

# 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  
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)  
Daytime Prayer Line (Donna): 814-899-9108  
Evening Prayer Line (Gerri): 814-490-9681

## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 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

# May 4, 2025 - The Third Sunday of Easter

Calendar of Emergency Services		
Mon.	05/05	9:30 a.m. Steel Magnolias SCC 5:30 p.m. Wild Hope SCC
Tue.	05/06	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 5:45 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting 6:30 p.m. Pastoral Council
Wed.	05/07	6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation
Thur.	05/08	9:00 a.m. Painting/Crafting Group 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	05/09	6:00 p.m. KofC Golf Raffle
Sat.	05/10	3:45 p.m. Sacrament of Penance
Sun.	05/11	

When is it impossible to plant flowers?  
When you haven't botany.



## MERCY MEMORIES

Our Paschal or Easter candle is normally stationed at the Baptismal font. It symbolizes Christ's resurrection and triumph over death, representing hope and new life. The candle is blessed at the Easter Vigil and is lit during Mass throughout the Easter Season, as well as for Baptisms and funerals.



## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon.	05/05	8:30 a.m.	<b>- No Mass -</b>
Tue.	05/06	8:30 a.m.	<b>Peter &amp; Linda Bianchi</b> (Gloria Bianchi)
Wed.	05/07	8:30 a.m.	<b>Families of Prayer Shawl Members</b> (Prayer Shawl Ministry)
Thur.	05/08	8:30 a.m.	<b>Pope Francis</b>
Fri.	05/09	8:30 a.m.	<b>Patsy &amp; Ann Marie Sette</b>
Sat.	05/10	4:30 p.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
Sun.	05/11	9:30 a.m.	<b>Diane Bock</b> (John Abbate)

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

**\*Please notify the Parish Office  
of any schedule changes\***

**Saturday, May 10th at 4:30 p.m.**

Saturday, March 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Lector.....	Clara Camillo
Bowl 1.....	Marilyn Rinke
Altar Server.....	Bill Matrogran
Greeter.....	Jason Rzodkiewicz
Greeter.....	Joyce Rzodkiewicz

**Sunday, May 11th at 9:30 a.m.**

Lector 1.....	Chrissy Saber
Lector 2.....	Chip Shamburg
Bowl 1.....	Maureen Brainard
Bowl 2.....	Steve Brainard
Cup 1.....	Joann Collins
Cup 2.....	Carole Peters
Cup 3.....	Candy Henry
Cup 4.....	Tim Lynch
Altar Server.....	Makayla Inthavong
Greeter.....	Jill Henry
Greeter.....	Baileigh Bleil
AV Ministry.....	Adam Baker
CLW.....	Rachel Still



Please join our “flock” by signing up at [olmharborcreek.flocknote.com](https://olmharborcreek.flocknote.com) or using the QR code provided.

## Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of April 21 was **Levi Gilchrist, grade 4**, who knew that the Easter Season lasts for 50 days.

## Newsletter Deadline

**NewsLetter Deadline**  
The deadline for content submission for our May 2025 Edition of the For Mercy's Sake newsletter is **Sunday May 4th**. Please send all content to Katie in the Parish Office by emailing [secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



## *We Remember...*

**Richard Pekelnicky;**  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold him, and his family in prayer during this  
difficult time.



## Grief Support

All who are grieving are invited to join us on **Monday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.** The Grief Support group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 and is open to anyone who is experiencing the pain from the death of a loved one. Feel free to come once or every month.



## Vacation Bible School 2025

Mark your calendars for **July 28-Aug. 1** and **Make A Splash at OLM from 9:00-noon.** Volunteers are needed to accompany groups of children as they move through the various activity areas. All Volunteers need clearances, so sign up early. If interested, contact Irene Lucas at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or **814-898-4383.**

## Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, May 21 @ 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 109 Kraus Dr., to discuss The Autumn of Ruth Winters by Marshall Fine. Our June title will be Allegedly by Tiffany D. Jackson.



