

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

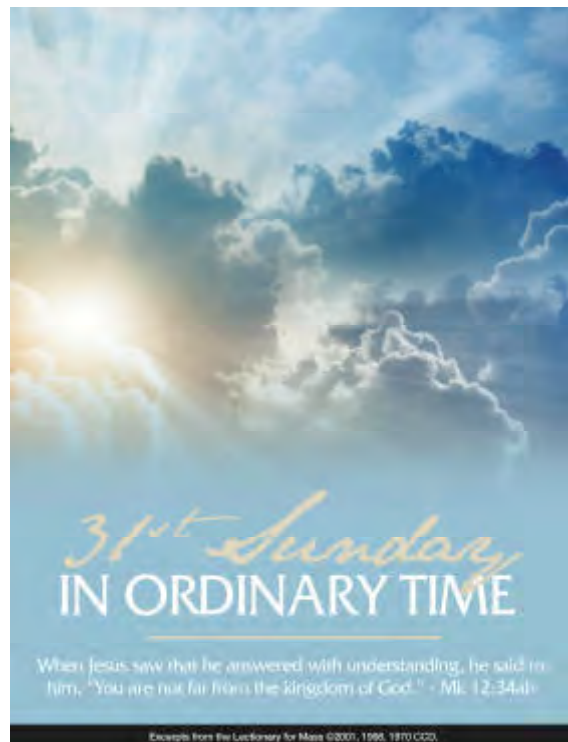
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: info@ourladyofmercychurch.org

November 4, 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. 11/05		
Tue. 11/06	9:30 a.m.	Potter’s Clay SCC
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	1:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6
	5:30 p.m.	Children’s Choir
	6:00 p.m.	Sister Parish Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
Wed. 11/07	7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Harborcreek Ministerial Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Family Grace Support Group
Thur. 11/08	7:00 p.m.	Fruit of the Vine SCC
	9:00 a.m.	Autumn Scripture Study
	9:00 a.m.	Painting Class
	3:00 p.m.	Social Justice
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:45 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 11/09		
Sat. 11/10		Gr. 9 Rite of Acceptance-All Masses
	8:30 a.m.	Parish Service Day
	10:00 a.m.	AA Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	AA Traditions Study
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 11/11		Gr. 9 Rite of Acceptance-All Masses
	9:30 a.m.	Gr. K-2 Religious Ed.
	9:45 a.m.	First Eucharist Parent Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 7 & 8 Religious Ed
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 10 Retreat at OLM

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**.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 11/05	Phil 2:1-4	/ Luke 14:12-14
Tue. 11/06	Phil 2:5-11	/ Luke 14:15-24
Wed. 11/07	Phil 2:12-18	/ Luke 14:15-24
Thur. 11/08	Phil 3:3-8	/ Luke 15:1-10
Fri. 11/09	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/ 1	Cor 3:9-11,16-17 / John 2:13-22
Sat. 11/10	Phil 4:10-19	/ Luke 16:9-15
Sun. 11/11	1Kgs 17:10-16 / Heb 9:24-28	/ Mark 12:38-44

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 11/05	8:30 a.m.	Rod Haynes <i>(Sue Haynes)</i>
Tue. 11/06	8:30 a.m.	Jim Bucklin <i>(Lorraine Bucklin)</i>
Wed. 11/07	8:30 a.m.	Margaret Klick
Thur. 11/08	8:30 a.m.	James Boris <i>(The Extein Family)</i>
Fri. 11/09	8:30 a.m.	Charles Taccone <i>(John & Irene Abbate)</i>
Sat. 11/10	8:30 a.m.	
	6:00 p.m.	Charlene Eckendorf <i>(Tom & Bonnie Eckendorf)</i>
Sun. 11/11	8:30 a.m.	The People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	George Martin <i>(The Stephenson Family)</i>

OFFICE NEWS



Due to the approaching Holiday Season, all content for the November 18th bulletin needs to be submitted to Katie in the parish office by November 8th and content for the November 25th bulletin needs to be submitted by November 13th. Please email any information to secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



Mark 12:38-44

Becoming saints of God may seem to be an impossible quest. But giving just one cup of water to another person brings an irrevocable reward. Elijah the prophet asked a poor widow for a cup of water and a bit of bread. It was the middle of a drought, and she and her son were on the verge of starvation, but she obeyed. The prophet calmed her fears; God cannot be outdone in generosity. God secures justice for the oppressed, provides food for the hungry, heals the afflicted, and uplifts those bowed down by adversity.

Jesus contrasted those who served for personal gain with a humble widow who assisted others in gratitude for the little she had. While the rich gave from their surplus wealth, she gave from her sustenance.

Jesus is our model of self-giving. In life he poured himself out through his service to all who were in need. In his death, he offered his own blood in expiation for sin. As high priest in the heavenly sanctuary, Jesus continues to intercede on our behalf.

For Reflection: Do I withhold my resources from those in need? How much am I willing to serve God today?



Social Justice Committee

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 6. Prayerfully consider the candidates and be a participant by casting your vote. Unsure of your polling place? Check out this website: <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/pollingplaceinfo.aspx>

Upcoming Events

The Erie Pro-Life community has three events in January 2019 that provide you an opportunity to speak out on behalf of unborn children and the unalienable right to life.

PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST - Saturday, January 12th, 9:00 AM Erie Bayfront Convention Center, reservations are \$17 or \$9 for children 3-12; Featuring Uju Ekeocha, internationally acclaimed Pro-Life speaker and founder and president of Life Africa.

