

# 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

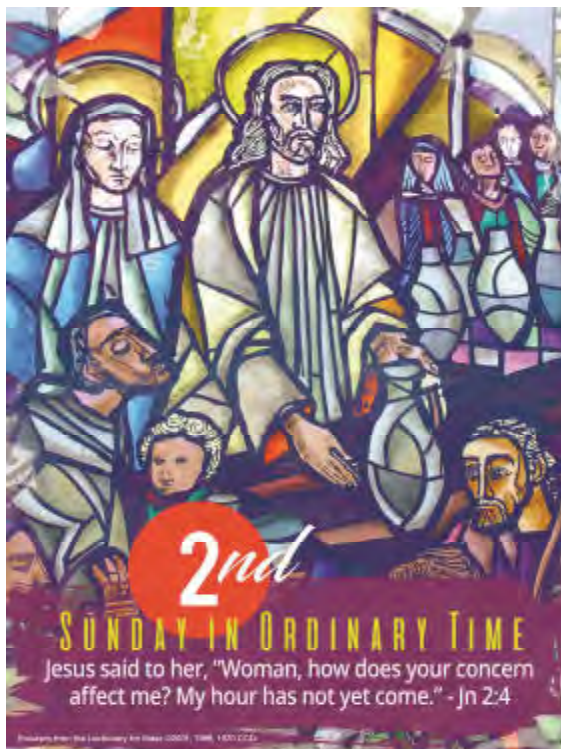
Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

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

January 20, 2019



## 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)

<b>Mon. 01/21</b>	4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Board Sister Parish Meeting Grief Support Group
<b>Tue. 01/22</b>	9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Steel Magnolias Potter's Clay Story Time Legion of Mary Prayer Shawl Religious Ed. Gr. 3-6 Children's Choir AA Meeting
<b>Wed. 01/23</b>	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough
<b>Thur. 01/24</b>	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Painting Class Prayer Shawl
<b>Fri. 01/25</b>		
<b>Sat. 01/26</b>	10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	AA Meeting Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 01/27</b>	9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m.  9:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:15 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr. K-2 First Reconciliation Parent Meeting Study on Prayer Gr. 7 & 8 Youth Event Gr. 11 Interviews

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 01/21</b>	Heb 5:1-10	/ Mark 2:18-22
<b>Tue. 01/22</b>	Heb 6:10-20	/ Mark 2:23-28
<b>Wed. 01/23</b>	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17	/ Mark 3:1-6
<b>Thur. 01/24</b>	Heb 7:25-8:6	/ Mark 3:7-12
<b>Fri. 01/25</b>	Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22	/ Mark 16:15-18
<b>Sat. 01/26</b>	2 Tm 1:1-8	/ Mark 3:20-21
<b>Sun. 01/27</b>	Neh 8:2-6, 8-10	/ 1Cor 12:12-30
	/ Luke 1:1-4; 4; 14-21	

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 01/21</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>William Morschhauser</b> <i>(Leo &amp; Patricia Kosobucki)</i>
<b>Tue. 01/22</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Frank Gerlach</b> <i>(Tim &amp; Cathy Merski)</i>
<b>Wed. 01/23</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>The Cathy Altieri Family</b> <i>(Ellen)</i>
<b>Thur. 01/24</b>	8:30 a.m.	
<b>Fri. 01/25</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Lewis Peters</b> <i>(Carole Peters)</i>
<b>Sat. 01/26</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Ken Burt</b> <i>(Prayer Shawl Ministry)</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<b>Tom Rinke</b> <i>(Phil &amp; Karen Miller)</i>
<b>Sun. 01/27</b>	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b> <b>Yolanda DiRaimo</b> <i>(Family)</i>

## 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**.



## In Loving Memory

We remember **Paula Wieczorek**, sister of Donna Zaksheski; and **Jim Gray**, cousin of Jerry Gowen. Please keep them and their family in your prayers.



### First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

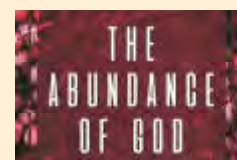
There will be a very important parent meeting on **Sunday, Jan. 27 at 9:45** for families with children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation in March.

### For Mercy Sake Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the February issue of the parish newsletter is **Sunday, Jan. 27**. Items can be sent to [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or brought to the office.

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

**JOHN 2:1-12**



The prophet Isaiah viewed a broken marriage as a metaphor for Israel's relationship with God. When Israel was in exile, the people felt abandoned and unworthy of God's love. But, God had not forgotten them. Like a loving bridegroom going forth at night to meet his bride, so God came in the darkness to greet the beloved, forgiving their sins and espousing them again. Israel's vindication was as bright as the dawn. All nations beheld her glory.

