

# 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  
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, Parish Impact Coordinator

## 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

# January 7, 2024 - The Epiphany of the Lord

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 01/08	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Sofia's Circle SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Jesus and the Eucharist (at St. Mark)
Tue. 01/09	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	1:00 p.m.	Hallelujah Girls SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed Gr. 3-6
	6:00 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
Wed. 01/10	6:30 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	7:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	6:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 01/11	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	The Chosen
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Fri. 01/12		
Sat. 01/13	12:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 01/14	<b>Gr. 9 &amp; 10 Confirmation Retreat</b>	
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Café
	11:00 a.m.	The Search

## 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	• Brandon.....211

## 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



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 01/08		- No MASS -
Tue. 01/09	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 01/10	8:30 a.m.	Justin Raydo (Peggy Laskey)
Thur. 01/11	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 01/12	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 01/13	6:00 p.m.	
Sun. 01/14	8:30 a.m.	Charles Ollinger Sr. (John Abbate)
	11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM

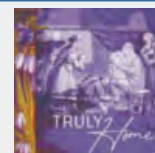
## We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision Growing in His Love

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.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 01/08	Is 55:1-11 or 1 Jn 5:1-9	/ Mk 1:7-11
Tue. 01/09	1 Sm 1:9-20	/ Mk 1:21-28
Wed. 01/10	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20	/ Mk 1:29-39
Thur. 01/11	1 Sm 4:1-11	/ Mk 1:40-45
Fri. 01/12	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a	/ Mk 2:1-12
Sat. 01/13	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a	/ Mk 2:13-17
Sun. 01/14	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19	
	1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20	/ Jn 1:35-42

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I truly at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, "They were overjoyed at seeing the star." This star will bring them home, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

— Father John Muir  
©LPi

## Sunday Morning \*C\*A\*F\*E\*

Open the new year with great friends, fresh coffee, delicious baked goods and an inspirational talk. Join us on **Sunday, Jan. 14 at 9:45** in Sperry Hall for the first CAFÉ of 2024. Our speaker will be a mother and son, Barb Emory and Justin Leroy.



## OLM to Host a Stamping Soiree with Stampin' with Wendy B!

Get ready to stamp, create, and celebrate the beauty of spring at our crafting extravaganza! The soiree is **Saturday April 13, 2024** but registration is required by **January 13, 2024**. Cost is \$125 and included in your registration are amazing spring themed projects and cards from Stampin' Up's Annual Catalog, goodie bag valued at \$40, Prize Patrol, raffles, lunch and more! For more information please call Wendy at **814-449-3238**.

## Spaghetti Dinner & Gift Basket Auction for Religious Education

Plan to join us for our delicious spaghetti dinner in support of religious education on **Feb. 4**. Tickets will go on sale in January. We are collecting new items and baskets for our gift basket auction the same weekend. As you come across great deals during the holiday season, consider making a donation of new items for our fundraiser. Unwanted Christmas gifts? Regift to this event. Items can be brought into the faith formation office at any time.

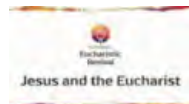


## Book Group

Join us on **January 10** at the home of Pat Marshall, 516 W. Eaglewood to discuss The Measure by Nikki Erlick. Want to read ahead? In February we will discuss Finding Me by Viola Davis.

## Jesus and the Eucharist

The bishops of the United States have invited all Catholics into a year of deepened understanding of and renewed faith in the Eucharist. The parishes of St. Mark, St. James and Our Lady of Mercy are coming together for a 7 week study of the Eucharist. Beginning **Monday, January 8, from 6:30 to 8:30**, you are invited to learn, pray and share with other Catholics as together we grow in our love for Jesus in the Eucharist. Each evening will include video presentation, discussion and prayer. Because this event is shared by 3 parishes, we will rotate among these locations. Please call Irene at 814-899-6132 if you will join us so that each parish can arrange the best space for the size of the group. You do not have to attend every night. The schedule will be **1/15 St. James, 1/22 OLM, 1/29 St. Mark, 2/5 St. James, 2/12 OLM, 2/19 St. Mark**.



## Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive is on **January 11th** from **4 p.m. to 7 p.m.**



## 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.

## We Remember...

**Eileen Richter,**  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold her and her family in  
prayer during this difficult time.