DC MARCH FOR LIFE - Friday, January 18th Annual bus trip sponsored by People For Life. \$55 per seat, \$50 if registered by 12/17.

ERIE MARCH FOR LIFE - Saturday, January 26th, 11:00 AM. Begins and concludes at Perry Square.

Contact People For Life at: www.peopleforlife.life or **882-1333** for information/reservations. You can also call **Phil Legler at 504-1048** for information.

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. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, we will meet on the 4th Wednesday of November. Join us **Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 7:00** at the home of Marilyn Garwig **1320 Boyer Rd.** In December, we will gather to watch and discuss a movie, so come with suggestions for a good flick to view.



Volunteers for the OLM Day of Service

OLM is a family and families help one another. On **Saturday, Nov. 10**, we are organizing teams of parishioners to assist the elderly or disabled in the parish to complete their yard work. There is a sign up list for those willing to volunteer. Please consider giving one morning to help those in our community who need a hand.



Autumn Scripture Study

Our Scripture Study has begun, but it is not too late to join. On **Nov. 8 from 9:00-10:30**, we will discuss King Saul. The study will continue on Nov. 15 and 29 with a look at King David.



Advent Family Party

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, Dec. 2 from noon to 2:00 PM** for a time to "Prepare for Christmas in an Old Fashioned Way". Bring a treat that reminds you of Christmases of old. If you have a picture or ornament from your childhood Christmases, please bring it to share. There will be crafts and activities for children, fellowship and memories for adults, and the chance of a surprise guest for all. The event is free and open to everyone.



Women's Luncheon

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



Family Grace Support Group

The next meeting is **Wednesday Nov 7 at 7:00pm**. The group is for those who have a family member diagnosed with a mental illness. If you are unable to attend but are interested please contact **Donna Clark** in the parish office **899-5342**.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER
The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Oct. 23 was **Anthony Kohut, Gr. 5**, who knew that our bishop is Bishop Lawrence Persico. 

Congratulations!

We rejoice with the 21 high school seniors who celebrated Confirmation at the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, October 28th. May they always respond generously to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in their lives.



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.

Newsletter Mailing Party

We will be stuffing the newsletter into envelopes at **9:00 AM Monday, Nov. 12**. If you can help for an hour, please contact Irene at **899-6132** or ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **October 28, 2018**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	101	\$3,082.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,113.00
Loose Change:		\$ 299.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$6,793.00



CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

HOMELESS YOUTH AND PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

We consider our homes to be safe places for our children, but 1.7 million US youth experience homelessness every year. 50,000 youth sleep on the streets for six months or more each year. One of the main causes of youth homelessness is family instability, which includes child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse and family conflict. The website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network offers information on a range of child safety topics. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>.

Counseling Notice



Based on directives from the Diocesan Offices we are unable to host private counseling in the parish at this time. We will be putting together a resource so people will have options when seeking counseling. For assistance, please contact Donna Clark in the parish office.

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.



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.

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>.



Verify Your Ministries

If you have not already done so please contact the parish office to verify your ministry involvement. Ask for Donna or Katie. We are updating all our lists for accuracy.

SAVE THE DATE

Monday, December 3, 2018 at 7 pm. A Time to Heal offered by OLM Healing Ministry. More info in future bulletins.



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.

BINGO

The Saint Benedict Academy Alumnae Association is sponsoring a CASH BINGO on Sunday, November 11, 2018. Don't miss your chance to win MONEY!! The BINGO will be held at the Polish Falcons Club, 431 E 3rd St from 1 to 4 pm. Doors will open at noon. The kitchen and bar will be available. All games are played for CASH. Top Prize is \$300. Cost is \$20 per pack of 9 cards. Extra packs - \$10. Instants and 50/50 Split Games. Come join us.



Ways to Give Back this Season

Christmas Caring Tree Program
The Ella Cochran Food Pantry's "Christmas Caring Tree" will be on display the weekend of November 17th and 18th to allow time to shop for gifts. If you would like to brighten a child's or Senior's Christmas, please take a name from the tree and return a wrapped gift by December 8th and 9th.

Operation Assisting Santa:
Our mission, in conjunction with the Erie Vets Hospital, is to insure that Local Veterans and their families, who might not be able to do so otherwise, have Christmas gifts for their children. We are looking for people to 'adopt' children off of our 'Santa's Good Kid List'. We supply the age, gender, and what the child would like (we actually ask the parents). The person goes out and buys the gift(s)...we collect them....wrap them....and distribute them at a luncheon where we honor the Veterans and their families. The children's info will be available starting November 17th....all gifts should be in by December 2nd. Thank you in advance for your support. Mochie Zielewski 814-823-6506

**Win
Big
Prizes**

KoC Chance of a Lifetime Sweepstakes



Tickets on sale the weekends of November 4, 11 and 18.

Or in the parish office
Monday-Friday 9am-3pm.

Price: \$1 each -or-
\$7 for a book of 8.

There are 16 terrific prizes in all! First prize is a 2019 Chevrolet Spark! Other prizes include: Vacations to Portugal & Spain A Scandinavian Cruise, Trips to California, New England and Las Vegas.



Profits from this fundraiser are applied to the cost of Bibles for the Confirmation classes at Our Lady of Mercy.



Our very own Audrey and Dick Miller won the Southern Sound Tour prize last year!!!

Harborcreek Community Thanksgiving Service



*In all things
GIVE thanks!*



South Harborcreek United Methodist Church will host this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on **Sunday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m.**

All are invited to attend. The offering will go to the Ella Cochran Food Pantry. Refreshments will follow.

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