

# 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

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](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

**FEBRUARY 12, 2023 - THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 02/13	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Sofia's Circle SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Tue. 02/14	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
Wed. 02/15	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	6:00 p.m.	Sanctus Team Meeting
Thur. 02/16	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
Fri. 02/17	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
		<b>Parish Office Closed</b>
Sat. 02/18	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
		<b>CSA Commitment Weekend</b>
Sun. 02/19		<b>Cursillo Revival Weekend</b>
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
		<b>CSA Commitment Weekend</b>
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	11:00 a.m.	Gr. 5 Class Mass
	5:00 p.m.	Gr. 10-11 Confirmation
		Penance Service

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 02/13	Gn 4:1-15, 25	/ Mk 8:11-13
Tue. 02/14	Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10	/ Mk 8:14-21
Wed. 02/15	Gn 8:6-13, 20-22	/ Mk 8:22-26
Thur. 02/16	Gn 9:1-13	/ Mk 8:27-33
Fri. 02/17	Gn 11:1-9	/ Mk 8:34-9:1
Sat. 02/18	Heb 11:1-7	/ Mk 9:2-13
Sun. 02/19	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18	
	1 Cor 3:16-23	/ Mt 5:38-48

## 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. 02/13	8:30 a.m.	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue. 02/14	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 02/15	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 02/16	8:30 a.m.	<b>Dr. Loren Prichard</b> (Frank & Joanne Cargioli)
Fri. 02/17	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 02/18	6:00 p.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
Sun. 02/19	8:30 a.m.	<b>Norine Mulvin</b> (The Manna Family)
	11:00 a.m.	<b>Robert Jones</b> (Family)

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of February 5, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	61	\$ 2,215.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,422.20
Loose Change:		\$ 52.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,689.20</b>

## 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	

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### MATTHEW 5:17-37



It's often said that the Catholic Church lays heavy rules on her members, rules that can almost seem impossible. Mass every Sunday? No lying ever? Sexual purity all the time? I recently said to some non-Catholic friends that more than fifty adults were baptized at my parish at the Easter Vigil. One responded spontaneously with shock, "Why would anyone do that?" In other words, why would someone willingly place themselves in a system with such demanding and rigorous rules?

Of course, no one in the history of religions is more demanding and rigorous than Jesus himself. In the Sermon on the Mount, he says you have to be holier than pharisees or you're out. He says if you call someone a fool, you go to fiery Gehenna. He says you can't even look at a woman with lust or you're guilty of adultery (which was punishable by death). To top it all off, he says you can't even get divorced and re-married. Doesn't he know these are basically impossible demands? What world is he living in?

The new one, actually. He is the new world. Jesus' words aren't meant to condemn. They are meant to signal something new, a restored humanity. Jesus doesn't just give external laws; he gives us his Holy Spirit to internalize the law through love. He wants to fill us with his love. That's what the Church exists to do. Love demands extraordinary things. The "demands" of the Church only make sense because she is filled with Jesus' love. That wildly demanding love is why we are Catholic.

— Father John Muir  
 ©LPi

### 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. tomorrow, **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

The daytime meeting is **Monday, Feb 20** at 1 p.m.; the evening meeting is Feb 20 at 7 p.m.. Riding the roller coaster of the grief journey is challenging. Having a partner or two on the ride makes it less bumpy. Join either group on Monday Feb 20 to be comforted by hearing stories from others who have similar experiences. For more information or for a one on one session contact Donna 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.



### 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.



### Home Help Needed

A parishioner is in need of a part-time house keeper. If you are interested in this paid position, please contact Katie in the Parish Office at 814-899-5342.



### Women's Cursillo Weekend

Looking for something to renew your spirit this Lent? Desiring to deepen your friendship with Christ? Searching for a powerful faith experience? Applications are now being taken for the Women's Cursillo Weekend on **March 17-19** to be held at Our Lady of Mercy. For more information or to get an application, go to Erie Diocesan Cursillo Movement | Erie, PA ([eriecursillo.org](http://eriecursillo.org)) or talk with Tim and Norma Lynch or Irene Lucas or call the parish at 814-899-6132.



