

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 9, 2023 - EASTER SUNDAY

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 04/10	Parish Office Closed	
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Tue. 04/11	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.	Pastoral Council
	6:30 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.
Wed. 04/12	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Mtg.
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 04/13	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Leadership Summit
Fri. 04/14	7:00 p.m.	Ultreya
Sat. 04/15	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/16	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday CAFE



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



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/10	Acts 2:14, 22-23	/ Mt 28:8-15
Tue. 04/11	Acts 2:36-41	/ Jn 20:11-18
Wed. 04/12	Acts 3:1-10	/ Lk 24:13-35
Thur. 04/13	Acts 3:11-26	/ Lk 24:35-48
Fri. 04/14	Acts 4:1-12	/ Jn 21:1-14
Sat. 04/15	Acts 4:13-21	/ Mk 16:9-15
Sun. 04/16	Acts 2:42-47 / 1 Pt 1:3-9	/ Jn 20:19-31

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of April 2, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	76	\$ 4,435.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,325.57
Loose Change:		\$ 128.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,888.57

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	

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 04/10	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 04/11	8:30 a.m.	Clemens Herrmann (Family)
Wed. 04/12	8:30 a.m.	Hilbert Jordan (Sandy and Family)
Thur. 04/13	8:30 a.m.	Sam Garwig (John Abbate)
Fri. 04/14	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 04/15	6:00 p.m.	Frank Szklenski (Joe & Lois Heise)
Sun. 04/16	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Helen Bandur (Teri & Tim Duvall)

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION EASTER SUNDAY



"When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons." (Mark 16:9)

Popular Catholic piety sometimes posits that the newly risen Jesus appears first to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a happy thought, but it's simply not what the scriptures report. We are told quite directly that he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, "out of whom he had driven seven demons."

Why would the gospel writer remind us of this unsavory detail of Mary's past? Historians tell us women were not qualified to give legal testimony. On top of that, to be possessed by not just one, but seven demons, is unsavory and terrifying. What damage had they done to her? What did she do to allow herself to be home to such evil? It doesn't seem to matter. Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first one who saw him risen from the dead. He decided she was qualified.

Do you think that you are disqualified from seeing and announcing the risen Jesus because of your past demons? Maybe they are the demons of despair, confusion, self-hatred, pride, addiction, failure, boredom, laziness, or other sins. Well, don't. In the light of the Risen Jesus, all these past demons make our witness that much more believable — only if we allow ourselves to be touched by the liberating hand of Christ, just as Mary Magdalene did.

— 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.



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.



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.

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.



Thank You, Music Ministry!

A special "thank you" goes out to all of the participants in our Music Ministry for a job well done all throughout Holy Week. Thank you for your time and talents and for spreading Easter joy to the whole congregation this season. As a reminder, there will be no Choir Rehearsals on Thursday April 13th. Enjoy your well deserved break!



Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of March 26, was Lydia Peters, grade 2, who knew that Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday.

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 Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Recent statistics tell us one out of every four girls and one out of every 6 boys are sexually abused before they turn 18. 91% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child or the child's family knows. This means that on every Sunday in our congregation there are people who have been abused and may continue to experience the pain of that abuse. Reaching out to those who have suffered from abuse is critical in bringing hope and the love of Christ to them. Assistance is available for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse by contacting the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Gerard Tobin at 814-451-1521.



Save the Date

Double Dedication

April 28, 2023 @ 6 p.m.

The Anniversary of the Dedication of Our Lady of Mercy & the Dedication of the Ritchie Room & Gathering Space to honor the late Msgr. Gerald Ritchie.

SUNDAE SUNDAY



Sunday, April 30
12:00 Noon
in Sperry Hall

Celebrate the Easter Season
Make-Your-Own Sundae Bar
& a Cake Walk

Please tell us if you can bake & donate a cake for the Cake Walk. You can email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or add your name to the list in the Gathering Space.

Knights of Columbus Golf Raffle

The 28th Golf & Sports 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.



Chinese Auction Baskets & Items Needed!

The Knights of Columbus are collecting auction baskets and items for the upcoming Golf and Sports Raffle. Please bring all auction baskets and items to the Parish Office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. This event continues to be successful because of your generous donations. Thank you!

Blood Drive

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



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 Parish Office 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 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.

Comedy Corner



THANK YOU FOR SHARING EASTER WITH US!

“The message of Easter is not
that Jesus is alive;
it is so much more.

The message of Easter is that
Jesus has risen!”

Easter reminds us that
Hope must never be lost
for as dark as the road may seem,
there always lies light at the end of it.
May the Glory of the Risen Lord fill your
heart with JOY this Easter season and always.

With Love,
Fr. Matt and the Staff of
Our Lady of Mercy

To continue your experience of Easter Joy, we
invite you to come back to church
next weekend!

We promise a welcoming church family,
teaching from God’s Word, and a place for you
to ENCOUNTER, GROW & SERVE in Christ’s name.

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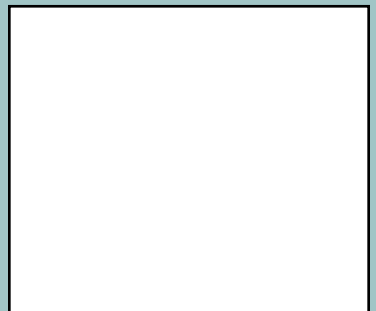
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OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH
Membership Form

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.