Jesus was the bridegroom who poured choice wine for the guests at the wedding banquet. At Cana, the wine had run out. Nothing satisfied the people's spiritual thirst. Mary presented their need to her son: "They have no wine." Jesus offered them new wine in exchange for bland, polluted water, grace overflowing on grace.

**For Reflection:** Am I a sign of new wine in my community? How can I satisfy the thirsty people in need of God's mercy and love?



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

The MLK Memorial March takes place Monday, 11:30 a.m., in Perry Square, downtown Erie. The community march will continue to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center, 312 Chestnut St. A memorial service to follow at center auditorium, with refreshments and performances by the Erie Dance Theater, gospel choirs, more.

The church is sensitive to a racial attitude and by no means find racism morally acceptable. Racism is seen as a sin in the Catholic Church. It is a sin that divides the human family and damages the image of God among specific groups within that family and violates the basic human dignity of God's children. Racism is a sin that says that specific humans are superior to others and that others are inferior because of their race. Racism mocks the words of Jesus "Treat others the way you would have them treat you".

This is an extract from the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (Second Edition - PART THREE, SECTION ONE, CHAPTER TWO, ARTICLE 3 - SOCIAL JUSTICE )

### Parish Mardi Gras

The annual parish Mardi Gras is undergoing renovations. This year's celebration will move to a Saturday evening and will feature a wine and beer taste-off. If you brew your own beer or make your own wine and are willing to put it to the test, sign up in the Gathering Space. There will be a cash prize for the winner. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 2 from 7:00-10:00 PM**. Watch the bulletin for more details.



### Homebound Ministry needs help

We are looking for a few people who can mail or drop off a bulletin to 3 of our homebound people. Locations: near the Shurfine, near the old Waterfall Restaurant, near Pennbriar Athletic Club. **Contact Donna Clark.**



### OLM Book Group

The OLM Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 7:00 PM** to discuss Doc by Mary Dorea Russell.



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **January 13, 2019**

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	94	\$3,716.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	118	\$3,122.00
Loose Change:		\$ 134.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$6,972.00</b>

\*\*\*\*\*  
**QUESTION OF THE WEEK WINNER**  
 The Question-of-the-Week Winner for the week of Jan. 6 was **Johnny Catrabone, Gr. 1**, who knew that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment tells us that we must go to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation.  
 \*\*\*\*\*



### Study on Prayer

It is not too late to join the 8 week study on prayer which will hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> session next **Sunday, Jan. 27**. The group meets Sunday from **9:45-10:45 AM** in the Conference Room.



### Parish Alive

Make a New Year's resolution to ignite a deeper relationship with God or deepen your connection to the parish. Make a Parish Alive weekend **Feb. 15-16**. This retreat is open to all parish members over the age of 18. It begins with Friday evening supper and ends with Saturday evening Mass. The retreat is free, but **registration by Feb. 1** is required. To register, use the form in the November issue of For Mercy Sake or use the form at the parish website. For more information, **contact Irene Lucas at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org)**.



### Electric Wheel Chair

If you or someone you know is in need of an electric wheel chair in good condition please **contact Donna Clark** in the parish office.



### Women's Conference - save the date

Fifth Annual Catholic Women's conference in Erie is Saturday, March 30, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Our Lady of Peace Parish For more information and to register visit [www.138women.com](http://www.138women.com) or call **814-455-7364**. This year the theme of the conference is "Live JOY-fully!", relating to Nehemiah 8:10: "The joy of the Lord is my strength."



### Question & Answer With the Pastor

On **Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7:00 PM**, join Fr. Ritchie for a conversation about the Catholic faith focused on your questions. Bring a friend and enjoy this opportunity to ask or discuss what is on your mind regarding our faith. A glass of wine and light snacks will be provided. Participants are welcome to bring a snack to share, but not required.



### De Colores - Cursillo Choir

The Cursillo Choir will be singing at **6 p.m.** Mass on **Saturday January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. If you are singing, please be at the Church by 5 p.m. for practice. There will be a social afterwards in Sperry Hall. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.



### Hospital Visitation

If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital, please **call the parish office** to let us know. We are unable to obtain accurate hospital reports because of the HIPPA laws.



### Calling All Cheerleaders

The Mercyhurst Prep Cheerleaders are having a 2-Day Camp and Game Day for students in Preschool through 8th Grade in February! For further information, please contact **Coach Tina Asmus** at [tinampieri@gmail.com](mailto:tinampieri@gmail.com).

