

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 26, 2023 - THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 03/27	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Fireside Chatters SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Tue. 03/28	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
	5:30 p.m.	Youth Open Gym
	5:45 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	The Mystics SCC
Wed. 03/29	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
Thur. 03/30	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 03/31	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 04/01	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/02		Casserole Club Drop Off
		Monthly Food Pantry Collection
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 03/27	Dn 13:41c - 62	/ Jn 8:1-11
Tue. 03/28	Nm 21:4-9	/ Jn 8:21-30
Wed. 03/29	Dn 3:14-20, 91-95	/ Jn 8:31-42
Thur. 03/30	Gn 17:3-9	/ Jn 8:51-59
Fri. 03/31	Jer 20:10-13	/ Jn 10:31-42
Sat. 04/01	Ez 37:21-28	/ Jn 11:45-56
Sun. 04/02	Mt 21:1-11	/ Is 50:4-7
	Phil 2:6-11	/ Mt 26: 14 - 27:66

FIFTH WEEK OF LENT



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 03/27	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 03/28	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 03/29	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 03/30	8:30 a.m.	William Heintz (John Abbate)
Fri. 03/31	8:30 a.m.	Dr. Loren Prichard (Linda & Fred Koller)
Sat. 04/01	6:00 p.m.	Bill Spring (Family)
Sun. 04/02	8:30 a.m.	Louis DeLuca (Rose Marie DeLuca)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of March 19, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	53	\$ 2,355.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,422.20
Loose Change:		\$ 75.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 5,852.20

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



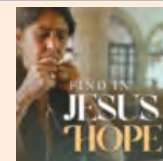
STAFF EXTENSION NUMBERS

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 11:1-45



Of all Jesus' miracles, the most unsettling might be when he made a dead person alive. We know of three times when he did so: a girl, a young man, and Lazarus. The miracle teaches us he has the power of life and death. He anticipates his resurrection. Sin hurts us. Some sin kills us, spiritually. The three miracles reveal to us that no matter our circumstances, Jesus can give life to us.

The three miracles are instructive of the three ways we feel dead. The little dead girl symbolizes sin before it has time to mature. She's in bed and, once alive, gets right back to her life. The young man is lying in his casket in a funeral procession. This is sin allowed to fester, to grow and become somewhat normalized. Once raised, he has a short walk back home. Lazarus, a full-grown dead man, lies wrapped in burial bands in the tomb. Once he is raised, much needs to be done. He'll need to remove those bands, find new clothes, and travel all the way back home. That is sin allowed to go all the way, unchecked for months or years. It's the most spectacular of the three and reveals Jesus' glory more than the others.

What hope that should give us, for us and those whom we love! Jesus knows our sin hurts us and can even kill us spiritually. No matter the extent of the damage, he is always ready for the miracle of making the dead fully alive.

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Focus Group for Grief Support

Monday April 17 at 1 p.m. or 7 p.m. We need some input to help reorganize our Grief Support for the parish. Although a support group has been very beneficial sometimes the monthly schedule is too infrequent. Please come for casual conversation and refreshments to either the afternoon or the evening session.



Book Group

Join us on April 19 at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd., to discuss Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult. Our May title will be Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano.

Pilgrimage Through the Symbols of Holy Week

Make a holy pilgrimage through the symbols of the holiest week of the year. Join us at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 5. Pack a wine glass for the journey and wear comfortable shoes (we do not leave the building, but you may be on your feet for much of the experience). Bring family and friends, anyone who would like to experience the objects and actions of our Holy Week celebrations in a deeper, richer fashion.



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 HOUR

for Vocations

AT ST MARK CHURCH 695 SMITHSON AVE

April 1st, 2023 at 3:15pm

- *EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT*
- *SCRIPTURE READINGS*
- *REFLECTION*
- *TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER*
- *BENEDICTION*

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 19, was **Amelia Bernatowicz, grade 6**, who knew that we recall that Jesus died on the cross at the 12th Station of the Cross.

Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting

Plans for Vacation Bible School 2023 are getting underway. We have our first planning meeting on **Tuesday, March 28 at 5:45** in the Conference Room. All are invited.



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.

