

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

MARCH 5, 2023 - THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 03/06	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 03/07	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
Wed. 03/08	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	1:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
	6:10 p.m.	Soup Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Pastus Presentation
Thur. 03/09	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 03/10	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 03/11	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 03/12	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	4:00 p.m.	Parish Mission Part 1
	6:00 p.m.	Parish Mission Part 2

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 03/06	Dn 9:4b-10	/ Lk 6:36-38
Tue. 03/07	Is 1:10, 16-20	/ Mt 23:1-12
Wed. 03/08	Jer 18:18-20	/ Mt 20:17-28
Thur. 03/09	Jer 17:5-10	/ Lk 16:19-31
Fri. 03/10	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28	/ Mt 21:33-46
Sat. 03/11	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20	/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sun. 03/12	Ex 17:3-7 / Rom 5:1-8	/ Jn 4:5-42

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	

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of February 26, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	58	\$ 2,670.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,422.20
Loose Change:		\$ 104.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,196.20

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



We Remember...

Lois Kobierski

who passed away recently.

Please hold her and her family in prayer during this difficult time.

In Loving Memory

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 03/06	8:30 a.m.	NO MASS
Tue. 03/07	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 03/08	8:30 a.m.	
	5:30 p.m.	
Thur. 03/09	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 03/10	8:30 a.m.	Mary Pfadt (Family)
Sat. 03/11	6:00 p.m.	Terry Swanson (Loretta Koneski)
Sun. 03/12	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Theresa Ignasiak (Suzie Szymecki & Family)

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MATTHEW 17:1-9



As a kid I remember looking at my sister and thinking, "No man is ever going to marry her. She is way too...my sister!" I couldn't see her as anything except my goofy, emotional, cooties-laden sister. Years later, on her wedding day, I remember seeing how her husband looked at her, he was totally in love with her, his watery eyes full of overwhelmed joy, drinking in her beauty and grace. He was the one who actually saw her. Blinded by familiarity, I had not been able to see her until now. She was glorious. I finally saw how beautiful my sister really was.

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John. His face shone like the sun and his clothes dazzle with heavenly light. If it's a miracle, it is so related to the apostles' perception of the glory of Jesus. The physical spectacle reveals how the Father perceives the Son, so to speak: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to him." The Son is always bathed in the Father's love. It's only just now that they finally perceive it.

Who could possibly give his or her heart totally to Jesus? If we perceive him to be just another teacher, symbol, or moral example, we can't. But if the Holy Spirit gives us eyes to see that he is the Beloved Son of God, who makes our humanity not just pleasing to God but filled with glory ... then who can resist him? Perhaps only the lovers are the ones who properly see.

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Book Group

Join us on **March 15 @ 7:00** at the home of Pat Marshall, 516 W. Eaglewood, to discuss The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson. In April we will read Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult.



Lenten Pastus Series



During Lent, we will gather on **Wednesday evenings** to be nourished in spirit, body and Mind. Let us gather around the Eucharistic Table at **5:30**, for a simple soup supper at **6:10** and for a presentation at **6:45**. You do not need to attend all three pieces; attend whatever fits your schedule. This Wednesday, Dr. Phillips-Sabol will present an inspiring program on "Eucharistic Miracles". This program was featured in a recent issue of Faith Magazine. This multi-media presentation will fascinate your mind, inspire your soul and break open your heart. The program will run for 90 minutes, so we will begin promptly at **6:45**. We hope to live stream all the Pastus programs this March.

Parish Mission

Epiphany to Ascension: Jesus, Eucharist and Great Coffee presented by Fr. Chris Singer. In the midst of our national Eucharistic Revival, this mission will explore Emmanuel – how "God is with us" through the themes of the Christmas, Lent and Easter seasons. God came into the world, and He stayed. He has stayed with us. So pour a great cup of coffee as together we refocus our eyes on Jesus in the Eucharist, who is "God with us." This year's Parish Mission will be held on **Sunday, March 12**. Session #1 will be at **4:00** and Session #2 at **6:00**. Between the sessions, we will break for a simple supper in Sperry Hall. All are invited; there is no cost. Fr. Chris Singer is originally from Oil City. He (and his classmate Fr. Matt Kujawinski) was ordained to the priesthood in June 2003. Fr. Chris currently serves as Chancellor and Master of Ceremonies for the Diocese of Erie, and as confessor/spiritual director for St. Mark Seminary in Erie. His favorite hobbies are amateur astronomy, hiking and drinking coffee.



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 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; **814-459-4581 ext.462**.



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 is a wonderful resource if you love to learn and want to deepen your faith. Currently my SCC group is watching The Chosen together. I'm using the commentaries on FORMED to answer questions and add the Catholic perspective to our conversation about each episode. I highly recommend you check it out." -Kerry Raydo

Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of Feb. 26, was **Dean Massella, grade 1**, who knew that Catholics abstain from eating meat on the Fridays of Lent.

Pastoral Council Seeking New Members



Every spring the Pastoral Council seeks out parishioners who can help us envision the future of this community. The Pastoral Council engages in the process of pastoral planning and helps to set the direction of the parish community in prayer, leadership, service and pastoral action in consultation with the Pastor and Staff.

