

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*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Geri Hadlock, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

CONTACT INFORMATION

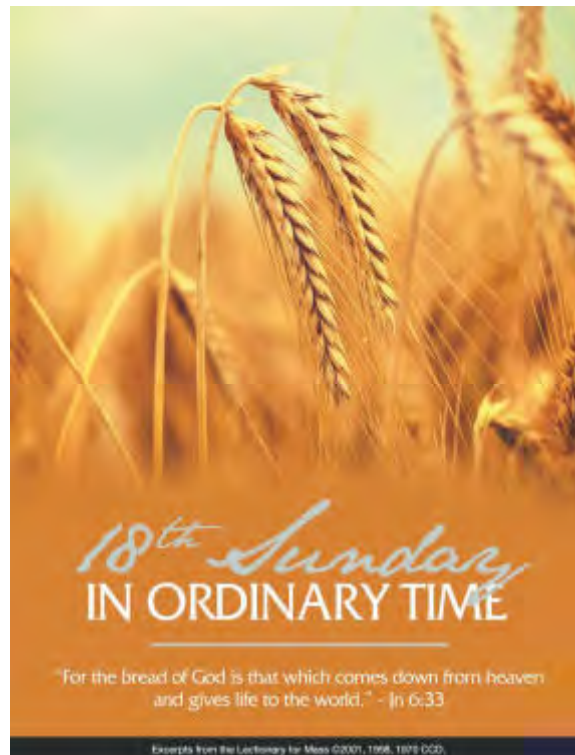
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

August 5, 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. 08/06		
Tue. 08/07	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	7:30 p.m.	AA
Wed. 08/08	6:30 p.m.	AGIFT Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
Thur. 08/09		
Fri. 08/10	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
Sat. 08/11	10:00 a.m.	AA
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 08/12	11:00 a.m.	Baptism—Stauffer

Religious Education Registration

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 Marilyn Garwig.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 08/06	8:30 a.m.	
Tue. 08/07	8:30 a.m.	
Wed. 08/08	8:30 a.m.	Chris Plonski (Barb Jones)
Thur. 08/09	8:30 a.m.	Olive Antolik (John & Rebecca Kucsma)
Fri. 08/10	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 08/11	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	For The People of OLM
Sun. 08/12	8:30 a.m.	Anna Mae Passerotti (Don & Margaret McCurdy)
	11:00 a.m.	Sal Frontino (Liz Hemenger)

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 08/06	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/ 2 PT 1:16-19 / Mark 9:2-10
Tue. 08/07	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22 / Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14
Wed. 08/08	Jer 31:1-7 / Matthew 15:21-28
Thur. 08/09	Jer 31:31-34 / Matthew 16:13-23
Fri. 08/10	2 Cor 9:6-10 / John 12:24-26
Sat. 08/11	Hb 1:12-2:4 / Matthew 17:14-20
Sun. 08/12	1 Kgs 19:4-8/ Eph 4:30-5:2 / John 6:41-51

Newsletter Mailing Party

We need help preparing the newsletter for mailing. If you can help us fold and stuff envelopes at 9:00 AM tomorrow, **Monday, August 6**, please let Irene know at **899-6132** or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

Religious Education Registration

Mark your calendar. Registration for the 2018-2019 religious education program will take place after all masses the weekend of **August 11-12**. Materials will not be ready prior to that date.

Administrative Ministries Sign Up

If you are interested in signing up for one of the administrative ministries please see the display in the Gathering Space. Finance Council, Tech Committee (Digital Communications), Library, Newsletter and Parish Mailings, Office Help, Pastoral Council and Scrip Gift Card Program. The Library Ministry is looking for a new administrator to manage our book collection. See Donna Clark for more information.



THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



John 6:24-35

The people thirsted and hungered on their desert journey, and they complained to Moses that he led them into the desert to die of famine. They longed to return to the bread they had when they were slaves, forgetting the sweet taste of freedom. Though they were undeserving of the gift, God rained down “bread from Heaven.” The psalmist praised the glorious deeds of the Lord: “What our fathers have declared to us, we will declare to the generation to come!”

The Christian community must never forget the lessons we learned from Christ. We must put aside our empty way of living, with its self-destructive illusions, and put on fresh garments of holiness and truth. Jesus is the true sign that He is present in our midst to nourish and sustain us on the journey. He is the bread of life, which means that he is essential for life. No one who comes to him shall ever hunger. No one who believes in him shall thirst again. It was God who gave us this gift in Jesus. We must remember to share him with others.

For Reflection: Do I complain when I don't get the things I think I need? Do I fail to appreciate Jesus's life-giving gift in the Eucharist?



Social Justice Committee News

During the month of August, we will focus on Poverty. Did you know? In 2016:

- US Poverty Rate was 12.7% (40 million people)
- US Child Poverty was 21.2% (Nearly 1 in 5)

Historically, the Child Poverty Rate in Erie, has been one of the highest in the nation for cities of its size - often topping the list! You can find out more at povertyusa.org/facts.

Hunger and homelessness are often the result of poverty, even for the working poor. Jesus said the poor will always be with us but that does not mean we are powerless to help them. We have an obligation to act in a manner consistent with Catholic Social Teaching.

"The Church's love for the poor . . . is a part of her constant tradition." This love is inspired by the Gospel of the Beatitudes, of the poverty of Jesus, and of his concern for the poor. Love for the poor is even one of the motives for the duty of working so as to "be able to give to those in need." It extends not only to material poverty but also to the many forms of cultural and religious poverty. Vatican.va

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.

Coming Soon: Story Time at Our Lady of Mercy

Come join us for a time of songs, stories, rhymes and fellowship. We will be meeting every other Wednesday beginning **August 8th at 9:30am** at the bench area by the classrooms. While geared for children ages 0-5, older siblings are welcome to attend and sing along with us. Hope to see you there!