Nominations ballots are in the Gathering Space. You can nominate yourself – as the spirit moves – or nominate someone else.

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.

Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive is on **Wednesday May 10th** from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.



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

Please return these items to Our Lady of Mercy by **TODAY 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.

Knights of Columbus Golf Raffle

The 28th Raffle will be held on Friday May 12 in the Gym and Sperry Hall from 6 to 11 p.m. Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering space after Mass on March 26, break for Palm Sunday & Easter and then resume on April 16, 23, 30 and May 7. Tickets will also be on sale in the Parish Office during the week from 9 till 3. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. The grand prize this year is \$ 1,000! Our Golf & Sports Raffle has become the largest in the Erie area thanks to the support of our parish and our many ticket sellers. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support youth programs in the parish, provide scholarships for parish high school seniors, and fund capital projects. Please help the Knights help the parish.



THE SEASON OF LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent
7:00 p.m.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

March 26
2:00 p.m. - St. Mark, Lawrence Park

Chrim Mass to be celebrated Monday of Holy Week

Bishop Lawrence Persico, together with the priests of the Diocese of Erie, will celebrate the annual Chrim Mass on April 3 at 1 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral, 230 W. 10th St., Erie. During the Mass, the holy oils to be used for sacraments will be consecrated and blessed for distribution to the parishes of the diocese. The public is encouraged to attend.

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. The list of items we are collecting can be found in the Gathering Space. 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

We are almost there only \$2,000 more to go to meet our assessment!!! Now comes the real challenge to raise extra money for our work projects which include: Replacing the skylight in the atrium \$5,000; replace the east gym storage room roof \$13,300; and replace the garage and food pantry roof \$24,500. A sincere thank you to all who made a pledge and/or gift to the Catholic Services Appeal. Pledge forms are in the gathering space or on our website. We are counting on families to give \$500 this year if possible. But as always, any pledge will help us.



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.

Comedy Corner





THE SEASON OF EASTER

PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE SYMBOLS OF HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, April 5

7:00 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY

Thursday, April 6

7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 7

3:00 p.m.

Outdoor Stations will be at

1:00 p.m.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Saturday, April 8

11:30 a.m.

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, April 8

9:00 p.m.

EASTER LITURGIES

Sunday, April 9

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



HARBORCREEK
AUTO
Gallery LLC

www.harborcreekautogallery.com
6850 Buffalo Rd. 85 West Main
814-315-4051 Harborcreek, PA 814-347-9090 Northeast, PA

• Sales • PA Inspections
• Notary • Detailing



*Where There's Always
Something GROWING On!*

Stan's
GARDEN CENTER

Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

East 5001 Buffalo Road Erie, PA 16510 **899.5424**

West 5341 West Lake Road Erie, PA 16505 **835.6960**

**William D. Elkin
Funeral Home**

65 South Lake St. • North East
725-4511

Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.
William D. Elkin, F.D.
Pre-Arrangements Available

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!**


**Brevillier
Village**

5416 East Lake Road
Erie, PA 16511
814-899-8600
www.brevillier.org

Ball Pavilion
Short Term Rehab
Long Term Nursing
Care

Barnabas Court
Licensed Personal
Care, Residency &
Independent Living.

Conrad House
Independent Living

*"Your Computer
Professional"*

JDL @
Computers

**NEW SYSTEMS
USED • REPAIRS**

"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"
898-8300
Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners

JDLCOMPUTERS.COM

**OLLINGER
PLUMBING, HEATING
& AIR CONDITIONING**



Residential • Commercial
Quality Installations & Service
899-2809

FIDDLE INN
HARBORCREEK, PA
"Home of the EVERYTHINGS"

6615 Buffalo Road
814-899-9005
www.diningverse.com/fiddleinn

**Place Your Ad Here and
Support our Parish!**

Instantly create and purchase
an ad with

**AD
CREATOR
STUDIO**



4lpi.com/adcreator



Blank space for an advertisement.

DUSCKAS - TAYLOR



Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Robert D. Taylor
Supervisor

5151 BUFFALO ROAD
ERIE • PENNSYLVANIA 16510
814-315-0911
dusckas-taylorfuneralhome.com

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support
Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Timothy Weir

tweir@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6568

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.