., Erie. Orders will be taken from Nov. 5 to Dec. 5.

It's Back Live!!!

The Christmas Show, "Follow the Star" is back this year after a 2 year break. Get information and tickets by going online and searching "Tennessee Backporch, Follow the Star Tickets". Only 4 performances: **December 4, 5, 6 & 7**. Come celebrate the spirit of Christmas!

Our Neighbors' Place

We need your help with Season 11 of Our Neighbors' Place, a seasonal overflow shelter for adults who are homeless. This year the shelter is moving back to St. John the Baptist Church. It will be located in Pastors' Hall which is in the basement of the church. Our first session will be **1/11/23 - 1/24/23** and the second will be **3/22/23 - 4/4/23**. We are in need of volunteers to work 4 hour shifts, provide bagged meals, and provide donations. For more information, ask your church for a copy of our flier or contact Mary Ellen Lieb at melieb4@gmail.com or Mary Hoffman at mymary14@gmail.com

St. Hedwig's to Celebrate Candlelit Mass in Advent

The Traditional Latin Mass Apostolate at St. Hedwig Church will hold a Rorate Mass by candlelight on **Saturday, December 10 at 6:45am**. All are welcome to come and join in this beautiful Advent tradition in honor of Our Blessed Mother. See LatinMassErie.org for more details.

The Season of Advent

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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.