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **July 29, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	101	\$3,933.06
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,122.00
Loose Change:		\$ 74.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,129.06

Catechists Needed

The start of religious education is only 6 weeks away. It is time to begin praying about God's call to become involved in the religious education ministry. For the coming academic year, we need a Jr. High catechist (12:00-1:15 Sunday afternoon), several Confirmation Home Session leaders for Gr. 9 (time of choosing) and a Sunday morning general aide (9:15-10:45). We also need adults willing to supervise Klein students who arrive half an hour prior to the start of class (3:15-3:50 Tuesday afternoon). All volunteers who work with youth must provide current background checks and view an on-line training for child safety. Training for the ministry of catechist will be provided. If you would like more information, contact **Irene Lucas @ 899-6132**.



Catechist Organizational Meeting

There will be a brief organizational meeting for volunteer catechists before the start of the religious education year. The meeting will be on **Sunday, Aug. 26 at 9:45-10:45** in the Conference Room.

Commemorate 125th Anniversary of St. Peter Cathedral

The public is welcome to participate in free tours of St. Peter Cathedral, the mother church of the Diocese of Erie, on Aug. 4-5. The tours will begin following the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, and after the 6:30, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Masses on Sunday. Refreshments will be provided. The special weekend tour schedule commemorates the 125th anniversary of St. Peter Cathedral, located at W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie. We invite the people of the diocese to learn about the history of the cathedral. For more information, contact **Sheila Grove at 814-450-7932**.

Surviving Divorce Healing Program

Surviving Divorce Ministry, formerly called *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide (CDSG)*, a 12-week group to help those who are separated or divorced, will run on **Wednesdays from Sept. 5 - Nov. 28, 2018 from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.** at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie (Cost - \$15 for book/journal). Many topics to begin healing will be addressed through DVDs with experienced presenters and real men and women who have felt the pain of divorce. Please call the **Family Life Office, (814) 824-1250**, or email: familylife@eriercd.org for more information and/or to register.



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Annual Compliance Audits

Did you know that an independent auditing company audits the Diocese of Erie, and in turn, all parishes and catholic school each year for compliance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People? Our 2016-2017 audit found the Diocese of Erie to be in full compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter. The Office for the Protection of Children and Youth is currently working on the yearly audit report due September 1st. To read the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People visit <http://www.usccb.org>. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

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 commitment 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 Sunday Mass. CLW leaders MUST have required clearances. Training is provided. If you can help, contact Irene at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org.



Church in Latin America Collection

The annual Collection for the Church in Latin America allows us to help the millions of faithful Catholics in Latin America practice their faith. You are invited to pray for them, and to support this year's collection for the Church in Latin America, which will be taken up on the weekend of **August 18-19**. Together we can make a concrete difference in the lives of our fellow Catholics throughout Central and South America.

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.

Book Group

There is a change of title for our August gathering. All are welcome to join us at 7:00 PM on Wednesday Aug. 15 at the home of Claudette Terrill, **6821 East Lake Rd.** to discuss The Indigo Girl by Natasha Boyd. Want to read ahead? Our September book will be Eighty Days: Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Bisland's History Making Race Around the World by Matthew Goodman.



Catholic Young Adult Ministry (CYAM) Erie

Meeting 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Thursday, August 9th** - St. Mark Catholic Center. Join us at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie, PA to meet our newly appointed Leadership Board and start brainstorming ideas for the year ahead. We would love to start pulling together your ideas to better serve our parishes and young adults in the area including new events, small groups, and service opportunities! Contact ericatholicya@gmail.com if you would like to attend or if you would like to share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Father Peterson Tourney Scheduled for September

The annual Father Peterson Golf Tournament benefiting Maria House Project will be held Sept. 15 at the Union City Country Club in Union City. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. The cost is \$75 per person and includes coffee and donuts, golf and a dinner buffet. The event benefits Maria House Project, an outreach to the marginalized, founded by the late Father James Peterson. For more information, call 814-873-0790. A registration form and application are available at www.unioncitycountryclub.com/father-peterson-tournament.html.



When should young adults join the Parish apart from their parents?

Generally young adults would stay registered under their parents while they are in school. When young adults move away from home after schooling they would join the local parish where they attend Mass. If young adults are still at home then we encourage them to register in the parish on their own.

Save the Date

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a dance featuring "The Groove" Erie's most popular band on September 22nd from 7 to 11 in the gym. Tickets will be available at all masses within the next two weeks. Mark your calendars last years dance was a sellout!



COMING SOON

Story Time at Our Lady of Mercy

What: A time of Stories, Songs, and Rhymes designed for children ages 0 – 5.

When: Every other Wednesday beginning August 8th at 9:30am

Where: The bench area near the classrooms at Our Lady of Mercy.

*Join us for a time of
fellowship and fun!*



I posted pictures on my Instagram and Facebook from the OLM Festival. Check them out!

Great Pictures! You forgot to add the Official Our Lady of Mercy hashtag, though.

#ThinkAboutItOLM

Introducing, the OFFICIAL Our Lady of Mercy Hashtag!

How to use a Hashtag: *Anytime you make a post to a social media account concerning Our Lady of Mercy add #ThinkAboutItOLM (no spaces).

*You can then put #ThinkAboutItOLM in the search box to search other posts that used our OFFICIAL hashtag.

Be sure to follow OLM on Facebook and Twitter for our bi-weekly "Think About It post". When you see a "Think About It" post, answer the question or finish the statement as a status on your personal page...and don't forget to add #ThinkAboutItOLM so we can all stay connected!



OLM Twitter QR

Sunday August 5, 2018 Think About It:
I am thankful for (your answer here) . #ThinkAboutItOLM



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