

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

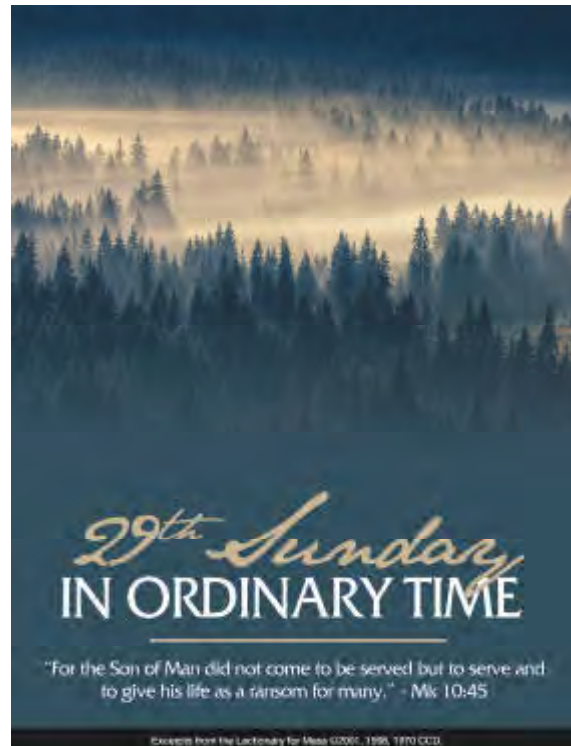
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

October 21, 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. 10/22	7:00 p.m.	Living the Liturgy Series
Tue. 10/23	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC Steel Magnolias SCC Legion of Mary Prayer Shawl Religious Ed. Gr. 3 Grade 4-6 Retreat AA Meeting
Wed. 10/24	9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Storytime Diamonds in the Rough SCC Family Grace Support Group
Thur. 10/25	7:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC Painting Class Prayer Shawl
Fri. 10/26	6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal Respect Life Month Adoration
Sat. 10/27	10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	AA Meeting Confirmation Set-Up Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 10/28	9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	K-2 Religious Ed. Confirmation Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 10/22	8:30 a.m.	Donald Ross <i>(Donna Ross)</i>
Tue. 10/23	8:30 a.m.	Peggy Badach <i>(Badach Family)</i>
Wed. 10/24	8:30 a.m.	Arthur & Betty Steadman <i>(Gerri Gallagher)</i>
Thur. 10/25	8:30 a.m.	Denny Smith <i>(Kathleen & Timothy Crotty)</i>
Fri. 10/26	8:30 a.m.	Sam Garwig <i>(Liana Pasquale)</i>
Sat. 10/27	8:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Jim Sheridan <i>(Jim & Mary Ann Tatar)</i>
Sun. 10/28	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	For the People of OLM Joan Spiegel <i>(Spiegel Family)</i>

Liturgy is Life

‘Liturgy is Life’, a four-week interactive, educational, and spiritual look at the Mass continues TOMORROW evening, Monday, October 22 at 7p.m. in the chapel. Please consider attending this experience, present by Brandon Vogt. Tomorrow’s presentation is the “Eucharistic Prayer”.

In Loving Memory

We remember: **Daisy Pratt**, mother of Sherri Towell; **Tim Yanksky**, nephew of Char DeDionisio; and **Freda Rizzo**. Please keep them and their families 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**.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 10/22	Eph 2:1-10	/ Luke 12:13-21
Tue. 10/23	Eph 2:12-22	/ Luke 12:35-38
Wed. 10/24	Eph 3:2-12	/ Luke 12:39-48
Thur. 10/25	Eph 3:14-21	/ Luke 12:49-53
Fri. 10/26	Eph 4:1-6	/ Luke 12:54-59
Sat. 10/27	Eph 4:7-16	/ Luke 13:1-9
Sun. 10/28	Jer 31:7-9 / Heb 5:1-6 / Mark 10:46-52	

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



Mark 10:35-45

If we are honest, most of us would want others to serve us rather than our serving others. James and John didn't want to be lowly servants; they wanted positions of power and glory. It wasn't a polite, “May we, please?” but “We want you to grant our request.” Jesus knew that they didn't understand what it meant to be his followers. Unbelievers may exercise authority by trying to “lord it over” others, but if they want to aspire to greatness, they must serve others as Jesus did. Being a disciple means radical self-denial and self-sacrifice, sharing the cup of Jesus’s suffering and being immersed in his bath of pain.

Jesus doesn't stand aloof from our sinful nature. He knows what temptation is like. He is like the Jewish high Priest who entered the temple sanctuary to intercede for the sins of the people. Because Jesus sympathizes with our human weakness, we can confidently approach God, trusting in divine mercy whenever we are in need. The psalmist reminds us that God’s “eyes” are on those who stand in awe of God’s ways.

