

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • www.ourladyofmercychurch.org



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Day of Obligation: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Brandon Vogt, *Director of Liturgy & Music*

Marsha MacKinnon McKinley, *Admin. Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

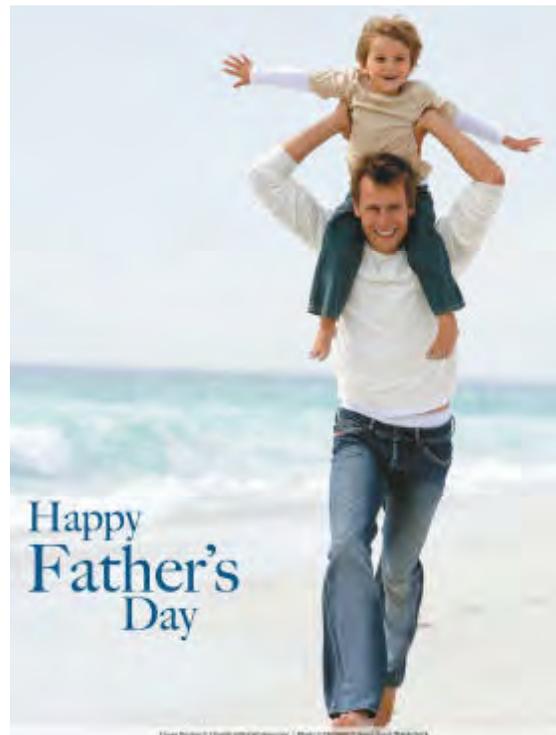
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

June 17, 2018



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.*

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Mon. 06/18	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Summer Study
Tue. 06/19	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias (SCC)
	7:00 p.m.	LFF Mtg
Wed. 06/20	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough (SCC)
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 06/21	9:15 a.m.	Oremus: Study on Prayer
Fri. 06/22	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Sat. 06/23	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 06/24		



IN LOVING MEMORY

We remember Mary Duda, mother of Kenneth Duda. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Call **Donna Smicker** at 899-9108

4:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Call **Gerri Extein** at 899-6875

The **Hospital Visitor** for the week is Florence Voelker.

Donna Smicker is away June 17 through June 25.

Call Gerri Extein during the day that week.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 06/18	8:30 a.m.	Floyd Brochey (Ken & Pat Marshall)
Tue. 06/19	8:30 a.m.	Yolanda DiRaimo (Donelle Davey)
Wed. 06/20	8:30 a.m.	Maureen Cudicio (Bill Beckman)
Thur. 06/21	8:30 a.m.	
Fri. 06/22	8:30 a.m.	Doris Extein (Extein Family)
Sat. 06/23	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Helen Hemmis (Bruce & Audrey Kazmaier)
Sun. 06/24	8:30 a.m.	For The People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Raymond Angelo (Douglas & Sandra DelPorto)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 06/18	1 Kgs 21:1-16	/ Matthew 5:38-42
Tue. 06/19	1 Kgs 21:17-29	/ Matthew 5:43-48
Wed. 06/20	2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14	/ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thur. 06/21	Sir 48:1-14	/ Matthew 6:7-15
Fri. 06/22	2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20	/ Matthew 6:19-23
Sat. 06/23	2 Chr 24:17-25	/ Matthew 6:24-34
Sun. 06/24	Is 49:1-6/ Acts 13:22-26 / Luke 1:57-66, 80	

THIS SUNDAY'S

REFLECTION

Mark 4:26-34



The Kingdom of God Is Within You

Jesus says that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. When it is sown in the ground, it is the smallest of seeds; but it can grow to become the largest of plants.

The more a Christian fulfills God's will in her life, the greater the kingdom of God in her is. So, the kingdom of God can be very small, or it can change its size and become very big.

But why wouldn't the kingdom of God always be the same size?

To see the answer, you have to recognize that the kingdom of God isn't a peculiar kind of country. God's kingdom isn't a place at all. It's a condition, the condition of God's ruling as king.