### To Report Abuse

Victims or concerned individuals can report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the Dioceses of Erie: [ErieRCD@KLGates.com](mailto:ErieRCD@KLGates.com). People are also welcome to contact the diocese directly at **814-451-1543** or call the PA ChildLine at **800-932-0313**.



### 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.

### Help for Heating - LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was open to help alleviate heating bill stress on low income families. A family of four with a gross annual income of \$37,650, qualifies for a grant. To find out if you qualify based on your household size and income, how to apply and what you need to apply, see the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space.



### #ThinkAboutItOLM

This weeks Social Media #ThinkAboutItOLM "Think About It" is:

**Welcome back to Ordinary Time!**

Though we are now in Ordinary Time, we are reminded that God is nothing short of extraordinary. Share a story of an extraordinary act of kindness you have witnessed.

Be on the look out for this #ThinkAboutItOLM post on the Our Lady of Mercy Facebook page and respond in the comment section below. Don't forget to share on your personal Facebook page using #ThinkAboutItOLM so we can all stay connected!

### Grief Support

The grief journey is different for each person. For one-on-one support **contact Donna Clark** who can match you with someone from the grief ministry. Our Monthly support group meets on the **third Monday of the month at 7pm** in the parish parlor. The next group meeting is **January 21**.



### Family Faith Event



Families with children in the Sunday morning religious education ministry are reminded that we have a Family Faith Event on **Sunday, Feb. 10**. This event, which runs during the regularly scheduled religious education time slot, is for the entire family. At least one parent or grandparent should accompany children to class that day. The event will be held in Sperry Hall from **9:30-10:45**.

### Eucharist for the Homebound

If you notice that someone has not been in their usual space at Mass for a number of weeks let us know. Perhaps this person cannot get out any more or they have stopped driving or are recovering from surgery. Our community has a number of Eucharistic ministers who visit the homebound. If you would like to bring Eucharist to the homebound please **contact Donna Clark**.



## Can you help? Overflow Shelter for the Homeless

The Overflow Shelter is in need of the following:

#### Shift Work:

Male Subs for second shift(11pm to 3) am and third shift (3 am to 7am) any day; **Jan 16 to 29** or **Feb 27 to March 12** (Will be called when needed) Can you offer to be on call for a day or two?

#### Meals:

Coverage for 3 dinners from **Feb. 27-March 12**.

Breakfast helper(s) (a female willing to work 4am-7am during **March** session).

#### Shift Worker:

1st shift helper single openings on **March 2, 4, 11 & 12**.

**If you are able to volunteer your time to this ministry, please call Mary Ellen Lieb at 873-1284, or Donna Clark in the Parish Office at 899-5342.**

## Help Spread the Faith

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have always understood the value of good communications. The work I've been called to as bishop of the Diocese of Erie is not done in a vacuum. Responding to the needs that surfaced early in my tenure, I took a collaborative approach to restructuring in both schools and parishes. I consulted with many advisors, but also opened the conversation to all parishioners, inviting feedback and using it to help shape our future.

I also have worked to keep you informed about my responses to the serious challenges of the past year. A number of people have asked me how they could be helpful to me after the release of the grand jury report. One way is to stay informed. Read the statements I've issued along the way, rather than relying on headlines or social media posts that don't always capture the full story. When the subject comes up with family, friends or colleagues, encourage them to do the same.

One way to stay informed is to visit [www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org). We now have an even more user-friendly site with state-of-the-art technology that makes it easy for you to access, whether you are on a laptop, a tablet or your phone. Our homepage has a link to all of my statements, and the news tab will take you to our latest stories. While you're there, be sure to subscribe to our free, weekly Diocese of Erie-news, an engaging mix of links to diocesan, national and international news of interest to Catholics.

I am grateful for your contributions to the *Help Spread the Faith* campaign scheduled to take place in parishes the weekend of Jan. 26-27, 2019. Your support will ensure we continue to have access to valuable communications tools, including our website, Faith Magazine and a strong array of digital options.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+Lawrence T. Persico*

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



## *OLM Sister Parish* **Mardi Gras Celebration**

Join us for a night of fun to help benefit our sister parish in Peto, Mexico.

**When:** Saturday, March 2, 2018 – 7:00PM-10:00PM

**Where:** Our Lady of Mercy Sperry Hall – Bartlett Road, Erie, PA

**How Much:** \$10 Admission Ticket

Admission will include Taco Dinner, Beer and Wine and entertainment including:

- *Murder Mystery - Prize Drawing*
- *Homemade Brew and Wine Contest - Cash Prize*
- *Tip Boards*
- *Reverse Raffle - Grand Prize \$500.00*

◦ Admission ticket gives you one chance at the reverse raffle. Attendance not needed to win.

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