

# 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](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org)  
Website: [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://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

November 12, 2023 - The 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

<b>Mon. 11/13</b>	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Sofia's Circle SCC
<b>Tue. 11/14</b>	12:00 p.m.	Lunch with the Lord @ HC Faith Lutheran
	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Gr. 3-6 Religious Ed.
	6:00 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
<b>Wed. 11/15</b>	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	11:00 a.m.	Contemplative Prayer
	7:00 p.m.	Discover the Woman
<b>Thur. 11/16</b>	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
<b>Fri. 11/17</b>	10:00 a.m.	Sisters of Scripture SCC
<b>Sat. 11/18</b>	<b>Gr. 9 &amp; 10 Rite of Presentation - All Masses</b>	
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 11/19</b>	<b>Gr. 9 &amp; 10 Rite of Presentation - All Masses</b>	
	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-2 Religious Ed.
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 9 & 10 Candidate & Sponsor Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Harborcreek Thanksgiving Service @ HC First Presbyterian

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 11/13</b>	Wis 1:1-7	/ Lk 17:1-6
<b>Tue. 11/14</b>	Wis 2:23-3:9	/ Lk 17:7-10
<b>Wed. 11/15</b>	Wis 6:1-11	/ Lk 17:11-19
<b>Thur. 11/16</b>	Wis 7:22-8:1	/ Lk 17:20-25
<b>Fri. 11/17</b>	Wis 13:1-9	/ Lk 17:26-37
<b>Sat. 11/18</b>	Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9	/ Lk 18:1-8
<b>Sun. 11/19</b>	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31	
	1 Thes 5:1-6	/ Mt 25:14-30

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 11/13</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>- NO MASS -</b>
<b>Tue. 11/14</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>John &amp; Sophie Morris</b> (Family)
<b>Wed. 11/15</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Robert Jones</b> (Barb Jones)
<b>Thur. 11/16</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Dr. Loren Prichard</b> (Bill & Jackie Loftus)
<b>Fri. 11/17</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Mary Pfadt</b> (Family)
<b>Sat. 11/18</b>	6:00 p.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
<b>Sun. 11/19</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Theresa Millard</b> (John Abbate)
	11:00 a.m.	<b>John Green</b> (Family)

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **November 5, 2023**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	69	\$ 3,662.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$ 3,339.57
Loose Change:		\$ 215.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 7,216.57</b>

## 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

### 27 WORDS THAT MATTER

Lately I've been enjoying the deep meaning of Eastern icons. I love how they express a tapestry of meaning in a way that can surpass the written or spoken word. Today's parable of the ten virgins from Jesus is a good example. Try googling "wise and foolish virgins icon" and you'll see an image of how our Christ meets our heart's deepest needs if we attend to him with the proper attitude.

I'm serious. Take a moment to google and look at it. See how it depicts the risen Jesus behind a closed door with the five wise virgins with lighted lamps. He gazes with them toward the five foolish and lamp-less virgins, symbolizing the outward looking of divine love for the lost. Moreover, the wedding feast is no ordinary one. It takes place in a walled city and garden, indicating it's a new Jerusalem and a return to Eden. The table isn't typical, either. It's a Eucharistic feast. Now we see that the door in Jesus' parable is the way into the church, where Christ is the new light burning amidst the dark midnight of this world.

The richness continues. We notice, too, that the foolish virgins look exactly the same as the wise ones in their clothes, hair, and expressions. The only difference is they departed to buy oil and now they are sadly excluded. We often act like consumers in the marketplace to fulfill our need for love and mercy. We'll always end up disappointed if we shop around. Jesus sums up the moral of the story this way: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." Watch, remain, don't spiritually shop. It is always better to quietly remain close to the Eucharistic community of the Church, even if we feel like our oil has run out. This week let's consider placing the icon of the wise and foolish virgins on our phone lock screen or computer desktop to help us remember to stay close to him, especially when life feels dark.

— Father John Muir  
©LPi



### Discover the Woman Within

Please join us for an evening of Discovering the Woman Within, as speaker, Pattie Stempka inspires us with stories of Holy Moments from her life. Date: **Wednesday, November 15, 2023** Time: **7:00 p.m.** Location: Our Lady of Mercy 837 Bartlett Rd Harborcreek, PA Light Refreshments will be served following the program.



### Book Group



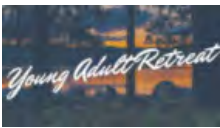
Join us on **Nov. 16** at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 190 Kraus Drive at **7:00** to discuss *We Band of Angels* by Elizabeth Norman. In December we will watch a movie together based on a book, *The Art of Racing in the Rain*.

### 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**.



### Young Adult Silent Retreat



Looking for a quiet few days to bring your questions to Jesus and follow his Voice? Plan to attend the 5 day retreat at Villa Maria Spirituality Center **January 3 to 7, 2024**. For

more information go to: <https://www.eriercd.org/youth/silentretreat.html> or contact Donna Clark in the parish office.

