

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 14, 2023 - The Sixth Sunday of Easter

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 05/15	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias
	7:00 p.m.	Q&A with the Pastor
Tue. 05/16	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	5:30 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Festival Meeting
Wed. 05/17	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	12:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 05/18	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	
	8:30 A.M.	HOLY DAY MASS
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Group
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 P.M.	HOLY DAY MASS
Fri. 05/19	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Sat. 05/20	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 05/21	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 05/15	Acts 16:11-15	/ Jn 15:26-16:4
Tue. 05/16	Acts 16:22-34	/ Jn 16:5-11
Wed. 05/17	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1	/ Jn 16:12-15
Thur. 05/18	Acts 1:1-11	
	Eph 1:17-23	/ Mt 28:16-20
Fri. 05/19	Acts 18:9-18	/ Jn 16:20-23
Sat. 05/20	Acts 18:23-28	/ Jn 16:23-28
Sun. 05/21	Acts 1:12-14	
	1 Pt 4:13-16	/ Jn 17:1-11

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 05/15	8:30 a.m.	- No MASS -
Tue. 05/16	8:30 a.m.	Ed Lander (Crystal Lander)
Wed. 05/17	8:30 a.m.	Msgr. J.E. Sperry
Thur. 05/18	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Christopher Kaeberlein (Patty & Dave Parmenter)
Fri. 05/19	8:30 a.m.	Girolema Abbate (John Abbate)
Sat. 05/20	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 05/21	8:30 a.m.	Justin Raydo (Kay Stankiewicz)
	11:00 a.m.	Lewis Peters (Carole Peters)



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of May 7, 2023

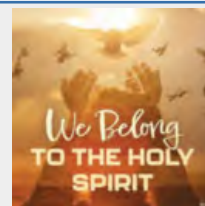
Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	81	\$ 4,130.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	136	\$ 3,325.57
Loose Change:		\$ 102.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,557.57

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



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



My dad was adopted as a baby. It's a big part of my family's story. His birth mother placed him in a Catholic orphanage not long after birth. A young couple longing for a baby strolled among the bassinets. My father, then only a few months old, looked at the husband and smiled. The man said, "That's my son." They took him home and the family grew. This moment of adoption was a wonderful truth they celebrated even when my dad was a young boy. They told him, "You're even more special than the other children, because we chose you to be our son." My dad's eyes well up with tears of gratitude whenever he tells the story, even eighty-three years later.

What is your story? Do we think or act like unwanted orphans? Who do we believe ourselves to be? As we continue to ponder Jesus' resurrection, we hear him say to us this Sunday, "I will not leave you orphans." God doesn't leave us alone like spiritual orphans. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is the Holy Spirit, who is also called the Spirit of Adoption. He chooses us to be His children, to share God's life forever. He gives us a future filled with hope.

We are not orphans anymore! This Easter, that's the story we should share with others. It's the true story we are living right now.

— Father John Muir
©LPi



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. Our June title will be Rainwater by Sandra Brown.



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.

VBS Needs You!

Vacation Bible School succeeds because of the many adults willing to give a week of their summer to create a fun and inviting experience for the children. We need adults and teens who can work with the children. If you can help July 31 to Aug. 4 from 9:00-noon, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or call 814-899-6132.



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Another year of religious education has come to a grace-filled end. Thank you to all the volunteers who taught class, served as substitutes, assisted with special events and more. Can you help with religious education next school year? We are looking for a 5th and 6th grade catechist Tuesday afternoons and volunteers to work with the new Jr. High ministry. If you would like more information, contact Irene at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or call 814-899-6132.



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



Growing in His Love

We at Our Lady of Mercy work to gradually become more faithful followers of Christ with lives transformed by the Gospel and guided by the Holy Spirit. We provide pathways to nurture your desire to respond in love and come to know what God's desire is for your life.

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.

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.



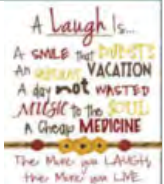
Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments National CyberTipline



The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. Anyone can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, molestation, child pornography, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking (includes prostitution), child sextortion and unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child. Misleading domain names, misleading words or digital images on the internet can also be reported to the CyberTipline. NCMEC staff review each tip and work to find a potential location for the incident reported so that it may be made available to the appropriate law-enforcement agency for possible investigation. NCMEC provides resources/help in removing an online image. Reports can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week online at www.cybertipline.org or by calling (800) 843-5678. For additional resources visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/

Comedy Corner

Why should you never lose your rosary?
Because you'll end up searching for decades.



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 an 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.

SUMMER FESTIVAL

The BEST FESTIVAL EVER is back
in full swing!

July 9, 2023 * 12 to 5 p.m.

In addition to our WORLD FAMOUS BBQ Chicken Dinner, the Festival will also offer...

Chinese Auction – Bake Sale – Bingo

Children's Area – Book Sale – Craft Sale – Funnel Cakes

Raffles: \$1000 Grand Prize, Quilt, 50/50, 4 Hr. Party Bus Rental for 20 Guests, Restaurant Gift Cards, Lottery Tree, Wine Basket & Craft Beer Basket!

