

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH



## *VISION STATEMENT*

Encountering Christ,  
Growing in His love,  
Serving in His name.

## Discipleship Pathway

Listening to our hearts, we respond to the Lord's invitation to journey together on the path of discipleship.



## Parish Staff

Fr. Matthew Kujawinski, Pastor  
Deacon Paul Barko, Deacon Assistant  
Irene Lucas, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation  
Katie Stephenson, Administrative Assistant  
Sue Berdis, Business Administrator  
Kirk Mientkiewicz, Maintenance Coordinator  
Jane Mallin, Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary  
Brandon Vogt, Director of Music and Liturgy  
Nick Heise, Parish Impact Coordinator

## Contact Information

Address: 837 Bartlett Rd. Harborcreek, PA 16421  
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)  
Website: [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)

## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.

## Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, Breath of the Creator,  
as advocate whom the Father sent,  
fall afresh with the sparks of faith  
on this community.

Ignite our hearts to give bold witness of your love;  
creating a culture of belonging.

Open our eyes to the present,  
enable us to see your vision for our future;  
showing us the way to go.

Give us the wisdom to wait for you  
as we trust you to teach us and guide us.

May we be filled with passion and desire  
to intentionally and eagerly journey  
the path you have laid out for us.

Amen

# April 7, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

## THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

<b>Mon. 04/08</b>	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>	
	6:00 p.m.	Roman Candles SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation at St. Gregory
<b>Tue. 04/09</b>	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	10:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr 3-6
	5:45 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
	6:30 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
<b>Wed. 04/10</b>	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	6:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
	7:00 p.m.	Knights of Columbus
<b>Thur. 04/11</b>	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
<b>Fri. 04/12</b>	7:00 p.m.	Ultreya
<b>Sat. 04/13</b>	12:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 04/14</b>	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr K-2 & 9
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday CAFÉ
	12:00 p.m.	Gr. 7 & 8 EDGE

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 04/08</b>	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
<b>Tue. 04/09</b>	Acts 4:32-37 / Jn 3:7b-15
<b>Wed. 04/10</b>	Acts 5:17-26 / Jn 3:16-21
<b>Thur. 04/11</b>	Acts 5:27-33 / Jn 3:31-36
<b>Fri. 04/12</b>	Acts 5:34-42 / Jn 6:1-15
<b>Sat. 04/13</b>	Acts 6:1-7 / Jn 6:16-21
<b>Sun. 04/14</b>	Acts 3:13-19 / 1 Jn 2:1-5 / Lk 24:35-48

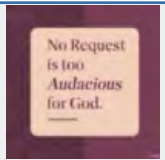
## STAFF EXTENSION NUMBERS

Our new phone system allows someone to dial the staff extension directly if you get our recorded message. Here is the staff directory:

- Fr Matt.....226
- Deacon Paul.....233
- Katie.....210
- Irene.....214
- Kirk.....216
- Brandon.....211
- Sue.....213

## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chair.

The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

— Father John Muir  
©LPi

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **March 31, 2024**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	54	\$ 3,975.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,183.95
Loose Change:		\$ 666.91
Easter Offering:		\$ 1,215.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$ 9,040.86</b>

## PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Call **Donna Smicker** at 814-899-9108

4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Call **Gerri Extein** at 814-490-9681



## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 04/08</b>		<b>- NO MASS -</b>
<b>Tue. 04/09</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Clemens Herrmann</b> (Family)
<b>Wed. 04/10</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Frank Butera</b>
<b>Thur. 04/11</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Helen Behringer</b> (Donna & Lee Auditory)
<b>Fri. 04/12</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>Girolama Abbate</b> (John Abbate)
<b>Sat. 04/13</b>	6:00 p.m.	<b>Bill Spring</b> (Family)
<b>Sun. 04/14</b>	8:30 a.m.	<b>For the People of OLM</b>
	11:00 a.m.	<b>Bernice Martin</b> (The Stephenson Family)



### Ministry to Homebound Parishioners

If you are or if you know of a parishioner who is unable to be present for the Sunday Mass due to frail health or limited mobility and who would like the Eucharist brought to their house, please call Irene in the parish office at **814-899-6132**. If you are willing to bring the Eucharist to the homebound, please contact Irene Lucas in the Faith Formation Office.



