

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
Jane Mallin, Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary
Brandon Vogt, Director of Music and Liturgy
Nick Heise, Youth Minister

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

July 30, 2023 - The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 07/31	9:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
Tue. 08/01	9:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 08/02	9:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
Thur. 08/03	9:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
	7:00 p.m.	Angels In Training SCC
Fri. 08/04	10:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School
	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Sat. 08/05	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/06	Casserole Club Drop Off	
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 23, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	53	\$ 2,697.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$ 3,370.67
Loose Change:		\$ 42.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,109.67

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 07/31	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34	/ Mt 13:31-35
Tue. 08/01	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5-9, 28	/ Mt 13:36-43
Wed. 08/02	Ex 34:29-35	/ Mt 13:44-46
Thur. 08/03	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38	/ Mt 13:47-53
Fri. 08/04	Lv 23:1-16, 27, 34-37	/ Mt 13:54-58
Sat. 08/05	Lv 25:1, 8-17	/ Mt 14:1-12
Sun. 08/06	Dn 7:7-14 / 2 Pt 1:16-19	/ Mt 17:1-9

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	• Donna.....213
• Katie.....210	• Brandon.....211
• Irene.....214	• Nick.....220

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 07/31	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 08/01	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 08/02	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 08/03	8:30 a.m.	Hilbert Jordan (Sandy & Family)
Fri. 08/04	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 08/05	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 08/06	8:30 a.m.	George Stadtmueller (John & Judy Skuce)
	11:00 a.m.	Michael Camera (Family)

NEED A SUMMER JOB?

If you are a high school or college student looking for a summer job, Our Lady of Mercy is looking for summer help with maintenance and landscaping. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at **814-899-5342**.

We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision Encountering Christ

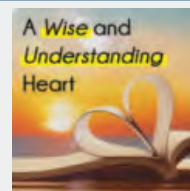
We strive to build an environment for you to recognize and experience God, feeling his profound presence so that you want more. At Our Lady of Mercy, all people are provided with opportunities to continually meet Christ in a real, personal, and intimate way.

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 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Our culture seems more polarized and divided than ever. Into this wounded situation, our Catholic faith has a healing remedy to offer: the gift of wisdom. When the Lord offers to give King Solomon anything the monarch desires, he requests “an understanding heart” (1 Kings 3:9). In his polarized situation, the King doesn’t ask for power to defeat his enemies. He asks for a wise and understanding heart to judge right from wrong. This wisdom is elevated and fulfilled in Jesus who teaches us to bring forth “both the new and the old” (Matthew 13:52).

In our fractured society, we Christians should stop pining for political power to crush our perceived enemies. That often just makes things worse. Rather, it’s much more useful to beg for the grace of true wisdom which transcends both sides of the aisle. This places us in a fresh position from which we can help our culture see what is true and good all across the ideological spectrum. Sometimes we’ll look like liberals (e.g., in our love for the poor and marginalized) and other times like conservatives (e.g., in our sexual ethics and views on religious freedom). Because this wisdom is free from ideological narrowness, it will help to heal these painful fractures. Lord Jesus, this week, pour into us your healing wisdom.

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Champion and two other shrines in the US

September 12 to 14, 2023. Departing from Our Lady of Mercy on Tuesday Sept 12 for three days and two nights.



- Day 1: Sorrowful Mother in Belleview Ohio
- Day 2: The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in New Franken, Wisconsin (This is the only Marian Apparition site in the United States approved by the Church.)
- Day 3: The Shrine of Christ's Passion in St. John, Indiana.

Organized by parishioner - David Kaschak. Ph: 814-897-7716 email: dkaschak21@gmail.com The cost is \$450 per person. **The deadline for the \$250 deposit is July 30th.** Information sheets available in the Gathering Space.



The Ella Cochran Food Pantry is Collecting Back to School Supplies

Please help us send these students back to school prepared for a successful year! Needed are **BACK PACKS**, other basic supplies such as pens, pencils, crayons, markers, file folders, notebooks, paper and erasers would be appreciated. Please place items in the boxes marked in the Gathering Space.

Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, August 16 @ 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Rochelle Edwards, 8010 Lewis Rd., to discuss The Art of Racing in the Rain by Gert Stein. In September we will discuss O William by Elizabeth Strout.



Religious Education Registration



Registration for the 2023-2024 school year will take place after all Masses the weekend of **August 19-20.** All

children intending to participate in the program this year must be registered by the signature of a parent on the appropriate forms. This includes youth who participated in previous years.

Parish Bonfire

Let's spend time together this summer. Join us for a parish bonfire immediately after the Vigil Mass on **Aug. 19.** Bring a chair, a stick to toast marshmallows and bug spray.



