

# 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  
Sue Berdis, Business Administrator  
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

## March 3, 2024 - The 3rd Sunday of Lent

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 03/04	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Wild Hope SCC
Tue. 03/05	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	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.	AGIFT Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	7:00 p.m.	Synod Listening Session
Wed. 03/06	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
	6:10 p.m.	Soup Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Pastus Presentation
Thur. 03/07	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	6:00 p.m.	New Small Faith Group
		Training Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Synod Listening Session
Fri. 03/08	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat. 03/09	10:00 a.m.	Pickleball Round Robin
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 03/10	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 9 & 10 Interviews

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **February 25, 2024**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	52	\$ 2,880.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,183.95
Loose Change:		\$ 176.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 6,239.95</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



## MASS INTENTIONS

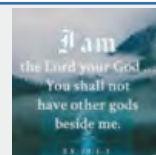
Mon. 03/04		<b>- NO MASS -</b>
Tue. 03/05	8:30 a.m.	<b>Louigi Butera</b>
Wed. 03/06	8:30 a.m.	<b>Jackie Pointer</b> (The Richardson Family)
	5:30 p.m.	
Thur. 03/07	8:30 a.m.	<b>Betty Bliss</b> (Virginia Maille)
Fri. 03/08	8:30 a.m.	<b>Ronald Morris</b> (Family)
Sat. 03/09	6:00 p.m.	<b>Suzanne Seyboldt</b> (Dave & Marilyn Rinke)
Sun. 03/10	8:30 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>Ava Rose Casey &amp; Family</b> (Family)

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 03/04	2 Kgs 5:1-15	/ Lk 4:24-30
Tue. 03/05	Dn 3:25, 34-43	/ Mt 18:21-35
Wed. 03/06	Dt 4:1, 5-9	/ Mt 5:17-19
Thur. 03/07	Jer 7:23-28	/ Lk 11:14-23
Fri. 03/08	Hos 14:2-10	/ Mk 12:28-34
Sat. 03/09	Hos 6:1-6	/ Lk 18:9-14
Sun. 03/10	2Chr 36:14-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21	

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### THE 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



I am the Lord your God ... You shall not have other gods beside me. —Ex 20:2-3 One of the greatest golfers of all time — if not the greatest — was Jack Nicklaus. Which is why it is baffling that at the beginning of each season he would return to his childhood coach and re-learn how to grip the golf club. It's like Shakespeare re-learning the alphabet and grammar. Why would he do that? Because Jack knew that the fundamentals are always relevant. Perfecting and obsessing over his grip allowed him to do everything else in the game well. In sports and life, the best ones love the basics.

Similarly, as we begin Lent, we re-learn the spiritual basics in the Ten Commandments. Consider the first, to "have no other gods besides me." This is our "grip." Is our connection to God one of absolute fidelity and exclusive worship? Am I willing to let go of my precious idols, the things I cling to instead of God? Once we say "yes" to this fundamental question of our spiritual "grip," then we are ready to properly engage with everything else in life. Watch how beautifully the game of life unfolds in the next nine commandments (numbered in parentheses): how we speak to God and others (2 and 8), how we organize our week (3), how we relate to our family (4) and the wider community (5 and 7), how we live our sexuality (6), and how we order all the other desires of the human heart (9 and 10). But don't rush to these later Commandments too soon! Everything in life is built on the first Commandment. The more we focus on worshiping God alone, the better we navigate the complexity of life with panache, effectiveness, and love.

Lenten challenge: This week, identify what you can do to better worship God alone. If you're not sure, scan the last nine commandments to identify what you are most likely to worship instead of God. Power, pleasure, control of your time, possessions, family, health, reputation, money? Commit to concrete action to help you let go of this "idol" to better hold on to God alone in faithful worship. Remember: the best love the basics.

— Father John Muir  
 ©LPi

## Lenten Pastus Series

Our Lenten Pastus series will continue on **Wednesday, Feb. 28**. Be nourished by the Eucharist at **5:30**, by a homemade soup supper at **6:10** and by a presentation at **7:00**. Everyone should feel free to attend only the portion of each evening that fits their schedule and interest. Our second program will be *Air, Earth, Water and our Common Home: Pope Francis' vision for a Humane future*. Aaron K. Kerr is executive director of Groundwork Erie, an environmental justice non-profit which employs youth to do conservation work in Erie's urban core.



## Book Group



Join us on **Wednesday, March 20 @ 7:00** at the home of Donna Huff, 4517 N. Woods, to discuss *The Edge of Sadness* by Edwin O'Connor. In April we will discuss *The Heaven and Earth Grocery*

Store by James McBride.

## 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**. If you are willing to bring the Eucharist to the homebound, please contact Irene Lucas in the Faith Formation Office.



## Women's Cursillo #261



Our Lady of Mercy is hosting a Women's Cursillo **April 5-7th**. If you are interested in making this retreat, please apply online at [eriecursillo.org](http://eriecursillo.org) or talk to someone who has made a

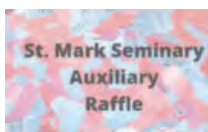
Cursillo before. OLM's very own, Kathy Pearson will be the Rector for this Cursillo.

## Knights of Columbus Star Council

**March 11, 2024** Knights of Columbus monthly meeting in Sperry Hall will be an Insurance meeting. We are hosting this to qualify for Star Council Award. Please invite your significant other to attend. We need to have a qualifying number attending. Light refreshments will follow. Thank you, Dave Cottrell G.K.