But, we might think, even so, God's kingdom can't shift sizes. God's rule is always the same size: it's everywhere. And yet this can't be right either. What is ruled by a king is governed by the will of the king. But how much of God's will does any Christian fulfill? Everything is subject to the will of God the King, for sure, but not every Christian who counts as being in the kingdom of God fulfills God's will completely now.

So *this* is the way in which God's kingdom can change size. When a Christian does what is against God's will, to that extent the will of God is not fulfilled in her. And so, to that same extent, the kingdom of God is small in her too. On the other hand, the more a Christian fulfills God's will in her life, the greater the kingdom of God in her is.

This is one way we can understand Christ's parable of the mustard seed, then. When a Christian first opens himself up to receive God as Lord, the Lord rules very little of him. And so the kingdom of God is like the littlest seed in the ground of his heart. But if only he lets that seed grow in him, if only he doesn't give up on himself as fruitless and despair of himself, that littlest seed of God's kingdom will grow and grow in him till it becomes like a great tree in him.

But in the end this is the most important thing to see. If you have even just a mustard seed's worth of faith and obedience, you still have the kingdom of God within you.

For Reflection: Does the growth require something from us? What happens to our (small, mustard-seed size) gifts when we use them in collaboration with God for the kingdom?



Social Justice Committee News

Public Education: The Social Justice Issue of our Time

A civil right means all students have the same opportunities regardless where they come from. Public school education is one of our most critical civil rights. It is worth defending. (NYSUT Vice President Paul Pecorale oversees social justice initiatives for the union.)

Divorced & Separated Ministry

Our Lady of Mercy has a ministry for the divorced and separated. This one-on-one ministry allows those experiencing divorce or separation to talk to another person who has been through it. This person can provide support during a difficult time. Contact Donna Clark.

First Eucharist Pictures

Any family who ordered First Eucharist pictures through Maureen Rizzo can pick up your order in the Office of Lifelong Faith Formation. The pictures have arrived.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

The 2018 Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration Liturgies for couples celebrating milestone anniversaries of 25, 50 or 60 or more years of marriage in 2018 will be held on **Sunday, August 5, 2018 at St. George Church, Erie at 2:00 p.m.** To register call the OLM Parish Office at 899-5342 or go online to <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/anniv.html>. Register before July 27, 2018.

Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.

Congratulations Knights

Congratulations to Our Lady of Mercy Knights of Columbus who are celebrating their 25th Anniversary as Council #11144 in the Erie Catholic Diocese. *Thanks for all you do for us, Your Church Family.*

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of June 10, 2018

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	119	\$3,932.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	113	\$2,935.00
Loose Change:		\$86.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$8,953.00

Summer Study On Prayer

Our summer study on prayer has begun, but you are still welcome to join us on Thursdays to deepen your understanding of prayer. Contact Irene at 899-6132 for more information.



Women's Summer Study

Once again, we will have a Monday evening gathering for women in the parish. Gather at the home of Irene (1019 Bartlett Rd.) at **7:00 p.m. June 18 & 25 and July 9 & 16.** Weather permitting, we will meet on the patio. Extra lawn chairs appreciated. We will discuss the teachings of 4 distinguished female saints. Of the thousands of canonized saints in the Catholic Church, only 35 have been named "Doctors of the Church", recognized as exemplar teachers of the faith. Of these 35 Doctors of the Church, only 4 are women, all receiving that title in the last 50 years. Unlike their male counterparts, these women did not have the opportunity to study at the finest universities of their day, did not hold Church office or even have access to great libraries. Yet their faith, prayer and cooperation with the Holy Spirit overcame all restrictions for women of their day enabling them to emerge as extraordinary. Over 4 weeks we will look at the lives and teachings of St. Hildegard of Bingen, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Teresa of Avila and St. Therese of Lisieux. What might these holy and creative women have to teach holy and creative women of our day?

Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Children's Liturgy of the Word Ministry is in need of volunteer leaders. If you enjoy working with young children but do not have the time to commit to a weekly RE class, this ministry may be perfect for you. CLW Leaders conduct the Liturgy of the Word on a child's level: reading the Sunday Scriptures, assisting the children to understand their meaning, leading the young people in a Child's Creed and Prayers of the Faithful. Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place during the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. **CLW leaders MUST have required clearances. Training is provided.** If you can help, contact Irene at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Children's Worship Bulletins

Religious education classes may have concluded for the school year, but children continue to need to be encouraged in their life of faith. Help the young child in your life to engage with the Sunday readings by using the **Children's Worship Bulletins which can be found on the bulletin tables.** Each weekly 4-page booklet has activities related to the Sunday readings designed for young children.

Young Adult Adoration

All young adults are invited to join us on Friday, June 29 at 7:00 p.m. to worship Christ in community with the Church through Eucharistic adoration, confession, praise and worship music, and benediction. We can grab dinner together afterwards. Join us for as much or as little of the evening as your schedule allows. Bring a friend!

OLM Festival Sunday, July 8

Preparations for our Annual Festival, Sunday, July 8, are underway! Thanks so much to all coordinators and our new coordinators for 2018! If you are interested in helping coordinate a specific area, we are currently seeking coordinators for our Children's Games, Teen Games, and Clean-up. If coordinating is not for you, **we will be posting general volunteer sign-ups this weekend.** In addition to volunteers we are also in need of prizes for our children's area. If you have old stuffed animals at home or would like to donate things for prizes, we need lots of prizes. We will also need restaurant gift cards, and Chinese auction items (individual or completed baskets).



Festival Sweet Bread Bakers



We are in need of a variety of sweet breads for the **Festival Chicken Dinner on Sunday, July 8.** Bake early and freeze them! **The breads can be dropped off in the kitchen beginning July 1st.** Questions? Call Marge LeFaiver at 899-5261.

5K Chicken Run & Chicken Little Run

The CLUCK is ticking! Don't walk, **RUN!** Get your **5K Chicken Run and Chicken Little Run** applications! Pick up an application on the table in the Gathering Space. You can also download the application from ourladyofmercychurch.org or erierunners.club Cost is \$15 if you are pre-registered, \$20 day of the race. Kids 10 and under do not have to pay for the Chicken Little Run and will receive a free t-shirt if they are pre-registered. Remember: **WINNER, WINNER CHICKEN DINNER!**

Women's Luncheon (NEW DATE)

Join a lovely group of women who live alone at Ricardo's Restaurant on **Monday, June 25, at 1:00 p.m.** Great fellowship and laughter is part of every lunch. Questions? Call Donna in the parish office at 899-5342.

Car Wash Supports Youth Mission Trip

A Mission Trip Car Wash will take place on Friday, June 22 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Mount Cavalry Parish, 2022 East Lake Rd. All proceeds benefit the youth that are attending this year's Catholic Heart Work Camp. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continuing support of this wonderful youth experience.

HELP STAN'S GARDEN CENTER MAKE A DONATION TO OUR LADY OF MERCY

During the month of June, Stan's Garden Center will donate 10% of your total purchase back to OLM (excludes gift certificates and is not a discount). You can shop either location, 5001 Buffalo Rd. or 5341 West Lake Rd. All you have to do is let the cashier know that you're a parishioner of Our Lady of Mercy.

Help Needed for Kitchen Storage Room Clean-Up

Our kitchen storage area needs a thorough cleaning before the Festival. We are looking for a number of people to help in this effort. Some medium weight lifting from high shelves is required. So any help from men would be especially appreciated. **The cleaning begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday June 18. If you can help, please call Judy Mitcheltree at 899-2527 to let her know you'll be a part of the clean-up crew.**

Celebrating the Ministries of Our Lady of Mercy

June 30/July 1 is the celebration of the Spiritual and Prayer Ministries. These include: Healing Ministry, Prayer of Mary, Prayer line, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Stewardship Committee, and Small Christian Communities. On this weekend, please wear **Red** if you are in one of these ministries. There will be an opportunity to learn more about each of these ministries and sign-up if the spirit is drawing you to participate in a ministry.