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.

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.



Our Lady of Mercy is On Instagram



Our Lady of Mercy is Instagram official! Follow along with us at <https://www.instagram.com/olmchurch814/> or you can simply search: olmchurch814. The content shared on our Instagram page will be unique to the app and unlike our other social media posts.

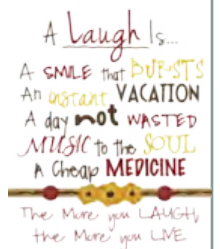
For Mercy Sake Mailing Party

Can you give an hour to prepare the newsletter for the mail? Join us at **9:00 a.m.** in Sperry Hall on **August 7** to fold and to stuff envelopes. Your help is appreciated.



Comedy Corner

A man was listening to his son's prayer. The kid started, "Dear Harold..." Puzzled, the dad asked, "Who's this Harold?" "It's the name of God," the son replied. "Where did you hear that?" "In church," came the answer. The dad was perplexed. "In church??" "Yes, of course!" said the son. "They always pray: 'Our Father, who art in heaven, Harold be thy name.'"



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

If you can not make your scheduled Mass, please contact another minister to sub for you

Saturday, August 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Glory Piovarcy
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Chris Kaschak
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Gerri Extein
 Altar Server.....Amelia Bernatowicz
 Greeter.....Jane Chase
 Greeter.....Mike Chase

Sunday, August 6th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Rachel Still
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Teresa Shamburg
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Candy Henry
 Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still
 Greeter.....Linda Kaleta
 Greeter.....Frank Kaleta
 AV Ministry.....Adam Baker

Sunday, August 6th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Maureen Brainard
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Judy Iesue
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Gail Cook
 Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone
 Greeter.....Lisa Spelling
 Greeter.....Christine Stroker

Saturday, August 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Clara Camillo
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Thomas Eckendorf
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Bonnie Eckendorf
 Altar Server.....Gabby Peters
 Greeter.....Kathy Mauro
 Greeter.....Nick Mauro

Sunday, August 13th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Beth Stephenson
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Ken Marshall
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Pat Marshall
 Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong
 Greeter.....Rochelle Edwards
 Greeter.....Maureen Rizzo
 AV Ministry.....Adam Baker

Sunday, August 13th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Carrie Galbreath
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Stacy Heidecker
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Donna Schersten
 Altar Server.....Steve Brainard
 Greeter.....
 Greeter.....

**FAMILY BONFIRE AT
 OUR LADY OF MERCY
 SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH
 AT 7 PM PAVILLION AREA!**



All are invited!

**Please bring a blanket or chair to sit on, bug spray,
 and a marshmallow roasting fork.**

S'More ingredients and water will be provided.

August Birthdays



Aug. 1	Kelsey Wedzikowski	3
Aug. 1	Haley Wedzikowski	3
Aug. 2	Lucas Ollinger	13
Aug. 6	Lachlan Eighmy	9
Aug. 10	Parker Lewandoski	13



Aug. 17	Lily Czerwinski	11
Aug. 18	Charlie Saber	3
Aug. 20	Owen Drabic	15
Aug. 22	Fintan Wuerstle	1
Aug. 22	Abigail Still	15
Aug. 24	Zachery Henry	12
Aug. 26	Seamus Marshall	17
Aug. 26	Olivia Stephenson	13
Aug. 28	Brooke Owens	17
Aug. 29	Anthony Kohut	16



BLESSING OF STUDENTS DURING ALL MASSES

WEEKEND OF AUGUST 26/27, 2023

A wonderful way to start the school year and a beautiful way to show our students that they are truly a part of our Community at Our Lady of Mercy, and we support them through all of their endeavors.



HOLY HOUR

for the National Eucharistic Revival

At Mount Calvary Church - 2022 East Lake Road

** Please note the change in time and location for this month*

Saturday, August 19, 2023 at *3:00 pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*** SCRIPTURE READINGS***

REFLECTION

TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

BENEDICTION



Financial Report As of June 2023

Operating Budget as of June 2023

Income	\$465,939.58
Expenses	\$490,305.90
Net Operating Loss	\$(24,366.32)

CSA and Capital expenses for Building Upkeep

162 CSA Pledges	\$85,060
CSA Assessment	\$70,600
Capital Expenses	\$43,071
Deficit	\$(28,611)
Pledges to Cap. Impr.	\$1,400
Paid from savings	\$(27,211)

We are still accepting pledges to our Capital Improvement Fund.
If you have not yet pledged to the CSA please consider helping us close the deficit on our capital improvement spending.

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Stan's
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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**

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Funeral Home**

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CONTACT ME Timothy Weir

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Robert D. Taylor
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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.