

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://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

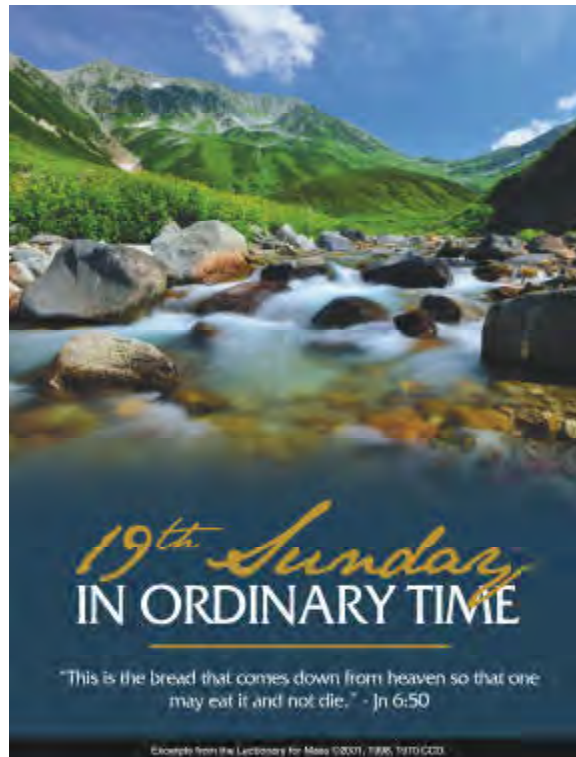
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org)

August 12, 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](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

|       |       |  |                           |
|-------|-------|--|---------------------------|
| Mon.  | 08/13 |  |                           |
| Tue.  | 08/14 | 6:30 p.m.                                    | Mental Health Focus Group |
|       |       | 7:30 p.m.                                    | AA                        |
| Wed.  | 08/15 | <b>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> |                           |
|       |       | 8:30 a.m.                                    | Food Pantry Distribution  |
|       |       | 7:00 p.m.                                    | Fruit of the Vine SCC     |
|       |       | 7:00 p.m.                                    | OLM Book Group            |
| Thur. | 08/16 | 3:00 p.m.                                    | Social Justice Committee  |
| Fri.  | 08/17 | 1:30 p.m.                                    | Legion of Mary            |
| Sat.  | 08/18 | 10:00 a.m.                                   | AA                        |
|       |       | 4:30 p.m.                                    | Sacrament of Penance      |
| Sun.  | 08/19 | 9:30 a.m.                                    | Healing Ministry          |
|       |       | 7:00 p.m.                                    | Sunset Beach Mass         |

### Religious Education Classes Begin September 4 at Our Lady of Mercy.

### MASS INTENTIONS

|       |       |            |   |
|-------|-------|------------|---|
| Mon.  | 08/13 | 8:30 a.m.  | Gerald Tyzinski<br><i>(Agatha Tyzinski &amp; Family)</i>      |
| Tue.  | 08/14 | 8:30 a.m.  | Michael Nagosky & Family<br><i>(Family)</i>                   |
| Wed.  | 08/15 | 8:30 a.m.  | Edward Spellman Jr.<br><i>(Novelia &amp; Edward Spellman)</i> |
| Thur. | 08/16 | 8:30 a.m.  |   |
| Fri.  | 08/17 | 8:30 a.m.  |   |
| Sat.  | 08/18 | 8:30 a.m.  | Tim Eisert<br><i>(Dave &amp; Peggy Jacquel)</i>               |
|       |       | 6:00 p.m.  | For The People of OLM   |
| Sun.  | 08/19 | 8:30 a.m.  | Dick Dartington<br><i>(Jon &amp; Janet Sedelmyer)</i>         |
|       |       | 11:00 a.m. | Nancy Rupp<br><i>(Jim Guth)</i>                               |

