

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*

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

FEBRUARY 5, 2023 - THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Mon. 02/06 | 9:30 a.m. | Steel Magnolias SCC |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Fireside Chatters Scc |
| Tue. 02/07 | 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. | The Mystics SCC |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Pastoral Facilitators |
| Wed. 02/08 | 9:00 a.m. | Painting Group |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Legion of Mary |
| | 2:30 p.m. | Hallelujah Girls SCC |
| | 6:30 p.m. | AGIFT Meeting |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Knights of Columbus |
| Thur. 02/09 | 1:00 p.m. | Pastoral Facilitators |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Prayer Shawl |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Fri. 02/10 | | Parish Office Closed |
| Sat. 02/11 | 4:30 p.m. | Sacrament of Penance |
| Sun. 02/12 | 9:30 a.m. | Religious Ed Gr 7 & 8 |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Gr. K-2 Family Faith Event |
| | 12:15 p.m. | Gr. 10 & 11 Interviews |

We Remember...

Theresa Swanson;
Beula Kestler, stepmother of
Sharon Kestler & Norine Mulvin,
sister of Judy Manna;
who passed away recently.

In Loving Memory

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

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



SCRIPTURE READINGS

| | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------|
| Mon. 02/06 | Gn 1:1-19 | / Mk 6:53-56 |
| Tue. 02/07 | Gn 1:20 - 2:4a | / Mk 7:1-13 |
| Wed. 02/08 | Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 | / Mk 7:14-23 |
| Thur. 02/09 | Gn 2:18-25 | / Mk 7:24-30 |
| Fri. 02/10 | Gn 3:1-8 | / Mk 7:31-37 |
| Sat. 02/11 | Gn 3:9-24 | / Mk 8:1-10 |
| Sun. 02/12 | Sir 15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10/ Mt 5:17-37 | |

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of January 22, 2023

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Envelopes sent: | 357 | |
| Envelopes returned: | 66 | \$ 3,230.00 |
| Faith Direct Deposits: | 136 | \$ 3,422.20 |
| Loose Change: | | \$ 40.00 |
| TOTAL OFFERTORY: | | \$ 6,692.20 |

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 | |

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|--|
| Mon. 02/06 | 8:30 a.m. | NO MASS |
| Tue. 02/07 | 8:30 a.m. | Chris Plonski (Barb Jones) |
| Wed. 02/08 | 8:30 a.m. | Clemens Herrmann (Family) |
| Thur. 02/09 | 8:30 a.m. | |
| Fri. 02/10 | 8:30 a.m. | Analida Braeger (Tom Braeger) |
| Sat. 02/11 | 6:00 p.m. | Christopher Kaeberlein (Dick & Ann Nagosky) |
| Sun. 02/12 | 8:30 a.m. | For the People of OLM |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Lewis Peters (Carole Peters) |

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



MATTHEW 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world."

As a flavoring for food, salt is not an end in itself. Use too much salt and the meal is ruined! Rather, salt brings out the flavor of ordinary dishes without bringing too much notice to itself.

Light is somewhat like salt in that it doesn't exist for its own sake. Light gives warmth, and it illuminates a room so we can work or read. Like salt, light is at the service of a good greater than itself. Salt and light are forgotten when they are used in the right way, calling no more attention to themselves once they season and brighten.

So when Jesus calls us "salt" and "light," he expects us to make a difference in the world around us - not for the sake of our own notoriety but for the kingdom of heaven and glory of God.

When we say that followers of Jesus are "salty" and "bright," we don't necessarily mean that Christians must all have extroverted, sparkling personalities in order to make a difference. If we are poor in spirit, merciful, clean of heart, peacemakers, and hungry for righteousness, then we will have what it takes to season society and brighten the world.

For Reflection: This week how does the Gospel invite me to quietly make a difference in someone's life?

David LeSieur

For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

Many hands make light work. Can you lend a hand to get the newsletter ready for the mail? Join us at 9:00 a.m. on **Monday, Feb. 13** in Sperry Hall to fold letters and stuff envelopes.



Book Group



Join us on **Feb. 15 @ 7:00** at the home of Cheri Longua, 4512 North Woods Dr., to discuss Calico Joe by John Grisham. Want to read ahead? Our March title will be The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson.

Grief Support

During the Winter we will meet during the day. **Monday Feb 20 at 1 p.m.** Grief is a challenging emotion because it is so unpredictable. Sometimes sharing your experience and learning how others find hope can be helpful. 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.



Confirmation Prayer Pals

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Monday, Feb. 27**. Please remember to pray for your Prayer Pal during these weeks leading to the celebration of this sacrament. A note during this period would be appreciated. Sign your name to any card or letter you mail.



Consider the gift of eGiving

If you have been thinking about electronic giving this is something that could help the parish and make it simpler for you as families travel during the holidays. Even if you miss a Sunday Mass the gift of your recurring donations will help sustain our parish. To sign up visit our website and click on the Faith Direct button. Or call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757.



Bereavement Ministry Help

Our Bereavement Ministry needs people who are willing to be present for parish funerals. (you need not be available for every funeral since there usually is enough people in the ministry to spread out the duties.) The Bereavement Ministry provides a ministry of presence, may help by being a Greeter, Lector or Eucharistic Minister. Please contact the parish office at 814-899-5342 x 213 to speak with Donna for more information.



Soup Supper Help Needed

Ann & Greg Badach are coordinating the Lenten Soup Suppers and are looking for help. If you can help by donating a pot of soup or helping in the kitchen on the evenings of the suppers, **March 1, 8 & 22**, please contact Ann & Greg or reach out to the Parish Office. Thank you for your help.



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.