## Save the Stations

For many years, the outdoor Stations of the Cross on our parish grounds have offered a peaceful place for prayer and reflection. Tucked in the wooded area behind the church, this sacred path has unfortunately fallen into disrepair and is now seldom used. We believe it's time to breathe new life into this space—not only restoring the Stations, but also creating an inviting outdoor worship area for prayer, small services, and spiritual connection with nature. We are forming a group of parishioners to explore this vision and bring it to life. The project scope and timeline is not defined - and we welcome all families and groups to join us in this effort. We are holding a site visit and brief meeting starting at the picnic shelter on **Tuesday, May 13th at 6:30 p.m.** Please contact Gary Smith at [gsmith.erie@outlook.com](mailto:gsmith.erie@outlook.com) or at **814 397-4647** if you're interested in being part of this meaningful project.

## Bus Trip To Our Lady of Fatima Shrine

A few seats remain open for the **May 31** bus trip to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. The cost of the trip is \$65. (This does not include meals). See the easel in the Gathering Space for more information or call the Faith Formation Office at **814-899-6132.**



## Sundae Sunday

Let's celebrate the birthday of the Church with cake and ice cream. Join us on **Sunday, June 8** immediately after Mass for a make-your-own-sundae-bar and a cake walk. The event is free and open to everyone. We need donations of cakes for the cake walk.

## Knights of Columbus Golf & Sports Raffle

The 31st Golf & Sports Raffle will be held on Friday **May 9** in the Gym and Sperry Hall from **6 to 11 p.m.** Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Space after Mass and in the Parish Office Monday—Thursday from 8 a.m. till 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each or 2 for \$25. The grand prize this year is \$ 1,000! Our Golf & Sports Raffle has become the largest in the Erie area thanks to the support of our parish and our many ticket sellers. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support youth programs in the parish, provide scholarships for parish high school seniors, and fund capital projects. Please help the Knights help the parish.

## KofC Basket Raffle Donations Needed

The Knights are currently accepting donations for the basket raffle. Please drop items off in Classroom 1. Questions? Contact Pat Marshall at **814-440-4890.**

## 2025 Baby Bottle Fundraiser

The Knights of Columbus in Erie and Crawford Counties are conducting our 4th annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser. Your charitable donations thus far have enabled the Knights to purchase five state of the art Ultrasound Machines and a Mobile Ultrasound Clinic for the Women's Care Center of Erie. Since 2018, 702 babies have been born to women after they viewed their ultrasounds. They chose life for their babies even though they were originally abortion bound. The Women's Care Center continues to face a financial crisis due to a large cut in funding by the state of PA that began last year. They actively promote childbirth as an option, rather than abortion by providing pregnancy, parenting, and adoption support services. In order to keep providing these vital services, the Women's Care Center depends on our financial support. Baby bottles will be distributed at the Church entrances on Mother's Day weekend (**May 10-11th**). Please take one home and fill it with spare change, cash, or checks. Envelopes will also be available as an option to the Baby Bottles. The bottles and envelopes should be returned the weekend of **June 21-22nd** (Weekend following Father's Day). We thank you in advance for your kind generosity, and pray you will once again join us in our continuing efforts in saving the lives of unborn children. God Bless!

## Knights of Columbus Scholarship Info

Scholarship applications from graduating high school seniors are being accepted by the OLM Knights of Columbus Council. The scholarship program began almost 30 years ago with the purpose of awarding a portion of the annual Golf and Sports Raffle proceeds to college-bound students, who along with their parents are members of the parish. An application form, brief essay and certified and sealed transcript from the applicant's school are required. The deadline for application is **Sunday, May 18**. It is understood that the transcript will only include grades through the most recent grading period. Please remind others who may be interested in applying. Watch the bulletin and check the OLM website for reminders.



## OUR LADY OF MERCY BUS TRIP TO NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA



Spend some time with our Blessed Mother this May!

**SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025**

*Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Lewiston, NY has been a place of natural beauty, art, communal prayer, and renewal to thousands who visit the unique buildings and grounds each year.*

**National Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima** - Fifteen acres of gardens are highlighted by an awe-inspiring glass Dome Basilica topped by a beautiful 13-foot granite statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Two flights of stairs, with 63 steps, lead to the top of the Dome. From there, visitors can view the entire Shrine grounds and surrounding countryside.

**The Avenue of the Saints** - Over one hundred thirty life-size marble statues represent saints from every race and walk of life.

