

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

October 15, 2023 - The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 10/16	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Tue. 10/17	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. 10/18	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 10/19	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
Fri. 10/20	Cursillo Weekend	
	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
Sat. 10/21	Cursillo Weekend	
	Anointing of the Sick - All Masses	
Sun. 10/22	Cursillo Weekend	
	Anointing of the Sick - All Masses	
	Newsletter Deadline	
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2 & 9

We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision Serving in His Name

We encourage you to share your experiences with God, letting God's love permeate everything you do so that others can encounter him. Sent by the Spirit to be the hands and voice of Christ, we seek opportunities to serve those in need.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **October 8, 2023**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	49	\$ 2,630.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$ 3,339.57
Loose Change:		\$ 174.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 6,143.57

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



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

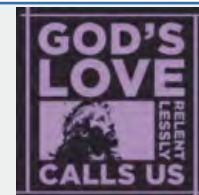
SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 10/16	Rom 1:1-7	/ Lk 11:29-32
Tue. 10/17	Rom 1:16-25	/ Lk 11:37-41
Wed. 10/18	2 Tm 4:10-17b	/ Lk 10:1-9
Thur. 10/19	Rom 3:21-30	/ Lk 11:47-54
Fri. 10/20	Rom 4:1-8	/ Lk 12:1-7
Sat. 10/21	Rom 4:13, 16-18	/ Lk 12:8-12
Sun. 10/22	Is 45:1-6 / 1 Thes 1:1-5b	/ Mt 22:15-21

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 10/16	8:30 a.m.	- NO MASS -
Tue. 10/17	8:30 a.m.	Michael Baker (The Morris Family)
Wed. 10/18	8:30 a.m.	Dr. Loren Prichard (Deacon Paul & Deb Barko)
Thur. 10/19	8:30 a.m.	Theresa Millard (John Abbate)
Fri. 10/20	8:30 a.m.	Michael Camera (Marge Camera)
Sat. 10/21	6:00 p.m.	The Piovarcy Family (Glory Piovarcy)
Sun. 10/22	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Theresa Igniasiak (Suzie Szymecni & Family)

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



I confess that I have a soft spot for the scary things Jesus says because they are usually ignored. But there's gold in them thar hills, if we have courage to look. This week Jesus gives us a terrifying warning in his parable about the king who gives a marriage feast for his son and promptly goes berserk when people don't respond. The point: those who do not properly respond to God's generous invitation will face totally devastating consequences. The invitees who don't show up get their city burned to the ground. The poor homeless man is tortured for not wearing the correct clothes. Scary indeed.

Is Jesus trying to intimidate or bully us into following him? No, because that is certainly not how he treats anyone in the Gospels. A better view is this: to Jesus, your life matters. The universe is not an empty wasteland where anything goes. It is a theater of love offered and either accepted or rejected. How easy it can be to glide through life thinking my life doesn't make a difference. But it does. It really does.

This should not only be sobering but exhilarating. The positive side of the negative in Jesus' scary parables is the thrill and joy that he is inviting us, therefore our lives matter a great deal. There is a reason to get up in the morning. God's generous love is relentlessly calling us. True, obstinately saying no through our indifference is a catastrophe for us and those around us. But how wonderful must the consequences of our 'yes' be

— Father John Muir
©LPi

Ministry to Homebound Parishioners



If you are or if you know of a parishioner who is unable to be present for the Sunday Mass due to frail health or limited mobility and who would like the Eucharist brought to their house, please call Irene in the parish office at **814-899-6132**.

Missing Banner Pieces

Pieces from a family's quilt patch in our worship space have fallen off. We are trying to find the owners of the quilted pieces. Please take a look at the parish quilt and contact the parish office at **814-899-5342** if you believe yours is missing.



The Groove Is Back!

The Knights of Columbus is again sponsoring a dance featuring Erie's most popular band, "The Groove" on **Friday, November 10** in our gym from **7 to 11 p.m.** Tickets are on sale after Mass and will be available in the Parish Office from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ticket price is still only \$15 per person. The dance has been a sell out in the past, so get your tickets early. Capacity is limited.



For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the autumn issue of the parish newsletter is **Sunday, Oct. 22**. Send items to secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org



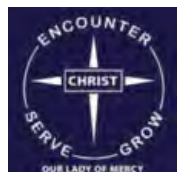
Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Our first CAFÉ of the season will be at **9:45 a.m. Oct. 29**. Sharon Kestler will help us understand what it means to share in the healing ministry of Christ. Sharon developed a Healing Ministry at OLM in 2010. Whether through the Sunday morning opportunity for healing prayer or the annual December healing service, whether in offering the gift of healing to someone in need or by training other parishioners to share in this ministry, Sharon has brought a deeply Christian charism to life in our community. Join us for some fresh brewed coffee, homemade treats and an inspiring talk.



Extra Vision T-shirts available for Sale

Contact the parish office to purchase a vision T shirt. \$6.50 each or \$8.00 for XXL. Sizes available: M, L, XL.



Book Group

Join us on **Oct. 18 @ 7:00** at the home of Sue McCreary, 6840 Heather Trail, to discuss So Long, Chester Wheeler by Catherine Ryan Hyde. In November we will discuss We Band of Angels by Elizabeth Norman.



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 Oct. 2 was **Ryann Turbaczewski, grade K**, who knew that there are 7 Sacraments.

