

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

August 6, 2023 - The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 08/07	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Mailing Party
Tue. 08/08	6:00 p.m.	Edge Meeting
Wed. 08/09	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 08/10		
Fri. 08/11		
Sat. 08/12	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/13		

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of July 30, 2023

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	51	\$ 2,449.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$ 3,339.57
Loose Change:		\$ 51.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 5,839.57

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/07	Nm 11:4b-15	/ Mt 14:13-21
Tue. 08/08	Nm 12:1-13	/ Mt 14:22-36
Wed. 08/09	Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35	/ Mt 15:21-28
Thur. 08/10	2 Cor 9:6-10	/ Jn 12:24-26
Fri. 08/11	Dt 4:32-40	/ Mt 16:24-28
Sat. 08/12	Dt 6:4-13	/ Mt 17:14-20
Sun. 08/13	1 Kgs 19:9-13/ Rom 9:1-5	/ Mt 14:22-33

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. 08/07	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 08/08	8:30 a.m.	Chris Plonski (Barb Jones)
Wed. 08/09	8:30 a.m.	
Thur. 08/10	8:30 a.m.	John Green (Family)
Fri. 08/11	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 08/12	6:00 p.m.	Theresa Swanson (Joe & Lois Heise)
Sun. 08/13	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Sarah Selleny (Gary Miller & Family)

We Remember...

Sandy Jordan,
 who passed away recently.
 Please hold her and her family in
 prayer during this difficult time.

*In Loving
 Memory*

PRAYER LINE

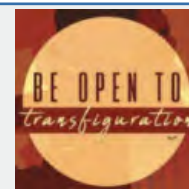
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 Call **Donna Smicker** at 814-899-9108
 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
 Call **Gerri Extein** at 814-490-9681



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.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD



What is Christianity finally about? These days if you ask almost anyone who doesn't know the Bible you'll probably hear an answer like this: "Being a good person" or "following the golden rule." No offense to the golden rule, but our faith is simply much stranger than that. This week's feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord is a luminous example of this. Jesus becomes radiantly and overwhelmingly beautiful. The glory of God literally shines forth from his body and even his clothes. Here we see that Christianity is not mainly a moral system, but a relationship with God in Christ, one that finally makes human beings gloriously beautiful.

Now we can see our good and bad deeds in a new and de-centered way. Our morality isn't about a heaven or hell scorecard. It's about lives open (or closed) to transfiguration, lives capable of revealing the glory of God in Christ to the world. Spouses, children, friends, co-workers, priests, consecrated women and men, and so on — we are all called to let the beauty of Jesus make our lives beautiful, little by little. His beauty in us is the center of our faith.

— Father John Muir
 ©LPi



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 **TOMORROW August 7** to fold and to stuff envelopes. Your help is appreciated.



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

Due to a lack of interest, the pilgrimage to Our Lady of Champion has been canceled. If the interest grows in the future, there may be another opportunity to make this pilgrimage.

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 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.

Blessing of Students

We invite all families to join us for Mass the weekend of **Aug 26-27**, just before the first day of school, when we will bless our youth as they begin the new year. We are inviting all our youth to take part in the ministries of Mass that weekend. If your child would like to bring up the gifts, altar serve, etc., contact Deacon Barko.



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.

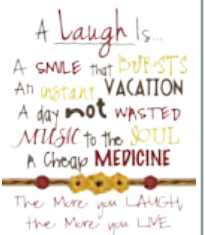


MISSION STATEMENT

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.

Comedy Corner

Jesus was standing over the woman caught in adultery and challenged the crowd that "He who is without sin, cast the first stone." Suddenly, a rock hits the back of his head. Jesus turns and exclaims, "Mom! Leave me alone to do my own business"



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

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.....

Saturday, August 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Deb Barko
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Marilyn Rinke
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Todd Beckes
 Altar Server.....Bill Matrogran
 Greeter.....Jason Rzodkiewicz
 Greeter.....Joyce Rzodkiewicz

Sunday, August 20th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Joe Tarquinio
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Karen Sweeney
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Sandra Emling
 Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong
 Greeter.....Tony Gilmore
 Greeter.....Christine Stroker
 AV Ministry.....Ken Marshall

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

Lector.....Denise Lewandoski
 Eucharistic Minister 1.....Pat Kosobucki
 Eucharistic Minister 2.....Carole Peters
 Altar Server.....Gabby Peters
 Greeter.....Jill Henry
 Greeter.....Nathan Henry

**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.

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.

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.



✦ GREATER THINGS! ✦ + Luncheon +

speaker

JACI PHILLIPS, PHD

Do you not know, we will judge the angels? - 1 Cor 6:3

Early Bird 12.50 by 8/7- Regular 14.00 by 8/16
\$10 at the door but no lunch

Register at- <https://bit.ly/AGDM23>
or call 814-795-1373 to register by phone



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CONTACT ME Timothy Weir

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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.