### 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.



### Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

**November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month**



We consider our homes to be safe places for our children, but in the United States up to 2.5 million youth experience homelessness every year. Each year up to 50,000 youth sleep on the streets for six months or more. One of the main causes of youth homelessness is family instability, which includes child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse and family conflict. The website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network ([www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org)) offers information on a range of child safety topics. For additional resources on recognizing and reporting child abuse visit [www.eriercd.org/childprotection/](http://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/)

## 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. 30 was, **Mila Burick, grade 3**, who knew that Daniel was saved by God from the lion's den because he was faithful to God.

## We Remember...

**Karen Hamilton**

neice of Dan Szczesny;  
who passed away recently.

Please hold her and their family in prayer during this difficult time.



## Save the date

I Give Catholic is **Nov 27**. It coincides with Giving Tuesday.



## Pastoral Planning Prayer

Loving God, author of creation,  
your spirit pervades and enriches our world.  
Through your Son, who shares our humanity,  
you have called us to participate in your divine creativity  
and to build the kingdom of God here on earth.  
Form us, we pray, as one community  
under the leadership of our bishop  
to serve all the people of this region in your name.

Inspire us to discover new ways  
and structures to spread your Gospel.  
Open our eyes to see Christ in others,  
especially the poor, the sick and the marginalized.  
Empower us to be the hands and feet of Christ  
in our parishes and communities.  
Help us to welcome all into His embrace.

Guide us in our discernment,  
as we pray with Pope Francis  
for the vision to see new paths of possibility;  
for a spirit of mission that invigorates our every effort;  
and for the strength to be unafraid of what is new.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur, July 25, 2014  
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico JCL  
Bishop of Erie

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Saturday, November 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Glory Piovarcy  
 Bowl 1.....Nick Mauro  
 Bowl 2.....Kathy Mauro  
 Cup 1.....Fred Kaeberlein  
 Cup 2.....Kay Kaeberlein  
 Altar Server.....Gabby Peters  
 Greeter.....Jason R zodkiewicz  
 Greeter.....Joyce R zodkiewicz

### Sunday, November 19th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Chris Morealli  
 Bowl 1.....Lorraine Bucklin  
 Bowl 2.....Erica Taccone  
 Cup 1.....Tish Szczesny  
 Cup 2.....Dan Szczesny  
 Cup 3.....Karen Sweeney  
 Cup 4.....Rachel Still  
 Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still  
 Greeter.....Paul Sacco  
 Greeter.....Patty Sacco  
 AV Ministry.....Ken Marshall

### Sunday, November 19th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Carrie Galbreath  
 Bowl 1.....Donna Schersten  
 Bowl 2.....Claudette Terrill  
 Cup 1.....Maureen Brainard  
 Cup 2.....Nancy Clark  
 Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong  
 Greeter.....Jill Henry  
 Greeter.....Nathan Matusiak

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

### Saturday, November 25th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Marilyn Rinke  
 Bowl 1.....Bonnie Eckendorf  
 Bowl 2.....Tom Eckendorf  
 Cup 1.....Chris Kaschak  
 Cup 2.....  
 Altar Server.....Nick Mauro  
 Greeter.....Marilyn McDaniel  
 Greeter.....Lisa Spelling

### Sunday, November 26th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Rachel Still  
 Bowl 1.....Candy Henry  
 Bowl 2.....Amy Garten  
 Cup 1.....Ginny Fuhrman  
 Cup 2.....Tish Szczesny  
 Cup 3.....Sandra Emling  
 Cup 4.....Rochelle Edwards  
 Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still  
 Greeter.....Tony Gilmore  
 Greeter.....Linda Kaleta  
 AV Ministry.....Lisa Spelling

### Sunday, November 26th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Maureen Brainard  
 Bowl 1.....Nathan Matusiak  
 Bowl 2.....Judy Iesue  
 Cup 1.....Carole Peters  
 Cup 2.....Darlene Piotrowski  
 Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone  
 Greeter.....Claudette Terrill  
 Greeter.....Jim Terrill

## 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

### Everyday Encounters with Christ

**Name: Anonymous**

After my serious car accident two years ago, as I lay at home healing, I so felt God's presence within me. It was a beautiful feeling and helped me immensely! Wish that feeling would come back. Thank you, Jesus!



The Harborcreek Ministerium presents

## Lunch with the Lord

Tuesday, Nov. 14 12-1:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

5414 E. Lake Rd.

Speaker: Brian Gray



All are invited to this monthly ecumenical event for fellowship and sharing our faith journeys. Bring a bag lunch. The host church will provide beverages and a simple dessert.

This month's speaker will be Brian Gray, Director of Music at Faith Lutheran, who will share some of his faith story; music may be involved.



# Discover the Woman Within



## "Holy Moments"

Date: Wednesday November 15, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm

Speaker: Pattie Stempka

Location: Our Lady of Mercy

All women are invited to join us for an evening of inspiration, love and laughter. Light Refreshments to be served following the program.

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Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

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**835.6960**

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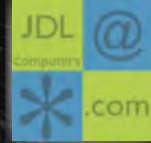


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# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

## 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.