Day of the Dead Celebration

Once again this year, the Sister Parish Committee will join with the people of Our Lady of the Assumption in Peto in their celebration of The Day of the Dead. We will be creating an altar in the Gathering Space. All are invited to bring in pictures and mementos of loved ones and parish members who have died. The altar will be in place by **Oct. 21/22** for everyone to add their items. It will remain in the Gathering Space through All Saints & All Souls Days. You can retrieve your items the weekend of **Nov. 4/5** after which the altar will come down.



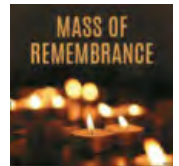
Anointing of the Sick



Our parish community will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at all Masses on **October 21 & 22**. *Who may celebrate this Sacrament? Those who are suffering any serious physical or mental illness; those who are suffering any chronic illness; those who are about to undergo surgery; the elderly who cannot get around as well as before.*

Mass of Remembrance

The annual Mass of Remembrance is **Saturday, November 11th at 10 a.m.** The Bereavement Ministry invites all members of Our Lady of Mercy to attend this annual Memorial Mass to support the families of our parish who have lost loved ones during the past year. Please join us for this special celebration.



Contemplative Prayer



Each **Wednesday at 11 a.m.** a small group will gather in Mary's Chapel for contemplative prayer. All are welcome. Instruction will be provided to learn this technique of quiet listening and inviting God's presence and action in our lives. We will work up to spending 20 minutes in quiet prayer. Questions contact Donna Clark.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Bob Cline
 Bowl 1.....Anne Spring
 Bowl 2.....Carol Stauffer
 Cup 1.....Todd Beckes
 Cup 2.....Gerri Extein
 Altar Server.....Nick Mauro
 Greeter.....Marilyn McDaniel
 Greeter.....Maureen Rizzo

Sunday, October 22nd at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Carrie Galbreath
 Bowl 1.....Lorraine Bucklin
 Bowl 2.....Sandy Emling
 Cup 1.....Kathleen Pearson
 Cup 2.....Tom Palisin
 Cup 3.....Greg Morealli
 Cup 4.....Geoff McCreary
 Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong
 Greeter.....Paul Sacco
 Greeter.....Patty Sacco
 AV Ministry.....Lisa Spelling

Sunday, October 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Adriana Grosch
 Bowl 1.....Claudette Terrill
 Bowl 2.....Nathan Matusiak
 Cup 1.....Nancy Clark
 Cup 2.....Judy Iesue
 Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone
 Greeter.....Jane Chase
 Greeter.....Mike Chase

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

Saturday, October 28th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Tom Eckendorf
 Bowl 1.....Kay Kaerberlein
 Bowl 2.....Fred Kaerberlein
 Cup 1.....Nick Mauro
 Cup 2.....Kathy Mauro
 Altar Server.....Bill Matrogran
 Greeter.....Lisa Spelling
 Greeter.....Christine Stroker

Sunday, October 29th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Sue Haynes
 Bowl 1.....Marlene Meyer
 Bowl 2.....Karen Meyer
 Cup 1.....Ed Meyer
 Cup 2.....Brian Meyer
 Cup 3.....Dave Lefaiver
 Cup 4.....Marge Lefaiver
 Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still
 Greeter.....Gary Smith
 Greeter.....Mary Beth Smith
 AV Ministry.....Ken Marshall

Sunday, October 29th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Nathan Henry
 Bowl 1.....Carole Peters
 Bowl 2.....Darlene Piotrowski
 Cup 1.....Donna Schersten
 Cup 2.....Claudette Terrill
 Altar Server.....Gabby Peters
 Greeter.....Jill Henry
 Greeter.....Nathan Matusiak

Finance Report Operating Budget for July & August 2023

Income	\$62,288
Expenses	\$65,064
Loss	\$(2,776)
Festival Proceeds (from Jul. & Aug.)	\$24,915
Net Income	\$22,139

World Mission Sunday Collection

This month we observe "World Mission Sunday." In this year's theme, "Hearts on fire, feet on the move;" Pope Francis invites us to kindle the fire of Christ's love in our hearts and to actively share our faith. The annual Mission collection helps missionary dioceses until they can stand on their own feet and become independent. As our nation has benefitted from this support in the past, may we now support those areas of the world where the Catholic faith is blossoming. I invite you to please pray for the work of the missions, and support this work as generously as you can. Bishop Persico



Altar Servers Desperately Needed!

If you or your child(ren), grade 4 and up, are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please sign up at the display in the Gathering Space. If you have any questions, please reach out to Deacon Paul Barko. No prior experience necessary as training will be provided.

"I became an altar server because I felt like I needed to do something for my church. I really enjoy being an altar server because now I feel more connected with the celebration of the Eucharist and with God. Being an altar server is a privilege and I am very lucky I get to serve." - Gabrielle Peters

✝
KEEP CALM
 AND BECOME
ALTAR SERVER!

Everyday Encounters with Christ

Name: Anonymous

I experienced God in the miracle of my pre-mature son. His heart stopped beating minutes after birth. A nurse baptized him and he began to cry. What a blessing he is today!



**OUR LADY OF MERCY
PRESENTS...**

TRUNK OR TREAT

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 28
3:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

**PLEASE RSVP ON THE FACEBOOK
EVENT PAGE, OR TO THE PARISH
OFFICE @ 814-899-5342**

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Where There's Always
Something **GROWING** On!

Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

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5001 Buffalo Road
Erie, PA 16510
899.5424

West
5341 West Lake Road
Erie, PA 16505
835.6960

William D. Elkin Funeral Home

65 South Lake St. • North East

725-4511

Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.

William D. Elkin, F.D.

Pre-Arrangements Available

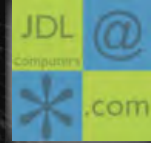


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OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