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

|       |       |   |
|-------|-------|---|
| Mon.  | 08/13 | Ez 1:2-5, 24-28 / Matthew 17:22-27                    |
| Tue.  | 08/14 | Ez 2:8-3:4 / Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14                |
| Wed.  | 08/15 | Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 / Cor 15:20-27<br>/ Luke 1:39-56 |
| Thur. | 08/16 | Ez 12:1-12 / Matthew 18:21-19:1                       |
| Fri.  | 08/17 | Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63<br>/Matthew 19:3-12    |
| Sat.  | 08/18 | Ez 18:1-10, 13, 30-32<br>/ Matthew 19:13-15           |
| Sun.  | 08/19 | Prv 9:1-6/ Eph 5:15-20/ John 6:51-58                  |

### Religious Education Registration:

Mark your calendar. Registration for the 2018-2019 religious education program will take place **after all masses this weekend of August 11-12.** If any family is not able to sign the papers this weekend, please stop by the Office of Faith Formation during normal business hours. All new and returning students, including those preparing to celebrate Confirmation in October, need to be registered by a parent signature on the appropriate forms.

### 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.

### 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 Geri Gallagher.

### THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

#### John 6:41-51

The prophet Elijah fled for his life from the vindictive queen. He quickly forgot the wonders he saw on Mount Carmel, where the false prophets lost their contest with God. Elijah was ready to give up. "This is enough!" he complained to God, "Take my life." Instead of death, Elijah received the bread of angels. Strengthened for his journey, the prophet was able to walk 40 days and 40 nights to God's mountain, Horeb. The psalmist extolled God's mercy: "O taste and see that the Lord is good!"



Sometimes, we forget to praise God's goodness. Like the people in the desert, we fail to be grateful for God's good gifts. We look at bread and wine but do not recognize Christ in our midst. God's gift of Jesus is extraordinary. All who partake of him are filled with the everlasting. To refuse to participate in this gift is to miss life and to die. As sons and daughters of God, we are asked to follow Jesus's way of love by offering ourselves to God, who feeds us with the life-giving bread that comes down from heaven.

*For Reflection: Am I a sign of Christ's presence in my community? What does it mean to live in love, as Christ loved us?*



## Social Justice Committee News

### Poverty

Jesus states in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." This references the complexities of poverty. It is not only a financial condition, but also a spiritual condition, impacting the whole community. Pope Francis has said that to love the poor "means to combat all forms of poverty, spiritual and material." [catholicnewsagency.com](http://catholicnewsagency.com) In the US, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development works to (1) help low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, their families, and communities. (2) provide education and promote understanding about poverty and its root causes. "This dual strategy of helping people who are poor speak and act for themselves and education for economic justice reflects the mandate of the scriptures and the principles of Catholic Social teaching." [povertyusa.org](http://povertyusa.org)

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to **Ryder Daniels**, grandson of Kimberly Daniels, who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism on August 3, 2018. Welcome to God's team, Ryder!



### **Special Collections—Faith Direct**

You can donate to the Church in Latin America Collection using Faith Direct. You can add this special collection or any other collection to your Faith Direct account. Simply sign in and make the adjustments. Alternatively, you can also choose the onetime payment option.

### **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.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **August 5, 2018**

|                         |     |                   |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Envelopes sent:         | 392 |                   |
| Envelopes returned:     | 119 | \$5,210.65        |
| Faith Direct Deposits:  | 118 | \$3,122.00        |
| Loose Change:           |     | \$ 293.00         |
| <b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b> |     | <b>\$8,625.65</b> |

### **Rosary March**

The Legion of Mary is sponsoring a Rosary March on **Saturday, August 18** at St. Casimir church. Bishop Persico will celebrate Mass at noon and the March will follow. Refreshments will follow in the church social hall.