A nominee must be a parishioner who:

- Has been baptized or received into the Roman Catholic Church.
- By his or her free and consistent choice is a registered member of Our Lady of Mercy Parish. Contributes to the betterment of the parish community.

We ask your prayerful consideration in nominating either yourself or another member of the parish community. Look for more information in March.



Eucharistic minister for parishioner in North East.

If you live in North East and could bring communion to one of our parishioners once a month please contact Donna Clark in the parish office.

Homebound ministry

Would you be willing to mail a bulletin to one of our homebound parishioners? Contact Donna Clark.



KOC Golf Raffle Save the Date

The Knights of Columbus annual Golf & Sports Raffle will be held on **May 12**.



Happy Anniversary PA KofC

The Pennsylvania Knights of Columbus recently celebrated their 125th anniversary. The Knights were founded in New Haven, CT by Father Michael McGivney in March of 1881 - 142 years ago! There are nearly 2 million members worldwide.

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) or talk with Tim and Norma Lynch or Irene Lucas or call the parish at 814-899-6132

Baptismal Preparation Session



The next Baptismal Preparation Session for Parents and Godparents at OLM will take place Sunday,

March 19 at noon. The Diocese of Erie asks that all parents attend this session before scheduling the baptism of their child. To register, call the parish office at 814-899-5342. There will not be another session at OLM until the fall.

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.



Hospitality Bag Collection for Refugee Families in Erie

Our Lady of Mercy will be taking up a collection during the Lenten season to provide Hospitality Bags to refugee families in Erie. See the list below for items that we are collecting.

- 4-pack toilet paper
- Box of Kleenex
- Dish soap
- Dish sponge
- Windex
- Multi-purpose cleaner (Lysol)
- Band-aids
- Body Wash (or bars of soap)
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant (men and women)
- Sanitary supplies (women)
- Laundry detergent (small)
- kitchen dishtowels
- Box Tea Bags

Our goal is to provide Catholic Charities with 20, 30 or even 50 of these bags.... ready to share with our newest neighbors from overseas.

CSA 2023

A sincere thank you to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Services Appeal last week. We currently have \$51,000 from 100 pledges. We can still use your help to reach our goal. Find pledge forms on the table in the gathering space or on our website. Please take the time to read the finance council talk given at Mass on Feb 11/12; it explains the current financial situation for Our lady of Mercy. We are really counting on families to give \$500 this year if possible. As always, any pledge will help us reach our goal of raising extra money for major repairs of our 23 year old building.



Text-To- Give from Faith Direct

To securely make a gift to CSA 2023, text a dollar amount to 814-892-0055. You will be asked to complete a one-time registration page with your billing and contact information. After this registration, you can give any time by texting a dollar amount to this OLM phone number. For Existing accounts: If the email address entered does not match an existing account, you will have the option to apply the gift to your existing account.

Ross Peters Celebration of Life

The family of Ross Peters invites members of Our Lady of Mercy to celebrate his life on **Saturday March 18 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** at the Harborcreek Fire Hall. They also would like members of Our Lady of Mercy to **donate desserts** for the celebration. RSVP helpful but not required to Donna Clark. Deliver desserts at **12:30 p.m. Saturday March 18** to the Fire Hall. Gert and Ross Peters were part of the backbone of many of the festive celebrations at Our Lady of Mercy. Perhaps you remember and savored their food.



Comedy Corner

Man: What is a million years like to you?
 God: Like one second.
 Man: What is a million dollars like to you?
 God: Like one penny.
 Man: Can I have a penny?
 God: Just a second.





Sunday, March 12

4:00-7:00 PM

Epiphany to Ascension
Jesus, Eucharist and Great Coffee
Presented by Fr. Chris Singer

In the midst of our national Eucharistic Revival, this mission will explore Emmanuel – how “God is with us” through the themes of the Christmas, Lent and Easter seasons. God came into the world, and He stayed. He has stayed with us. So pour a great cup of coffee as together we refocus our eyes on Jesus in the Eucharist, who is “God with us.”

Fr. Singer will offer two talks, at 4:00 and at 6:00 p.m. Between the talks, we will break to share a light supper.

Fr. Chris Singer is originally from Oil City. He (and his classmate Fr. Matt Kujawinski) was ordained to the priesthood in June 2003. Fr. Chris currently serves as Chancellor and Master of Ceremonies for the Diocese of Erie, and as confessor/spiritual director for St. Mark Seminary in Erie. His favorite hobbies are amateur astronomy, hiking and drinking coffee.

THE SEASON OF LENT

LENTEN PASTUS

Wednesdays of Lent

March 8, 22

5:30 p.m. - Mass

6:10 p.m. - Simple Soup Supper

6:45 p.m. - Presentation

PARISH MISSION

March 12

4:00 p.m. - Part 1

6:00 p.m. - Part 2

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent

7:00 p.m.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

March 18 & 19

All Masses

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

March 21

6:30 p.m. - St. Gregory, North East

March 26

2:00 p.m. - St. Mark, Lawrence Park

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
1553 East Grandview Blvd.



FISH & PIEROGI

DINNER



March 3, March 17, March 31
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Adults: \$15.00
Kids (age 7-12): \$7.00
Under Six Free!
Take Outs Available

Bring the whole family.....
and leave the dishes to 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.