

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

APRIL 2, 2023 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 04/03	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
Tue. 04/04	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	The Mystics SCC
Wed. 04/05	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	7:00 p.m.	Pilgrimage Through The Symbols of Holy Week
Thur. 04/06		HOLY THURSDAY
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
Fri. 04/07		GOOD FRIDAY
		Parish Office Closed
	1:00 p.m.	Outdoor Stations of the Cross
	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Sat. 04/08		HOLY SATURDAY
	11:30 a.m.	Blessing of Easter Food
	9:00 p.m.	The Great Easter Vigil
Sun. 04/09		EASTER SUNDAY

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
- Deacon Paul.....233
- Katie.....210
- Irene.....214
- Kirk.....216
- Linda.....211
- Donna.....213

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 04/03	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 04/04	8:30 a.m.	Millie Herrmann (Dolores Carapezza)
Wed. 04/05	8:30 a.m.	Peter Jacquel (The Jacquel Family)
Thur. 04/06	7:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
Fri. 04/07	3:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Sat. 04/08	9:00 p.m.	The Great Easter Vigil
Sun. 04/09	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of March 26, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	53	\$ 3,546.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,325.57
Loose Change:		\$ 144.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,015.57

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/03	Is 42:1-7	/ Jn 12:1-11
Tue. 04/04	Is 49:1-6	/ Jn 13:21-38
Wed. 04/05	Is 50:4-9a	/ Mt 26:14-25
Thur. 04/06	Ex 12:1-14	
	1Cor 11:23-26	/ Jn 13:1-15
Fri. 04/07	Is 52:13-53:12	
	Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9	/ Jn 18:1-19:42
Sat. 04/08	Gn 1:1-2:2	/ Gn 22:1-18
	Ex 14:15-15:1	/ Is 54:5-14
	Is 55:1-11	/ Bar 3:9-15, 32 - 4:4
	Ez 36:16-28	/ Rom 6:3-11
		/ Mt 28:1-10
Sun. 04/09	Acts 10:34a, 37-43	
	Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8	
		/ Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

MT 26:14-27:66



What's your car? Let's say it's a fancy silver Toyota. Now imagine you're having lunch in a restaurant and suddenly see two men outside attempting to steal it. You run outside and confront them. They respond, "The master has need of it." How do you respond? Would you just let them take it, and leave you without a car? I don't think I would.

Yet that is precisely what the owners of the colt on Palm Sunday do. Stunningly, and perhaps a little comically, Jesus instructs two of his disciples to commandeer a colt for him to ride. And when they hear the disciples say, "The master has need of it," they let them take it. Of course, Jesus knew they'd let it go. He gave them the grace to let go of what is rightfully theirs. The result? That colt became perhaps the most famous and important animal ever. The beast plays a role in the redemption of the world.

As Holy Week begins, Jesus perhaps will send people to you to ask for something valuable to you. Perhaps it's your car. More likely it's something like your attention, time, or energy. It's natural to resist at first. We've got things to do, after all. But if the interruption is from Jesus himself, listen to that voice which calmly says, "The master has need of it." And simply let it go. You'll be amazed what the master will do with it

— 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.

Parent Baptismal Preparation Session



If you were unable to attend the Baptismal Prep Session in March, another class has been scheduled for 1:30 on April 30. Please call the parish office at 814-899-5342 by

April 27 to register for the session.

Sundae Sunday

Birds are nesting. Bulbs are blooming. Trees are budding. It must be time for Sundae Sunday. Mark your calendar and join us for an ice cream sundae bar and cake walk at noon on April 30. Can you donate a cake for the cake walk? A sign up list will be in the Gathering Space after Easter. Let's get together and celebrate all the goodness of the season!



For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for the spring issue of For Mercy Sake is Sunday, April 23. Send

submissions to secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Join us at 9:45 on Sunday, April 16 for our spring Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E* in Sperry Hall. Get your week off to a great start with fresh brewed coffee, delicious homemade treats and a challenging presentation. Erin Tubbs, Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Erie, will share the many ways that Catholic Charities serves the people of northwestern Pennsylvania.



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 21, was Kaylyn Still, grade 6, who knew that Jesus gave us the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Tradition also says that the Sacrament of Holy Orders was instituted at the Last Supper.

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.



Chrism Mass to be celebrated Monday of Holy Week

Bishop Lawrence Persico, together with the priests of the Diocese of Erie, will celebrate the annual Chrism 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.

Blood Drive

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



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.



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.

Pledge Payment Reminders

There has been a delay with the Pledge Payment Reminders this year. If You would like a current Pledge Statement, please contact the Parish Office.



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**.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Reporting known or suspected
child abuse



It is every adult's moral responsibility to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minors is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the 2021 Pennsylvania statewide report there were 5,036 substantiated reports of child abuse in Pennsylvania. 2,171 or 39.9% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse, 1,418 were physical abuse. Parents remain the persons most responsible for abuse of their children. To report suspected abuse of a minor, call Childline at **1-800-932-0323** (anytime 24/7). In the Diocese of Erie for particular questions on reporting abuse, you may call The Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at **814-824-1195**.

Comedy Corner

5-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter because of a sore throat. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds. Johnny asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," his father told him. "Wouldn't you know it," Johnny fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, and he shows up."



April Birthdays

April 2	Luke Bradley	3	April 15	Samantha Bryan	15
April 4	Eileen Drotar	6	April 17	Alex Lunger	17
April 6	Ava Still	6	April 18	Alexandra Bryan	11
April 11	Mariska Habursky	16	April 21	Braeden Knepper	13
April 11	Gweneviere Wilczynski	8	April 22	Isla Duda	5
			April 22	Lydia Hordych	6
			April 29	Kara Taccone	7
			April 29	Patrick Wuerstle	4
			April 30	Hannah Smith	17
			April 30	Giovanni Coletta	13

JOIN US

**Sunday, April 16
from 9:45-10:45**

**@ the OLM
CAFÉ**



Continuing Adult Faith Enrichment *Erin Tubbs*

Director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Erie

Christ Has No Hands on Earth But Yours

Through the many ministries of Catholic Charities, Christ is ministering to the people of northwestern Pennsylvania, particularly the most vulnerable. From marriage counseling to food pantries, from adoption services to refugee support, the work of Catholic Charities makes the love of God visible in concrete ways. At this CAFÉ, we will learn more about the many programs administered through this multi-faceted diocesan ministry.

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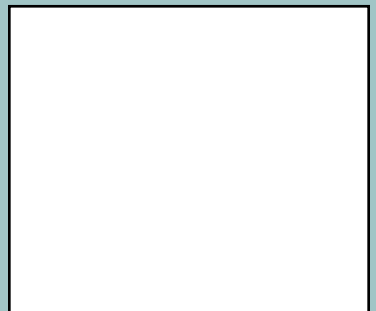
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OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Membership Form

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.