

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 12, 2023 - THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

| | | |
|-------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Mon. 03/13 | 9:30 a.m. | Steel Magnolias SCC |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Festival Meeting |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Fireside Chatters SCC |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Roman Candles SCC |
| Tue. 03/14 | 10:00 a.m. | Angels in Training SCC |
| | 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. | AGIFT Meeting |
| Wed. 03/15 | 8:30 a.m. | Food Pantry Distribution |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Painting Group |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Legion of Mary |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Knights of Columbus |
| | 7:00 p.m. | OLM Book Group |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Pastoral Council |
| Thur. 03/16 | | CURSILLO WEEKEND |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Prayer Shawl |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Fri. 03/17 | | CURSILLO WEEKEND |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Sisters of Scripture SCC |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Stations of the Cross |
| Sat. 03/18 | | CURSILLO WEEKEND |
| | | Anointing of the Sick - All Masses |
| | 4:30 p.m. | Sacrament of Penance |
| Sun. 03/19 | | CURSILLO WEEKEND |
| | | Anointing of the Sick - All Masses |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8 |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Healing Ministry |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Baptismal Prep Class |

SCRIPTURE READINGS

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mon. 03/13 | 2 Kgs 5:1-15 | / Lk 4:24-30 |
| Tue. 03/14 | Dn 3:25, 34-43 | / Mt 18:21-35 |
| Wed. 03/15 | Dt 4:1, 5-9 | / Mt 5:17-19 |
| Thur. 03/16 | Jer 7:23-28 | / Lk 11:14-23 |
| Fri. 03/17 | Hos 14:2-10 | / Mk 12:28-34 |
| Sat. 03/18 | Hos 6:1-6 | / Lk 18:9-14 |
| Sun. 03/19 | 1 Sm 16:1-13/ Eph 5:8-14 | / Jn 9:1-41 |

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | |
|-------------|------------|---|
| Mon. 03/13 | 8:30 a.m. | NO MASS |
| Tue. 03/14 | 8:30 a.m. | |
| Wed. 03/15 | 8:30 a.m. | Justin Raydo (Morning Mass Group) |
| Thur. 03/16 | 8:30 a.m. | |
| Fri. 03/17 | 8:30 a.m. | Analida Braeger (Tom Braeger) |
| Sat. 03/18 | 6:00 p.m. | Leo Heise (Joe & Lois Heise) |
| Sun. 03/19 | 8:30 a.m. | For the People of OLM |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Lewis Peters (Carole Peters) |

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of March 5, 2023

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Envelopes sent: | 357 | |
| Envelopes returned: | 67 | \$ 3,351.00 |
| Faith Direct Deposits: | 136 | \$ 3,422.20 |
| Loose Change: | | \$ 36.00 |
| TOTAL OFFERTORY: | | \$ 6,809.20 |

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



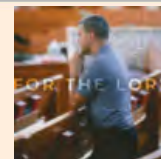
STAFF EXTENSION NUMBERS

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

JN 4:5-42



When I became the pastor of a large parish, I soon found myself, for the first time in my life, riddled with anxiety, headaches, difficulty making decisions, and fatigue. I called a therapist friend and told her my symptoms and asked if she thought I needed a serious medical exam. She said, "How much water do you drink?" I told her, "I haven't had time to drink water lately." She responded, "You're chronically dehydrated. Drink eighty-five ounces a day and call me in a week." I started guzzling water and in a week all my symptoms went away. I felt great.

Like me, the people in the Exodus wanderings were dehydrated. But unlike me, they knew it. Their symptoms were bad. They fight with each other. They accuse God of being a monster who wants them and their children to die of thirst. Their thirst drives them to plot the bloody assassination of the man who rescued them. God responds by using Moses to strike a rock from which rivers of living waters flow to quench their thirst for years to come.

The Holy Spirit is the living water of love which flows from the pierced side of Jesus, the new Moses. What symptoms in your life suggest you're spiritually dehydrated? Anger at God? Cynicism at your leaders? Bitter rivalry and bickering with others? Don't panic. Of course we have those symptoms. Ask God to provide his water to quench your spiritual thirst, and he will. And all those symptoms will soon disappear.

— 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. Our next Pastus will be **March 22** when Brandon Vogt will lead us in a musical reflection on the Eucharist. 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 **TODAY 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.

Raffle Tickets on Sale Next Weekend

St. Mark’s Seminary Card Party will be held on **April 20th at 6:00 p.m.** Raffle tickets will be available after Mass on **March 18th and 19th**. Thank you for supporting our Seminarians. Card Party admission tickets are only available thru contacting Betsy at **814-504-2720**.

Homebound ministry

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



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.

“I enjoy the Formed site. It is a great resource for learning more about the catholic faith. I really commonly visit the site during the holidays and Lent. I use it to supplement what I read during Lent or to gain a new perspective on what I read or hear at Mass. It is easy to use, the search function is intuitive and the various topics are well presented. If you haven’t given the site a try, I believe you will enjoy the experience.”

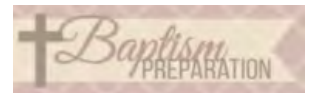
-Bill Matrogran

Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of March 5, was **Luca Burick, grade 3**, who knew that our sins are forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

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.



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.



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.



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.



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.

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.

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

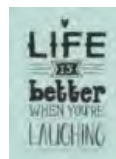
Pledge to Heal

The Diocese of Erie remains committed to helping survivors of clergy sexual abuse heal and recover. The diocese will provide counseling assistance for those who have been abused by a member of the clergy. For more information please contact Dr. Gerard Tobin, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 814-451-1521. The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact their local law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the diocese, email ErieRCD@KLGates.com. Victims/survivors or concerned individuals can report abuse directly to the diocese by calling 814-451-1543.



Comedy Corner

A Catholic priest, a Baptist preacher, and a rabbit walk into a blood bank. The rabbit takes a look around and says, "I think I'm a typo."



Ella Cochran Food Pantry - Bags of Hope

Please fill a shopping bag with these ingredients for an Easter dinner.
The Ella Cochran Food Pantry is providing the ham.

These food items are:

- † Sweet potatoes (cans)
- † Boxed scalloped potatoes
- † Cans of vegetables (2 cans)
- † Canned fruit (2 cans)
- † Drink mix
- † Boxed dessert
- † Easter candy



Please return these items to Our Lady of Mercy
by Sunday March 26, 2023.

If you don't shop, please consider a monetary donation. As always we cannot thank you enough for your donation and continued support.

THE SEASON OF LENT

LENTEN PASTUS

Wednesdays of Lent
March 22

5:30 p.m. - Mass

6:10 p.m. - Simple Soup Supper

7:00 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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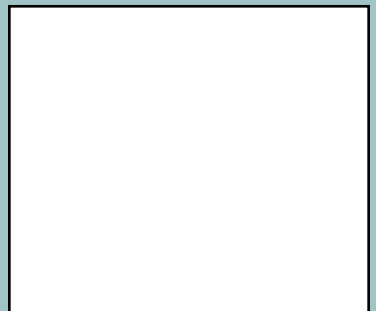
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OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Membership Form

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.