For Reflection: Am I a willing servant of my family and community?




Social Justice Committee

Nuns on the Bus Rally

NETWORK's Nuns on the Bus Tour is coming to Erie! Join the rally Monday, Oct. 22 at 2:00 in Perry Square Park. Who we elect matters. NETWORK's Nuns on the Bus is on the road again— for the first time in two years — to hold members of Congress accountable for their votes on the 2017 Tax Law and the many attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER

The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Oct. 9 was Ryder Daniels, Gr. 3, who knew that the Blessed Trinity is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God in three Divine Persons.



NEW! Social Media Committee



Have you ever wanted to join a ministry, but felt more comfortable being “behind the scenes”? This is the perfect opportunity for you! OLM has formed a new committee focused on Social Media. The goal of the Social

Media Committee is to bring the “social” aspect into our already established Social Media pages. We will be working with Facebook and Twitter and would like to establish a presence on Instagram and YouTube as well. If you feel like you could contribute to the parish through this new ministry, please call **Katie or Irene** in the Parish Office for more information.

Confirmation Liturgy

Our Lady of Mercy will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the **11:00 Mass on Oct. 28**. Please celebrate with the 21 young people who will be confirmed that day. If you have not yet sent your Prayer Pal a note of support and prayer, please do so in the coming weeks.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **October 14, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	99	\$4,384.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,113.00
Loose Change:		\$ 127.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$7,624.00

For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the November issue of For Mercy Sake is **TODAY October 21**.

Book Group



Longer autumn nights and cooler, wetter autumn days are the perfect excuse to get lost in a good book. And a good book is made even better by sharing it with friends.

Our November book will be Rose Kennedy: The Life and Times of a Political Matriarch by Barbara Perry.

Special need of the Food Pantry

One of our families of five has three members who are **gluten free**. Because we do not get large amounts of gluten free food, we try to give this family a gift card. If you are able, please donate a gift card for Aldi's to the food pantry.



Parking at OLM



Some of our older parishioners are looking for parking spaces closer to the door, especially for the 6pm Saturday Mass and the 11AM Sunday Mass. Although they are not officially listed as handicapped, they are unable to walk great distances. If you can walk easily, please consider parking a little further away from the doors to leave a few non-handicapped spaces open for our older parishioners who come just before Mass. This would be particularly helpful especially during the winter months.

Women's Luncheon

On Monday, Nov 5th at 1pm we will gather at the new restaurant, Ichiban, on 4041 Buffalo Rd. If you live alone and are looking for companionship and laughter please join us. Questions? Call Donna Clark in the parish office.



Family Grace Support Group

Oct 24 at 7pm will be the first meeting of the Family Grace Support Group for those who have a family member diagnosed with a mental illness. Questions? Please **contact Donna Clark in the parish office 899-5342**. The first segment of this class will run for four Wednesdays on Oct 24 and 31, November 7 and 14.



Verify Your Ministries



Please check the ministry lists in the gathering space. Please verify that you are still participating in the ministries for which we have you listed. Please update any incorrect information.

Hospital Visitation

We don't always get accurate reports of who is in the hospital because of the change in policy for the local hospitals. **If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital please call the parish office to let us know.**

ANNULMENT INFORMATION SESSIONS



The Office of the Tribunal and Matrimonial Concerns is once again taking our services on the road and offering information sessions for persons in need of an annulment. We invite anyone in need of an annulment to consider attending a meeting on **October 24, 2018**, at Sacred Heart

church, Erie. All sessions will begin at 6:30 PM and will include a presentation on the annulment process and the opportunity to meet one-on-one with members of the tribunal staff to answer individual questions. As always, please also feel free to **contact the tribunal office directly (814-824-1140)** with any questions.

Making a Connection: The Caregiver Journey

If you are a primary provider of care and support for a loved one with dementia please join us for our caregiver conference on **Thursday Nov 15th, 2018 8:45am-2:30pm** at the Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel on 55 W Bay Rd Drive, Erie, PA 16507. This event is **FREE** and will leave you feeling empowered with practical tools for caregiving! Questions? **Contact Debbie at 814-456-9200 x5101**. To register please visit: <https://conta.cc/2NOIZHu>.

Hair Care Done in Your Home

Specializing in seniors and disabled, Annette will come to your home. She can do perms, shampoo and sets, haircuts, manicures, coloring and barbering. For more information or to get in touch with **Annette please call 814-616-6946**. Annette recently moved back to Erie and joined Our Lady of Mercy.