**Giant Rosary** - In front of the Basilica is a giant Rosary, one of the largest outdoor rosaries in the world. The heart-shaped **Rosary Pool** symbolizes Mary's Immaculate Heart, and offers a haven for reflection and prayer. Around the giant Rosary are life-size statues of the Apostles.

**The Bell Tower** - 48 feet tall, was built during the 25th Anniversary Year, 1981, and includes the statutory group of Our Lady of Fatima and the three children.

**Numerous chapels and shrines**, including a **meditation garden**. <https://fatimashrine.com>

**The Fatima Gift and Book Shop** includes a large selection of Nativity sets, crucifixes, rosaries, Catholic jewelry, Bibles, prayer books, music, videotapes, CDs, Children's Bibles and books, and titles on Scripture, Prayer, Our Lady, Spirituality and Theology.

### ITINERARY:

- Bus will depart from OLM at 8:30 am.
- Stop at **Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA** for lunch/shopping 10:30 – 12:30 pm. (See <https://www.fashionoutletsofniagara.com> for online directory of stores & dining)
- Arrive at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine at 1 pm.
- Guided tour of the Basilica at 1:30 pm.
- Self-Guided tour of the grounds 2 – 4 p.m.
- Mass at 4 pm at the Basilica.
- Gift Shop is open till 5:00 pm.
- Depart for home at 6:00 pm.
- Stop for dinner at Interstate Rest Area with Multiple Food Options.
- Arrive back at OLM by 9:00 pm.

### IMPORTANT:

- A Sign-up Sheet will be in the Gathering Space.
- Space is limited, so reserve your spot soon.
- Cost is \$65 per person. Lunch and dinner will be on your own.
- **Deadline to sign up with payment is April 27**
- Note: No alcohol will be allowed on the bus.

For questions or additional information, contact Rose Galeza at 814-873-9501.

30th Annual Knights of Columbus  
Our Lady of Mercy Council 11144

## GOLF & SPORTS RAFFLE Casino Night

Benefitting Youth Activities at Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Friday, May 9, 2025

Our Lady of Mercy Church, Sperry Hall

Bartlett and Dutton Roads, Harborside / Doors Open 6-11 pm

FREE FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

ALL TICKETS ELIGIBLE FOR ALL DRAWINGS  
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

CASH PRIZES AWARDED  
FOR THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

All prizes must be claimed by August 31, 2025

Tickets Courtesy Of  
PSD INDUSTRIES



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GOLF AND SPORTS RAFFLE PRIZE LIST

1. \$1,000 CASH - STAN'S GARDEN CENTER
2. \$300 Value Vehicle Services - MCMILLEN'S CAR CARE
3. Two Steelers Tickets / 50 Yard Line "You Pick Game" - WIDGET FINANCIAL
4. Four Tickets Kaulig Sr. Tourney Akron, OH - ROSETO-SUTER OVERHEAD DOOR
5. Men's Strata Plus Irons - OLLINGER PLUMBING & HEATING
6. Garmin Golf Rangefinder - GERY T. NIETUPSKI ESQ.
7. 55" HDTV - VNET
8. Membership for One Year - FOX RUN
9. Titleist GT2 Driver - H AND H DIRECTIONAL DRILLING
10. Golf for Four - WHISPERING WOODS GOLF COURSE
11. Scenic Heights Golf Course - One Year Membership - WAC
12. Bill's Logo Golf Bag - JOE B'S CARPET
13. Three Walleye Passes - TELL NO TALES CHARTER - N.E. TIRE & SERVICE
14. GREEN MEADOWS GOLF and RICARDO'S Dinner for Four
15. Women's Strata Plus Irons - BATES COLLISION / NIETHAMER & OWENS
16. Titleist Cart 14 Bag - LAKEVIEW MOTEL
17. \$200 Gift Basket - Harbor House
18. Four Seawolves Tickets at 2 Games - PRO WASTE SERVICES
19. Odyssey Ai Futler - Trinity Club
20. 3 Two Hour Sessions - THE CLUBHOUSE INDOOR GOLF

DONATION  
\$15.00 EACH  
OR  
2 FOR \$25.00

Tickets may be purchased at: Our Lady of Mercy Church 9-3 (M-Th) and at the door  
**MUST BE 21 AND OVER TO ATTEND**

## Eucharist to the Homebound

Would you be willing to bring Christ to a member of our parish who is unable to join us due to age or illness? We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers to bring the eucharist to the homebound. If you can assist, contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132. If you are unable to join us on Sunday morning, let us bring the eucharist to you. Contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or 814-899-6132.