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **December 31, 2023**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	51	\$ 2,390.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	134	\$ 3,339.57
Loose Change:		\$ 44.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,773.57</b>

## 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.*

## 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or **814-899-6132**.



## 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**.



## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Saturday, January 13th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Nancy Mowery  
Bowl 1.....Marilyn Rinke  
Bowl 2.....Carol Stauffer  
Cup 1.....Tom Eckendorf  
Cup 2.....Kay Kaerberlein  
Altar Server.....Bill Matrogran  
Greeter.....Jason Rzodkiewicz  
Greeter.....Joyce Rzodkiewicz

### Sunday, January 14th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Joe Tarquinio  
Bowl 1.....Gary Smith  
Bowl 2.....Mary Beth Smith  
Cup 1.....Karen Sweeney  
Cup 2.....Rochelle Edwards  
Cup 3.....Frank Kaleta  
Cup 4.....Linda Kaleta  
Altar Server.....Liliana Gelotte  
Greeter.....Marilyn Garwig  
Greeter.....Tony Gilmore  
AV Ministry.....Lisa Spelling

### Sunday, January 14th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Maureen Brainard  
Bowl 1.....Stacy Heidecker  
Bowl 2.....Carole Peters  
Cup 1.....Nancy Clark  
Cup 2.....Judy Iesue  
Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong  
Greeter.....Jill Henry  
Greeter.....Claudette Terrill

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

### Saturday, January 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Glory Piovarcy  
Bowl 1.....Todd Beckes  
Bowl 2.....Gerri Extein  
Cup 1.....Fred Kaerberlein  
Cup 2.....Kay Kaerberlein  
Altar Server.....Gabby Peters  
Greeter.....Marilyn McDaniel  
Greeter.....Lisa Spelling

### Sunday, January 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Lector.....Maria Carney  
Bowl 1.....Sandra Emling  
Bowl 2.....Tim Lynch  
Cup 1.....Amy Garten  
Cup 2.....Candy Henry  
Cup 3.....Dave Lefaiver  
Cup 4.....Marge Lefaiver  
Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still  
Greeter.....Paul Sacco  
Greeter.....Patty Sacco  
AV Ministry.....Ken Marshall

### Sunday, January 21st at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Carrie Galbreath  
Bowl 1.....Maureen Brainard  
Bowl 2.....Erica Taccone  
Cup 1.....Nancy Clark  
Cup 2.....Judy Iesue  
Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone  
Greeter.....Maureen Rizzo  
Greeter.....Christine Stroker

**Who Is Like Unto God?**  
FAITH ON FIRE! 24 HOURS OF  
ADORATION AND INTERCESSION FOR 2024



**EXPOSITION**  
FRIDAY  
JANUARY 19TH  
AFTER 8AM  
MASS

**BENEDICTION**  
SATURDAY  
JANUARY 20TH  
7:45AM

**St George Church - Erie**

Worship - Mass - Rosary - Prayer - Sung Chaplet at 3pm  
10:30PM Worship Concert by Harmony's House  
with Midnight Eucharistic Procession  
3PM Sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy

## Everyday Encounters with Christ

**Name: Anonymous**

I experienced Christ every  
time I'm in distress - a lot  
lately - I keep in mind that  
"I am not alone - it all  
works out in God's time, not mine".  
And it hasn't failed me yet.



## Thank You, Donna!

The community of Our Lady of Mercy would like to thank Donna Clark for her 20 years of service to our parish! Though we will miss her, we are excited for her to follow God's whispers that lead her on this new journey. Please consider joining us on **Wednesday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m.** as we celebrate Donna's 20 years at OLM and wish her only the best on her future adventures.  
More details to follow.





# Spaghetti Dinner

## Fundraiser

For the Religious Education Ministry  
at Our Lady of Mercy Church

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

**12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Mercy Church**  
**837 Bartlett Rd. Harborcreek, PA 16421**

**\$13 for full plate / \$8 for half plate**  
Sit down and take-out options are available

**Visit [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)  
for credit card purchases**

Limited number of  
tickets will be available  
at the door.

To guarantee a meal,  
please purchase by  
January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**For more information, call 814-899-6132**

- Spaghetti & Meatballs
- Refreshments
- Salad
- Italian Bread
- Cookies
- Chinese Auction



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**CONTACT ME Timothy Weir**

[tweir@4LPi.com](mailto:tweir@4LPi.com) • (800) 477-4574 x6568

# 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.



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