

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH



VISION STATEMENT

Encountering Christ,
Growing in His love,
Serving in His name.

Discipleship Pathway

Listening to our hearts, we respond to the Lord's invitation to journey together on the path of discipleship.



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
Kirk Mientkiewicz, Maintenance Coordinator
Andrea Maille, Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary

Contact Information

Address: 837 Bartlett Rd. Harborcreek, PA 16421
Parish Office: 814-899-5342
Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132
Fax: 814-898-3306
Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org
Website: www.ourladyofmercychurch.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.

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

May 7, 2023 - The Fifth Sunday of Easter

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 05/08	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	6:30 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	6:30 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Tue. 05/09	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
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
Wed. 05/10	12:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 05/11	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 05/12	6:00 p.m.	KofC Golf Raffle
Sat. 05/13	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/14		

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



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of April 16, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	67	\$ 2,224.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,325.57
Loose Change:		\$ 251.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 5,800.57

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	● Irene.....214
● Deacon Paul.....233	● Kirk.....216
● Katie.....210	● Donna.....213

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/08	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 05/09	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 05/10	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 05/11	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 05/12	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 05/13	6:00 p.m.	All Mothers Living & Deceased
Sun. 05/14	8:30 a.m.	All Mothers Living & Deceased
	11:00 a.m.	All Mothers Living & Deceased

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.

We Remember...

Neal Hammill Sr., father of Lois Shafer, and Joseph Felice, brother of Jim Felice; who passed away recently.

In Loving Memory

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/08	Acts 14:5-18	/ Jn 14:21-26
Tue. 05/09	Acts 14:19-28	/ Jn 14:27-31
Wed. 05/10	Acts 15:1-6	/ Jn 15:1-8
Thur. 05/11	Acts 15:7-21	/ Jn 15:9-11
Fri. 05/12	Acts 15:22-31	/ Jn 15:12-17
Sat. 05/13	Acts 16:1-10	/ Jn 15:18-21
Sun. 05/14	Acts 8:5-17 / 1 Pt 3:15-18	/ Jn 14:15-21

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION THE 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



If you had to summarize the essential core of the Christian life, what would it be? Mercy, truth, or love, perhaps? The readings today suggest another word which may surprise you. That word is priesthood.

St. Peter says to us, "You are a 'chosen race, a royal priesthood...'" To be part of a priesthood is to offer a particular sacrifice in order for the community to survive and thrive. Jesus is the great high priest because he offers the one perfect sacrifice which heals and perfects the entire human race. Peter the Apostle wants us to know that all the baptized share in this priestly ministry. The whole of our lives, including every detail, is meant to become our acceptable offering to God.

The baptized exercise this priesthood in many ways, I'll mention three. At Sunday Mass, in private prayer, and in daily work. At Mass, we offer the sacrifice of our lives with that of the priest, who symbolizes Christ the Priest. In our prayer, a "morning offering" prayer is a great way to offer up all the joys and sufferings of the day to come. In our daily work, we sacrifice our time, comfort, money, and energy to do good for others. All this gives the deepest possible meaning to our lives: we share in the priesthood which saves the world. That's at the core of our faith

— Father John Muir
©LPi

WE NEED YOUR HELP

For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

Can you give an hour to stuff envelopes and get the newsletter ready for the mail? Join us **Monday,**

May 8 at 9:00 a.m. in Sperry Hall. Your help is appreciated.

Question & Answer W/T Pastor

Join us **Monday, May 15** at 7:00 for a conversation with Fr. Kujawinski. This is an opportunity to ask the questions about faith that you have been curious. Bring a snack to share (if you want). Grab a friend with questions. Come and enjoy a night to explore the Catholic faith in a casual setting.



Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, May 17 @ 7:00** at the home of Irene Lucas, 1019 Bartlett Rd., to discuss Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano.

Wild About Jesus!

Mark your calendar for **July 31-Aug. 4** for a week of Vacation Bible School fun. Registration forms are available on the bulletin tables and at the parish website. All children age 4 years through 6th grade are welcome. The event is free.