### **Knights of Columbus Dance**



The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a dance Saturday Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> in conjunction with the OLM Feast Day weekend. The band "The Groove" Eries most popular band will be providing the entertainment from 7 to 11 in the gym. Complimentary beer and setups will be provided. Tickets will go on sale in the Gathering Space after all the masses beginning on August 12th and thru Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, or until sold out. Tickets are limited to 250. Last year we were sold out, so purchase your tickets early. Tickets will also be available for purchase during the week in the parish office. Ticket price is \$15 or (2) for \$25. Co- Chairs Frank Kaleta and Phil Legler.

### **Job Openings**

#### **Saint Martin's Early Learning Center—Driver and Classroom Support (1 position)**

- This is a part time position with a limited benefit package. An excellent driving record is a must, as well as the ability to obtain all necessary clearances, physical and TB, and be able to lift at least 25 pounds. A high school diploma or equivalent is required.

#### **Saint Martin's Early Learning Center—Infant Room Teacher, Float Staff, and School Age Teacher (3 positions)**

- These positions are full time with an excellent benefit package. A degree in Education, Early Childhood Education, or Human Services is required. Please bring resumes in person to: **St. Martin Early Learning Center, 1727 State St**, or email to [arentschler@stmartincenter.org](mailto:arentschler@stmartincenter.org). No phone calls please.



### **Grief Support**

On **Monday, August 20 at 7pm**, we host a monthly grief support group. The journey through grief can be confusing and frustrating. Nothing seems normal. Sometimes talking about it helps, especially when sharing with people who can understand. For more information, contact **Donna Clark** in the parish office.



## 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.



## Purse Bingo

Saint Benedict Academy Alumnae Association  
**August 18, 2018** - 6 pm to 10 pm  
Harborcreek Social Hall, 7275 Buffalo Road  
Tickets \$25 - Reserve a table of 8 for \$160  
Contact **Ann Comstock** at **(814) 899-0614 ext 2573**

## Surviving Divorce Healing Program

*Surviving Divorce Ministry*, a 12 -week group to help anyone who is separated or divorced. Runs 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). Topics to begin healing will be covered 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](mailto:familylife@eriercd.org) for more information and/or to register.

## 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 school, 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.

## 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](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org).



## 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.

## 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.

## Parishioners, employees encouraged to be cautious sharing personal information

Parishioners at an Erie parish recently received an email from a scam artist claiming to be their pastor and requesting financial help. To keep everyone safe from fraud, parishes are asked to include the following notice in their weekly bulletins and forward it to employees and volunteers: In this age when personal data can be misused by scam artists, please be aware that the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, clergy and entities such as parishes and schools will never solicit your personal or business information by any method unless initiated by you. Should you receive an unsolicited request for such information—including a request for gift cards of any type—exercise extreme caution. Contact the person or entity by using official contact information only. Do not use contact information provided in the potential fraudulent request.



## CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Latin America is home to millions of faithful Catholics. However, due to circumstances of distance, terrain, political instability and lack of resources, it is often very difficult for the people to practice their faith. In fact, in some rural areas of Mexico, priests and catechists are only able to visit the villages twice a year. Many of these communities lack books and religious materials, while others do not even have a church or education center.

The annual collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA) allows us to help. For example, thousands of people living in the Amazon jungle of Ecuador can grow in their Catholic Faith through materials now published in their native language. The CLA collection has helped to produce and distribute prayer and catechetical books. It has helped to fund Catholic radio programs which are now broadcast over a wide territory. Your contributions in previous years have made a real difference in sharing our Catholic faith with others.

Today I ask you to renew your support for our brothers and sisters in Latin America. I invite you 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. Please know my gratitude for your generosity. Be assured of my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+Lawrence T. Persico*

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL  
Bishop of Erie



## Sunset Mass

Sunday, Aug. 19 @ 7:00 PM

This mass will count for your Sunday obligation.



### **Glinodo Conference Center**

Off of East Lake Road just east of Mount  
St. Benedict

*Please do not drive on the grass*

**Bring a chair and bug spray**

**Cookies and punch fellowship to follow**

(Could you bring a plate of cookies to share?)



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