OLM Book Group

Summer is here. Time for a book at the beach or on the porch. And time to sip wine and discuss that book with a great group of ladies as you enjoy a beautiful Erie sunset. All are welcome to join us at the home of Kay Kaeberlein, 190 Kraus Dr. at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, June 20** to discuss Pachinko by Min Jin Lee. Want to read ahead? Our July title is Rise and Shine by Anna Quindlen.

Knights of Columbus Award Scholarships

Knights of Columbus Ed Cudicio Memorial Scholarships have been awarded to the following parishioners: **Jason Angelo** (Penn State –Behrend), **Gavin Matrogran** (Mercyhurst University), **Marina Owens** (Edinboro University), **Laurel Procopchak** (Youngstown State University), **Ethan Sacco** (Penn State–University Park) and **Ryan Smith** (Penn State–Behrend). Ethan is a graduate of Cathedral Prep and the others Harborcreek High School. The college they will attend is in parenthesis. Please congratulate them and wish them well as they continue their education.

Hair Care for Homebound

Annette – a new parishioner – does hair care for the home bound. She will come to your home and can do perms, shampoo and sets, haircuts, manicures, coloring and barbering. For more information or to get in touch with Annette please call Donna in the parish office.

Adopt A Highway

Our parish is considering the possibility of joining the PennDOT Adopt A Highway road clean-up program. We are looking at the 2 mile stretch of Route 20 from Iroquois Avenue to King Road. Please call Phil Legler at 504-1048 if you are interested in participating.

Parking Lot Dance

It's summer in Harborcreek and there's dancing in the streets. OLM will host its 3rd annual Parking Lot Dance on **Saturday evening, July 21 from 7:00-10:00 p.m.** This is a parish event for the entire family. In addition to the DJ, there will be games, snacks and lots and lots of fun! Bring your own lawn chairs and bug spray. The event is free but a donation will be accepted to cover the cost of the DJ.





Celebrating the Ministries of Our Lady of Mercy

June 30/July 1 is the celebration of the **Spiritual and Prayer Ministries**.

These include: **Healing Ministry, Legion of Mary, Prayer line, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Stewardship Committee, and Small Christian Communities.**

On this weekend, please wear **Red** if you are in one of these ministries. There will be an opportunity to learn more about each of these ministries and sign-up if the spirit is drawing you to participate in a ministry.

Why are we celebrating the ministries at Mass?

The stewardship committee wanted to draw more attention to the ministries within the parish; honor and bless those people involved in the ministries and give more information about each ministry so newer members of the parish can discern how God is calling them to share their gifts within a ministry. Once a month we are celebrating a different group of ministries.

Are you new to the Parish?

If you are new to the parish you will have an opportunity to learn more about our ministries in the monthly celebrations. You can sign up during that month or if you want to take some time to discern then sign up in October.

If I am already involved in a ministry when do I sign up again?

In October, we will have a ministry recommitment ceremony at Mass. Everyone will recommit to their ministries, join a new ministry or indicate that they wish to retire.

What do I do if I want to sign up for a new ministry?

You may sign up during the month that we celebrated the ministry (see chart below) or wait until October during the ministry commitment weekend.

What do I do if I want to retire from a ministry?

Simply contact the person who coordinates that particular ministry and tell them you wish to retire. If you do not know who that person is, please contact Donna Clark in the parish office at 899-5342.

Coming up:

June 30 & July:	Spiritual/Prayer (red)
August 4 & 5:	Administrative (yellow)
September 8 & 9:	Outreach (indigo)
October 14:	Ministry Celebration & Recommitment



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