

# 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 24, 2024 - Palm Sunday

## THE WEEK AHEAD

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

<b>Mon. 03/25</b>	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Dunkin Discussion
<b>Tue. 03/26</b>	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	10:00 a.m.	Angels in Training SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed Gr. 3-6
	6:30 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
<b>Wed. 03/27</b>	1:00 p.m.	Small Faith Group
	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	7:00 p.m.	Pilgrimage Through The Symbols of Holy Week
<b>Thur. 03/28</b>	<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>	
	7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday: Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
<b>Fri. 03/29</b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	
	Parish Office	Closed
	1:00 p.m.	Outdoor Stations of the Cross
	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
<b>Sat. 03/30</b>	<b>HOLY SATURDAY</b>	
	10:30 a.m.	Blessing of Easter Food
	8:30 p.m.	The Great Easter Vigil
<b>Sun. 03/31</b>	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	
	8:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Mass
	11:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Mass

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **March 17, 2024**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	53	\$ 2,598.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,183.95
Loose Change:		\$ 90.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 5,871.95</b>

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 03/25</b>		<b>- NO MASS -</b>
<b>Tue. 03/26</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Richard Wilhelm</b> (Family)
<b>Wed. 03/27</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Annie Bool</b> (Family)
<b>Thur. 03/28</b>	6:00 p.m.	<b>Liturgy of the Lords Supper</b>
<b>Fri. 03/29</b>	3:00 p.m.	<b>Liturgy of the Lords Passion</b>
<b>Sat. 03/30</b>	8:30 p.m.	<b>The Great Easter Vigil</b>
<b>Sun. 03/31</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 03/25</b>	Is 42:1-7	/ Jn 12:1-11
<b>Tue. 03/26</b>	Is 49:1-6	/ Jn 13:21-38
<b>Wed. 03/27</b>	Is 50:4-9a	/ Mt 26:14-25
<b>Thur. 03/28</b>	Ex 12:1-14/1Cor 11:23-26/ Jn 13:1-15	
<b>Fri. 03/29</b>	Is 52:13-53:12	
	Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9	/ Jn 18:1-19:42
<b>Sat. 03/30</b>	Gn 1:1-2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Ex 14:15-15:1	
	Is 54:5-14 / Is 55:1-11	
	Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4 / Ez 36:16-28	
	Rom 6:3-11 / Mk 16:1-7	
<b>Sun. 03/31</b>	Acts 10:34a, 37-43	
	Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8	
	Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7	

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### PALM SUNDAY



A few months before they married, my twenty-three-year-old sister and her fiancé planned a cross-country road trip to visit his family. My parents told them that they could only go if they slept in separate hotel rooms, offering to foot the bill. It might sound prudish, but my parents wanted the young couple to understand that their approaching unity was close, but not yet. Patience solidifies love.

What could this possibly have to do with Palm Sunday? It's usually overlooked, but the Gospels tell us that, after entering Jerusalem, Jesus "looked around ... and since it was late, went out to Bethany with the twelve" (Mk 11:11) for the night. Who cares? Why include this detail? Jews in those days believed that the new Davidic King would one day re-enter and "marry" the city. A new future marked by fidelity would begin for God's people. Israel's God would be in union with His people forever. Without over-sexualizing the metaphor, perhaps Jesus refused to sleep in Jerusalem to remind us of his marital purpose. He was entering Jerusalem as the bridegroom-king. It was almost time, but not yet. Soon he will sleep in Jerusalem in the tomb and then something new will begin: his one body, his Church.

Lenten challenge: This Holy Week, I challenge you to keep this image in your mind all the way until Easter Sunday: Jesus is the faithful bridegroom who patiently prepares his bride for their new life together. Go to the Good Friday liturgy and kiss the cross. When you do, let that gesture be the long-awaited "I do" to our faithful God, who always waits for us.

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



## Pilgrimage Through The Symbols of Holy Week

Our annual pilgrimage through the powerful symbols of the Holy Week liturgies will take place on **Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00**. Bring

a wine glass and wear comfortable shoes. The event is held inside the church building. For those unable to stand for long periods, seating is available. This event will help you to experience the celebrations of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter with new eyes and deeper understanding.

## Confirmation Prayer Pals

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **April 8** with St. Gregory parish. Remember to pray for the young person highlighted in your Prayer Pal booklet. Send her or him a note of support and sign your name. If you were not here the weekend that the booklets were distributed, extra copies can be found on the bulletin tables.



## 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**.

## 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**.



## Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, April 17 @ 7:00** to discuss The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride.

## 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 March 11 was **Maceio Pearson, grade 5**, who knew that Jesus is fully God and fully human.

## 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.



## 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**.

## Everyday Encounters with Christ

Name: Anonymous

I encountered Christ when my papa died. I was so sad and I was missing him but then I just knew that he was in Heaven and happy with God.



## 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





## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Lectors

please see the Liturgical Ministry Table in the Gathering Space for Holy Week and Easter assignments.

### Eucharistic Ministers & Altar Servers

please visit the Liturgical Ministry Table in the Gathering Space to sign up for available slots for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

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

**Schedules for  
April - June 2024  
can be found in the  
Gathering Space or on  
our Facebook group:  
“OLM Liturgical  
Ministries”**

*Thank you for your  
continued ministry to  
the OLM community!*

## **As a Parish Community, 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.

### 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.

### 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.

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

Join us for a spring CAFÉ on **Sunday, April 14 from 9:45-10:45** in Sperry Hall. Enjoy fresh brewed coffee, delicious homemade goods and an inspirational speaker.

Barbara Emory and Justin Leroy are rescheduled from January when a snow storm forced the cancellation of our last CAFÉ. This mother and son will share their experience of encountering God's abundant love and unfailing care on the road of addiction.



### **A Special “Thank You”**

Thanks to all who contributed to the chordoma foundation. We were able to send them \$500.

All are welcome to join a unique S.C.C. hosted by Parish Impact Coordinator, Nick Heise. This S.C.C. meets every **Thursday at 6:30 p.m.** via Google Meet! Simply scan the QR code to join through your phone or tablet. To join via computer please email [youthministerourladyofmercy@gmail.com](mailto:youthministerourladyofmercy@gmail.com) and you'll receive the link! We look forward to seeing you!



# Rock OL MERCY FEST

open  July 12<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>     Music

**Friday July 12**  
**5-10 p.m.**

- Live Music • Food Trucks
- Beer, Wine & Spirits

**Sunday July 14**  
**12-5 p.m.**

- Chicken Dinner
- Kids Area • Games

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

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE SYMBOLS OF HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, March 27

7:00 p.m.

### HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY

Thursday, March 28

7:00 p.m.

### GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

Friday, March 29

3:00 p.m.

Outdoor Stations will be at  
1:00 p.m.

### BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Saturday, March 30

10:30 a.m.

### EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, March 30

8:30 p.m.

### EASTER LITURGIES

Sunday, March 31

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

The Parish Office will be closed  
on Good Friday, March 29th and  
Easter Monday, April 1st.



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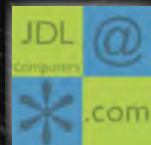
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# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

## *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.



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