Villa Maria Academy Open House



Open house will be held on **Sunday, October 28th from 12:00-3:00 pm**. Guided tours of the school will include classroom demonstrations, a look at our modern classrooms and science labs, and will highlight the college credit opportunities, 3-

D Printers, dance studio, auditorium, fitness center and café. Visitors will also get an in depth look at the academic curriculum. Villa will have applications available and there is no fee to apply. Students in attendance will be entered in a drawing for discounts on tuition. Villa Maria Academy is located at 2403 West 8th Street, Erie PA, 16505. If you have any questions please call **838-2061, ext. 3239**.

Respect Life Month: Young Adult Adoration

Friday, Oct 26, 7pm Young adults from around the Diocese are invited to join us to worship Christ in community with the Church through Eucharistic adoration, confession, praise and worship music, and benediction. October is Respect Life Month, which will be highlighted in Fr. Ritchie's reflection and praise & worship music selections. Around 8pm, we can grab dinner together, with free appetizers thanks to the Social Justice and Life Office of the Diocese! Join us for as much or as little of the evening as your schedule allows. Bring a friend!

LIFELONG Faith Formation

Grade 4, 5 & 6 Retreat

There will be a special retreat for all youth in Grade 4, 5 & 6 religious education class on **Tuesday, Oct. 23**. The retreat will begin when the children arrive on the school bus and will conclude at 7:00 PM. Dinner will be served.



Story Time



There is something new for pre-school children and their parents! It is our Wednesday morning Story Time: music, games activities, snack and stories guarantee a fun-filled hour for all. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings at 9:30 under the skylight in the classroom area. All are welcome. Bring a friend. There is no cost. **Our next session is Oct. 24.**

Autumn Scripture Study

Autumn Scripture Study: All are invited to a 4 week Scripture Study on 1 Samuel **beginning Nov. 1**. The sessions will be held **Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:30** in the Conference Room. Nov. 1 – Samuel, Nov. 8 – Saul, Nov. 15 – David, Nov. 29 – David. There are no books to purchase, no need to register. All are welcome.



Family Faith Event



Families in the Sunday Morning religious education class are reminded that there is a special session for the entire family on **Nov. 4**. Parents, and the entire family, are asked to join their child for a time of faith formation. Activities at these Family Faith Events are accomplished between parent and child, so **no child should come to class alone on Nov. 4**. We will gather in Sperry Hall.

First Eucharist Parent Meeting

Parents of children preparing to celebrate their First Eucharist in May are reminded of an important meeting on **Sunday, Nov. 11 at 9:45 in Sperry Hall**.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

There has been a request to have Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 8:30 Mass. We can only make this possible if we have 4 volunteer leaders willing to be on a rotating schedule. If you are interested in being part of this ministry at the 8:30 Mass, **contact Irene to learn more at 899-6132 or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org**.



You Are Invited To A Morning of Reflection

For Adults in the Parish

When: Sat. Nov. 3 @ 9:00AM-1:30PM

Where: Our Lady of Mercy

"Go And Make Disciples of All Nations: Sent By Christ to the World"

Evangelization and discipleship are central activities for living our shared Christian vocation in the world. At times, we struggle as church communities to find ways to bring the Gospel to new situations in a rapidly changing world full of opportunities and challenges. The struggles are real, but not necessarily unique to us today. Like us, generation after generation of Christians have worked and struggled to faithfully follow Jesus' command to "go and make disciples of all nations." Drawing upon the victories and failures of previous generations, this morning of reflection, through presentation and discussion, prayer and reflection, will invite participants to reflect on what Jesus' call to discipleship looks like in the 21st century and empower them to respond to this call in the midst of our complex world.

Presented by Dr. Eric Dart

Dr. Eric S. Dart is an Assistant Professor in Theology at Gannon University where he also directs the graduate program in Pastoral Studies.

Through your ministry at Our Lady of Mercy, you give so much to so many. You are a light that leads others to know Christ more deeply. It is important that your spirit is nourished and your faith renewed. This day is our gift to you for the gift you are to us.

Lunch will be provided

RSVP to the parish 899-6132 by Oct. 29



Our Lady of Mercy Day of Service

Saturday November 10, 2018

9:00 a.m. until Noon

If you are or know a parishioner in need of help raking, putting away lawn furniture, pulling out annuals, etc., please contact Irene at 899-6132 by October 28th.

If you are willing to lend a helping hand by providing the above services to parishioners in need, please sign up in the Gathering Space. OLM is a family, and families help one another.

*Give of
your hands
to serve and
your hearts
to love.
-Mother Teresa*



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