## Hospital Ministry

Please let the parish know if you or a family member is hospitalized. We have not been able to get lists of parishioners from the local hospitals for several years. If you are in the hospital, your parish family wants to be able to visit you, to pray and to bring you the eucharist.

## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments Digital Safety and Your Child



If your child gives out personal information while online, it is easy to track and tough to completely remove. Teach your child to never share personal information such as full name, address, phone number, email, school, or birthday on any social media site. Teach them to never give anyone their passwords. Help your child set up strong passwords and do a yearly checkup on them. Adjust privacy settings for online games, apps, social media sites and your child's electronic devices. Don't forget to check the GPS settings ability to unintentionally share your child's location. Avoid using public wi-fi when sharing personal information. For additional resources visit [www.eriecd.org/childprotection/](http://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/)

## March Stewardship

We are grateful for your continued generosity and support. **Every contribution** helps to ensure that our parish can continue its important work. If you would like to set up online giving, please contact our office for assistance.

	Offertory	YTD Offertory	Budgeted
Electronic Envelopes	\$12,943.00	\$114,190.29	\$141,782.25
Regular Envelopes	\$15,760.45	\$147,562.84	\$131,250.00
Total	\$28,703.45	\$261,753.13	\$273,032.25
Difference			<b>(\$11,279.12)</b>

## MUSIC FOR MASS

Proclamation:

# 413 Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

*"I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me."*

Preparation of the Offerings:

# 754 Worthy is the Lamb

Communion:

# 777 Here at this Table

Recessional:

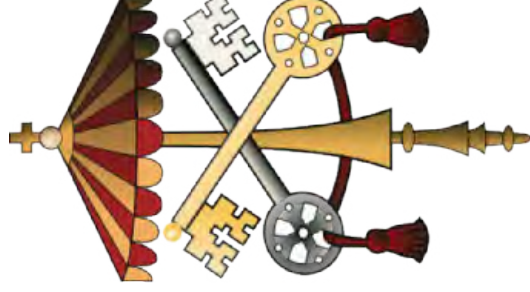
# 598 Sing A New Song



*Pope Francis* In Memoriam

December 17, 1936 – April 21, 2025

O God, immortal shepherd of souls,  
look on your people's prayers  
and grant that your servant Pope Francis,  
who presided over your Church in charity,  
may, with the flock entrusted to his care,  
receive from your mercy the reward of your faithful steward.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## PRAYER DURING THE CONCLAVE

*beginning Wednesday, May 7*

O God, eternal shepherd  
who govern your flock with unfailing care,  
grant in your boundless fatherly love  
a pastor for your Church  
who will please you by his holiness  
and to us show watchful care.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE SELECTION OF A NEW POPE

With the conclusion of the nine days of mourning following the passing of the pope, the Catholic Church now turns to the sacred process of selecting his successor. This is a time of both tradition and prayer, as the College of Cardinals gathers to discern and elect the next leader of the Catholic Church.

### Overview of the Papal Conclave process:

The election of a new pope takes place in a highly structured and prayerful process known as the conclave. Here's how it unfolds:

- **Gathering of the Cardinals** – Cardinals from around the world travel to Vatican City to participate in general congregations—discussions about the church's needs and the qualities needed in the next pope.
- **Entering the conclave** – The cardinals are sworn to secrecy and sequestered inside the Sistine Chapel, where they will cast their votes in strict confidentiality.
- **Casting votes** – Voting occurs twice each morning and twice each afternoon. A two-thirds majority is required for a new pope to be elected.
- **White smoke signals a new pope** – After each vote, ballots are burned. Black smoke indicates no decision has been made, while white smoke signals that a new pope has been chosen.
- **Announcement of the new pope** – Once elected, the new pope accepts the role and chooses a papal name. Shortly after, the *Habemus Papam* ("We have a pope") announcement is made from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica.



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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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