Holy Hour for Pastoral Planning

Please join Deacon Dave Jacquel and the parishioners of St. Mark and Mt. Calvary Parishes for a Holy Hour for Pastoral Planning on **Saturday, May 13** at 3:15 pm at St. Mark Church 695

Smithson Ave Erie. Questions, please call the office at (814)899-3000 or email: office@smmc.church



Blood Drive

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



As a Parish Community, We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision



Encountering Christ

We strive to build an environment for you to recognize and experience God, feeling his profound presence so that you want more. At Our Lady of Mercy, all people are provided with opportunities to continually meet Christ in a real, personal, and intimate way.

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.

Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of April 24 was **Lucy Vahey, grade 4**, who knew that one of the titles for Mary is Ever Virgin.

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.



We're Hiring: Director of Music and Liturgy



Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek is seeking a director of music and liturgy. The full-time director is actively engaged in the worship life of the parish and leads a music ministry program that includes a mix of cantors, a choir and various instrumentalists to support three liturgies a weekend, as well as Holy Day liturgies. Applicants should send a cover letter and resume with salary requirements and three references to

info@ourladyofmercychurch.org



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!

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 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.

Knights Of Columbus Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications from graduating high school seniors are being accepted by the Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus Council. The scholarship program began almost 30 years ago with the purpose of awarding a portion of the annual Golf and Sports Raffle proceeds to college-bound students, who along with their parents are members of the parish. An application form, brief essay and certified and sealed transcript from the applicant's school are required. The deadline for application is Sunday, May 14. It is understood that the transcript will only include grades through the most recent grading period. Please remind others who may be interested. Watch the bulletin for reminders.

Knights of Columbus- 2023 Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Our Knights Council has joined together with 23 other Knights Councils in Erie and Crawford Counties to conduct our annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser. It will benefit the Women's Care Center of Erie's goal of purchasing a new, state of the art Ultrasound Machine to replace and older unit at one of their other locations. Your donations will also be used to offset the operating costs of the ultrasound van that was purchased from the 2022 fundraiser. Last year through your contributions, \$119,000 was collected toward the cost of the ultrasound van. The Knights of Columbus Supreme based in Connecticut donated an additional \$59,000 to cover the entire cost of the ultrasound machine for the van. We will be distributing baby bottles and optional donation envelopes as you leave church Mother's Day weekend, May 13-14. Bottles and envelopes will still be available in the Gathering Space following that weekend. We ask that you fill the bottles with your coins, cash, or checks and return them Father's Day weekend, June 17-18. Paper currency or checks may be put in the envelopes that can be placed in the collection baskets or dropped off at the Parish office. Please make all checks payable to the Knights of Columbus. Thank you for your time and we pray that you will join us in our continuing efforts in saving the lives of the unborn.

Comedy Corner

What's a miracle that can be done by a complainer?
Turning anything into whine.



Jazz is Love:

The Music of Mary Lou Williams

When: May 7, 3pm

Where: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie
7180 Perry Highway

Tickets: \$15 (\$10 for students and JazzErie members)

Info: Celebrate the life and music of jazz musician Mary Lou Williams with pianist, composer, and Williams biographer, Deanna Witkowski. Witkowski will share excerpts from her award-winning book, Mary Lou Williams: Music for the Soul and play selections from her Williams-centric recording, Force of Nature

Greater Things! Luncheon
THE DARKNESS TREMBLES
The authority and identity of Jesus

Speaker: TA Walkiewicz

You believe in one God, you do well. Even the demons believe it and tremble!
James 2:19

MAY 13, 2023
9:30AM - 1:00PM

\$ 12.50 early bird by May 1st.
\$ 14.00 regular by May 10th,
lunch included.
\$ 10.00 at the door (no lunch)

Hardship scholarship available.
St Mark's Center Chapel
429 E Grandview Erie PA
16504

Worship by Harmony's House
Register online at <https://bit.ly/FOF-5-23> or call Faith On Fire (814) 636-1800 to register by phone.



What You Always Wanted to Know About...



MONDAY, MAY 15

@ 7:00 PM



Join Us For A

Q & A With Fr. Kujawinski

**Informal gathering in the Conference Room
Wine, Cheese and Your Questions**

(Feel free to bring a snack to share, if you wish)

This is your opportunity to chat with your pastor about those questions concerning the Bible, the Church, Catholic beliefs, etc. that you have never known how to answer. Every question is worthwhile as we will learn from one another. Whether you have a specific question in mind or just want an opportunity to learn and discuss, bring a friend and join 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.