The Book Sale is BACK! July 6th - 9th

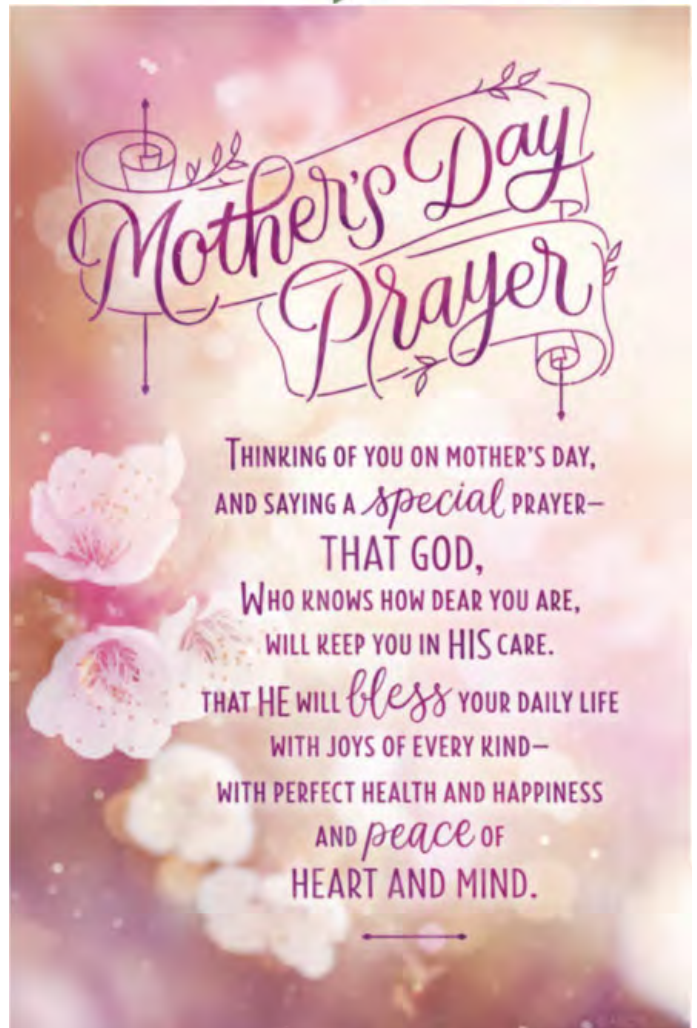
We need donations of books, cd's, dvd's and puzzles, no reader digests, magazine

Calling all Bakers: We will need cookies to be used as desserts this year! Please place your delicious cookies, 2 per baggie and drop them off in the Sperry Hall Kitchen the week of the festival. Thank you for your help!

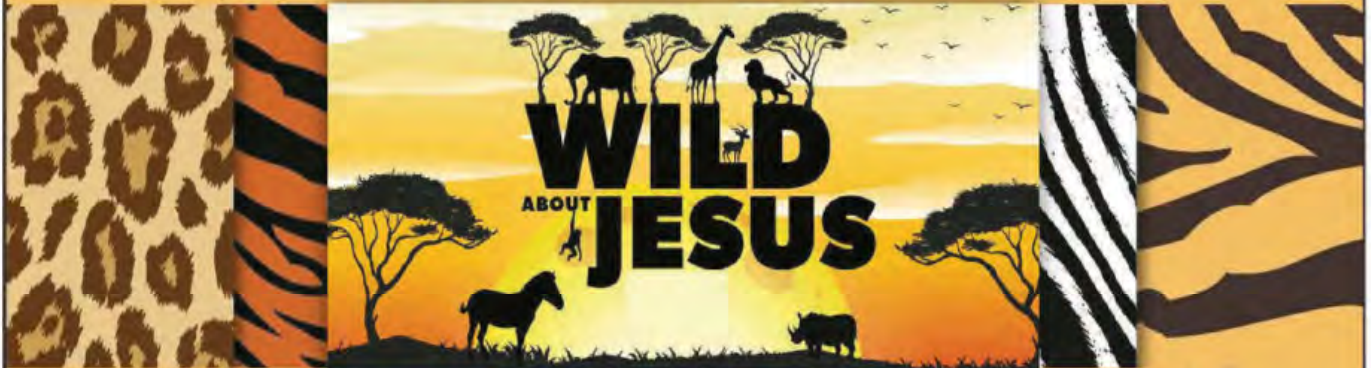
WANTED: Crafters, Gardeners, Sewers, Painters, Woodworkers, Metal workers, and any other Hand Crafted Items that you can donate to Summer Festival 2023 for sale at the Craft Table Sales!

Now Accepting Auction Items!

Auction items can be dropped off in the Parish Office Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Thank you for your generosity!



OUR LADY OF MERCY PRESENTS... VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023



JULY 31-AUGUST 4, 2023

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

All Wild Ones - age 4 thru entering 6th grade

For more information call:

Irene Lucas 814-899-6132 or the Parish Office 814-899-5342

Or email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org

Registration Deadline is July 23rd

Family Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Parish: _____

Phone #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Email Address: _____

Child's Name	Age	Grade 2023/2024	Special/Dietary Needs
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Adult & Teen Volunteers

(Teens must be entering 9th Grade or above - Adults MUST provide current clearances)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please indicate which area you would like to help out:

Teacher: ___ Story Time: ___ Craft: ___ Games: ___ Music: ___

Aide: ___ Kitchen: ___ Set-Up: ___ Other: ___

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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.