## 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 Feb. 5, was **Lauchlan Eighmy, grade 2**, who knew that the Act of Contrition is the prayer that tells God we are sorry for our sins.

### Pastoral Council Discernment

The pastoral Council will be accepting nominations starting in March. Take this time to discern if you are called to help the parish grow in its response to God's love. A candidate should be a person of prayer One who sees the value of private prayer for personal growth in Christ and the value of communal prayer for growth in Christ's community of faith and love. Attending Mass regularly, participating in other parish events as you are able. A candidate should have a desire to learn what it means to be church today (shared responsibility). To be church means that all of God's people share the life of God through and in Christ and are guarded and guided by the Holy Spirit. It means speaking and listening to one another to discern what the Spirit is saying as necessary to meet the needs of our times. If you have any questions contact Donna in the parish office ext. 213.



### Help! Help! Help!



Guitarists and singers needed for Cursillo Choir to sing on **February 18<sup>th</sup>** for 6 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy for the closing of the Revive to Thrive Day of Renewal.

Invite your friends to join us, also please consider attending the Revive to Thrive that starts at 8 a.m. on **Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>**. A \$25 donation to cover food and snacks is required. Questions? Call Kathie at 814-449-8044

### Personal Supplies Collection

The food pantry is collecting soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes during February. Place them at the display in the gathering space. Thank you.





## A Special Thank You

To our amazing OLM family:

Jay, Kerry and I can't begin to express our gratitude for the overwhelming support you gave us at the crushing loss of our son and brother, Justin. Maybe you prayed, maybe you comforted, maybe you called, maybe you came, maybe you sent, maybe you gifted, maybe you cooked, maybe you baked, maybe you sang, maybe you served; for whatever you did, you have our deepest heart-felt thank you. You enabled us to put one foot in front of the other to keep on going.

With much love, Karen Sweeney and Jay and Kerry Raydo



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!*

## GECAC Foster Grandparent Program

GECAC is looking for low-income adults over 55 who are willing to be part of the Foster Grandparent program for which they will receive a federal stipend. For a list of qualifications visit [gecac.org](http://gecac.org) or call 814-459-4581. Through AmeriCorps Seniors older adults help children love learning. Connect with at-risk students by sharing your experiences, tutoring, and offering encouragement. For more information contact [landerson@gecac.org](mailto:landerson@gecac.org); 814-459-4581 ext.462.

## HOLY HOUR

*for Vocations*

At St. Mark the Evangelist Church - 695 Smithson Ave

February 25th, 2023 at 3:15pm

\*EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT\*

\*SCRIPTURE READINGS\*

\*REFLECTION\*

\*TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER\*

\*BENEDICTION\*



## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

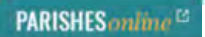


### Bystanders can help

Bystanders can play a big role in stopping bullying. When people do nothing, it sends a message that it's no big deal to bully. If people say something, it sends a social message that bullying is not OK. If you see someone being bullied, you can help by doing these things: Speak up to help: If it feels safe and natural to speak up, say, "come on, let's get out of here" to the person being bullied. It is okay to let the bully know people are watching and will get involved. Report it: Let a trusted adult know what you witnessed. This isn't tattling, it is standing up for what's right. Offer support: Check in with the person who was being bullied. Ask how they are doing. Remind them that the bullying is not their fault. For additional resources visit [www.eriecd.org/childprotection/](http://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/)

### 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.



## Comedy Corner

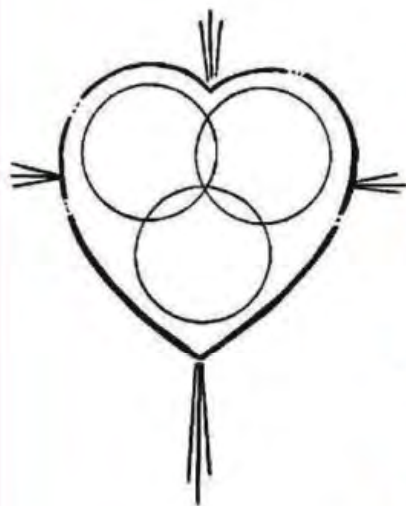
### Going Down!!

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain, "you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets — we're one short."



# 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](mailto: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

Single  Divorced  Separated  Widowed

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.