## St. Mark Seminary Auxiliary Card Party



St. Marks Seminary Card Party will be held on **April 18 at 6:00 p.m.** Raffle tickets will be available before and after Mass on **Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>** and **Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>**. The first prize is

\$1,000, second prize is \$300, third and fourth prizes are \$100. Tickets are sold for a \$1 donation or you can purchase 6 tickets for \$5. Need not be present to win.

## 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 Feb. 19 was **Anthony Bly, grade 5**, who knew that we tell God we are sorry in the Act of Contrition.

## Meal Ministry

Our Lady of Mercy has a new ministry to provide meals for families during difficult times. If you know of a parish family who would be blessed by having a home cooked meal arrive at their door, contact Irene at **814-899-6132**.



## The Ella Cochran Food Pantry

Help us provide Easter dinner to our Food Pantry neighbors. We have provided "shopping list" that will be available in the Gathering Space on **Saturday, March 2nd**. Please return items by **March 17th**. Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors.

## Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

Christ has no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Many of our parishioners are limited by age or physical ability to drive to doctor appointments. They need their parish family to be the arms of Christ to help them. We are starting a new ministry at OLM of people willing to be called on if a parishioner needs a ride to a doctor's appointment. If you are willing to be on a list of people we can call on, contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or call **814-899-6132**.



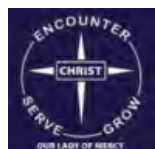
## We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision Encountering Christ

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.

## Everyday Encounters with Christ

Name: Anonymous

I encountered Christ While walking on the beach and taking in the peace when I spontaneously started to sing "How Great Thou Art".





## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Saturday, March 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Marilyn Rinke  
Bowl 1.....Gerri Extein  
Bowl 2.....Anne Spring  
Cup 1.....Kay Kaerberlein  
Cup 2.....Fred Kaerberlein  
Altar Server.....Gabby Peters  
Greeter.....Joyce Rzdokiewicz  
Greeter.....Jason Rzdokiewicz

### Sunday, March 10th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector 1.....Maria Carney  
Lector 2.....Tim Fuhrman  
Bowl 1.....Kathy Pearson  
Bowl 2.....Donna Schersten  
Cup 1.....Teresa Shamburg  
Cup 2.....Chip Shamburg  
Cup 3.....John Skuce  
Cup 4.....Karen Sweeney  
Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone  
Greeter.....Tony Gilmore  
Greeter.....Linda Kaleta  
AV Ministry.....Adam Baker

### Sunday, March 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Reagan Andrews  
Bowl 1.....Stacy Heidecker  
Bowl 2.....Judy Iesue  
Cup 1.....Carole Peters  
Cup 2.....Maureen Brainard  
Altar Server.....Madden & Makayla Inthavong  
Greeter.....Maggie Wuerstle  
Greeter.....Colton Wuerstle

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

### Saturday, March 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Clara Camillo  
Bowl 1.....Chris Kaschak  
Bowl 2.....Marilyn Rinke  
Cup 1.....Tom Eckendorf  
Cup 2.....Carol Stauffer  
Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone  
Greeter.....Maureen Rizzo  
Greeter.....Christine Stroker

### Sunday, March 17th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector 1.....Denise Lewandoski  
Lector 2.....Carrie Galbreath  
Bowl 1.....Rachel Still  
Bowl 2.....Dan Szczesny  
Cup 1.....Tish Szczesny  
Cup 2.....Erica Taccone  
Cup 3.....Nick Heise  
Cup 4.....Rochelle Edwards  
Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still  
Greeter.....Paul Sacco  
Greeter.....Patty Sacco  
AV Ministry.....Lisa Spelling

### Sunday, March 17th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Maureen Brainard  
Bowl 1.....Steve Brainard  
Bowl 2.....Judy Iesue  
Cup 1.....Carole Peters  
Cup 2.....Pat Kosobucki  
Altar Server.....Madden & Makayla Inthavong  
Greeter.....Maggie Wuerstle  
Greeter.....Colton Wuerstle

## Our Lady of Mercy Participates in the Syond



Synodality is a way of being the Church, and it can be lived at every level of the Church. It is an expression of the Church's being, which involves walking together, listening, and collaborating under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This past fall, cardinals, bishops, priests, religious and lay people met in Rome to engage in synodal conversations. The starting point of the conversations were the summaries of the conversations that were held in parishes around the world, including here at Our Lady of Mercy. We are now asked by Bishop Persico to engage in more conversation to address questions that arose out of this Synod. To provide an opportunity for any and all parishioners to participate, listening sessions will be held on **March 5 and March 7 at 7:00 p.m.** at Our Lady of Mercy. All are welcome!

**Lent Vigils**  
With the Benedictine Sisters of Erie

Join us for silence, chant, meditation, and reflection in our Lent Vigil prayer services in the monastery chapel.

**February 17 & 24**  
**March 2, 9, 16, 23 7:00 pm**

**Tour the Monastery**  
6101 East Lake Road

On March 9, join us at 4:00 pm for a guided tour of the monastery, followed by supper with the sisters before the evening Lent Vigil. RSVP through [eriebenedictines.org](http://eriebenedictines.org) or call Michelle (814) 899-0614 ext. 2507

 **Benedictine Sisters of Erie**

Join us for the  
**71st Annual**



# SACRED HEART SPAGHETTI DINNER



SUNDAY,  
MARCH 10,  
2024



NOON-  
5:00 PM

TICKETS \$15

INCLUDES: SPAGHETTI,  
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CHILD Dinner \$10  
10 and under

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and sauce \$10

SIT DOWN and  
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Bake sale

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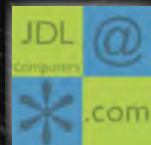
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# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

## *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.