"Formed.org is a great resource for families with young children! There are educational videos and Bible story cartoons for younger kids. So many resources for everyone to learn something! I also enjoyed the series during Lent last year with daily videos to watch." - Vickie Gilchrist

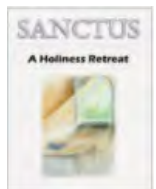
Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of Jan. 29, was, **Madden Inthavong, grade 5**, who knew that Catholics bless throats on the feast of St. Blaise.

Sanctus Retreat

A few slots remain for the **Feb. 25** Sanctus retreat. If you postponed registering and would like to attend, please complete a registration form this week. Forms are available on the bulletin table. Here is what a past participant had to say.

I moved to Harborcreek in 2020; during the peak of covid, and other than attending the outdoor Stations of the Cross, it would be over a year before I actually set foot in my newly joined parish. Once I did, I felt warmly welcomed at mass. I feel it was at Sanctus, that I really developed some community and spiritual interaction with others. It was a wonderful experience that was casual, non-threatening and deeply rich in honesty, sincerity and commitment to our faith.
Elizabeth Sammartino



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.





To support the
Summer 2023 Youth Mission Trip
SATURDAY MARCH 11 12-4 P.M.

St. James Place - 2622 Buffalo Rd.

For tickets call Maggie 814-490-4275
 \$20 donation

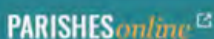
- 15 Games ● Games of Chance ● Food & Drinks ●

If you would like to leave a donation without purchasing a ticket, please drop them off in the Parish office. Thank you!

Get the Bulletin by Email

Never miss a bulletin, even when you are traveling. You can get a reminder notice in your e mail

each week when the bulletin is published. Sign up at <https://parishesonline.com/> Find Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek and subscribe.



The Parish Picture books are here



Please stop by the parish office to pick up your Parish Photo Directory. We also wish to thank the community for their patience in waiting for these books.

A Special Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who has been praying for my sister, Norine, who had a cancerous tumor in her heart. Sadly she has passed away. But she was so thankful and blessed with everyone caring about her. - Love Judy Manna & Family



AROUND THE DIOCESE OF ERIE



Cash bingo at Polish Falcons Club

Holy Trinity Church in Erie is hosting a cash bingo on Feb. 5 at the Polish Falcons Club, 431 East 3rd St., Erie. Doors open at 12 p.m. with bingo beginning at 1 p.m. Admission is \$25 which includes one pack. Additional packs cost \$5. Call 814.456.5300 to reserve a seat. Walk-ins are welcome. See flier for details.

Chosen Two

The communities of St. Boniface, St. John/Holy Rosary, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel parishes will offer the series Chosen Two. The series began on Feb. 2 and will continue each Thursday through March 23 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 1553 East Grandview Blvd., Erie. Come meet Jesus in a new way through the eyes of the people who walked on earth with him. The series brings the story of Jesus to life. It shows the people he cared about, the problems he faced, and the message he came to earth to give all in a new and compelling way. Sign up on any of the three parish websites or call the parish office at 814.825.7313 ext. #1.

Mardi Gras Night

St. Francis Xavier Parish in McKean is hosting its 15th annual Mardi Gras Night on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. at the St. Francis Xavier Parish Center, 8880 West Main St., McKean. The event is for anyone ages 21 and over. Cost is \$20 per person which includes food and beverages. Raffles and cash giveaways will be available.

St. Patrick Lenten Series

St. Patrick Parish in Erie is hosting a Lenten series that will connect the dots of the Old Testament and show how God's plan of salvation was worked out and revealed over thousands of years from Abraham to Jesus. The series will take place every Wednesday in Lent – March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 – from 10 to 11:15 a.m. and from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at St. Patrick Church, 130 East 4th St., Erie.

St. Luke Parish, Erie, offers Eucharistic Miracles exhibit and presentation

All are invited to join parishioners at St. Luke Parish, 421 E. 38 St., Erie, on Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. for a free multimedia presentation, Eucharistic Miracles, by neuropsychologist Dr. Jaci Phillips. Come early or stay afterwards to see a display of the miracles based on the work of Blessed Carlo Acutis, who researched and catalogued Eucharistic miracles recognized by the church that have occurred through the ages. The display will remain available through Feb. 19. Visit www.stlukeerie.org or call 814.825.6920 for more information.

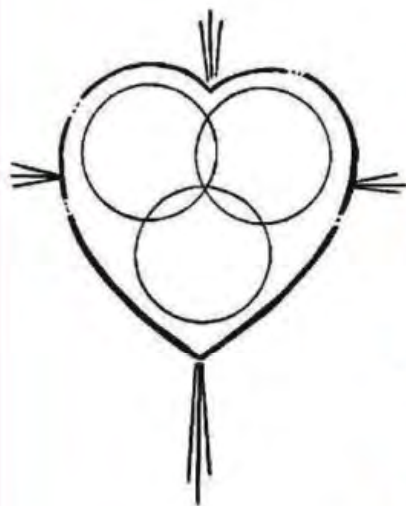


DIOCESE of ERIE

Sharing the Catholic faith in northwest Pennsylvania

SANCTUS

February 25, 2023



Retreat! Step back from the hectic pace of life to spend a day with God. Give yourself the gift of time to hear afresh the story of God's great love, to renew your faith and deepen your walk with Christ.

Join us for prayer, reflection, sharing and renewal.

🔔 Meals are provided 🔔 There is no cost 🔔

To register, complete the bottom portion of this flier and return it to the RE Office or in the collection basket by Feb. 12.

Questions? Call Irene @ 814-899-6132
or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org

Space is limited

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Do you have any special needs? _____

Check All That Apply

Female Male

Married registering w/ Spouse Married registering alone

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Catholic Non-Catholic

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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.