### Confirmation Prayer Pals



We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **April 8** with St. Gregory parish. Remember to pray for the young person highlighted in your Prayer Pal booklet. Send her or him a note of support and sign your name. If you were not here the weekend that the booklets were distributed, extra copies can be found on the bulletin tables.

### Meal Ministry

Our Lady of Mercy has a new ministry to provide meals for families during difficult times. If you know of a parish family who would be blessed by having a home cooked meal arrive at their door, contact Irene at **814-899-6132**.



### Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

Christ has no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Many of our parishioners are limited by age or physical ability to drive to doctor appointments. They need their parish family to be the arms of Christ to help them. We are starting a new ministry at OLM of people willing to be called on if a parishioner needs a ride to a doctor's appointment. If you are willing to be on a list of people we can call on, contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or call **814-899-6132**.



### Spiritual Direction Workshop

What Is It For and Who Is It For? The ministry of spiritual direction goes back to the early centuries of Christianity. In our time, this holy practice has received renewed attention. But many people in the pews have only a vague idea of what spiritual direction is, who it is for or how to find a director. If you are curious, join us on **Monday, April 29 at 6:30** for a workshop given by Sr. Rosemary O'Brien, and Mary Fuhrman. This evening is for anyone who would like to know more about spiritual direction, including what happens in a direction session.



### Book Group

Join us on **Wednesday, April 17** at the home of Donna Huff, 4517 North Woods Dr., @ **7:00** to discuss The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride.

## FORMED.ORG

If you are new to the parish, you can enjoy formed.org for free by signing up as part of the parish subscription. All you need is your email, then select the option for an "institution or parish" subscription and search for Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek.

### Sunday Morning \*C\*A\*F\*E\*

Join us for a spring CAFÉ on **Sunday, April 14 from 9:45-10:45** in Sperry Hall. Enjoy fresh brewed coffee, delicious homemade treats and an inspirational speaker. Barbara Emory and Justin Leroy are rescheduled from January when a snow storm forced the cancellation of our last CAFÉ. This mother and son will share their experience of encountering God's abundant love and unflinching care on the road of addiction.



### Sundae Sunday



Celebrate the sweet Easter season and joy of spring with an ice cream sundae bar and cake walk. Join us **after the 11:00 Mass on April 28**. If you can bake and donate a cake for the cake walk, contact Irene or sign up on the easel in the Gathering Space.

### Vacation Bible School 2024

It is time to plan for another fun-filled week of VBS excitement at OLM. We are recruiting volunteers to help make this week a blast for our young people. If you are willing to help us create a dynamic week, join us. There will be a planning meeting **Tuesday, April 9 at 5:45**. If you are not able to join this meeting, but are willing to volunteer, contact Irene at [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org) or **814-899-4383**.



## We Invite You To Live Out Our Vision

### Growing in His Love

We at Our Lady of Mercy work to gradually become more faithful followers of Christ with lives transformed by the Gospel and guided by the Holy Spirit. We provide pathways to nurture your desire to respond in love and come to know what God's desire is for your life.

## Everyday Encounters with Christ

Name: **Maureen Brainard**

I have the privilege of working with those afflicted with mental health and addiction. I see God giving hope and saving lives one day at a time!






<b>LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE</b>		<b>*If you can not make your scheduled Mass, please contact another minister to sub for you*</b>	
<p align="center"><b><u>Saturday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector.....Glory Piovarcy                      Bowl 1.....Carol Stauffer                      Bowl 2.....Todd Beckes                      Cup 1.....Anne Spring                      Cup 2.....Chris Kaschak                      Altar Server.....Nick Mauro                      Greeter.....Maureen Rizzo                      Greeter.....Christine Stroker</p>		<p align="center"><b><u>Saturday, April 20th at 6:00 p.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector.....Marilyn Rinke                      Bowl 1.....Nick Mauro                      Bowl 2.....Kathy Mauro                      Cup 1.....Anne Spring                      Cup 2.....Todd Beckes                      Altar Server.....Gabby Peters                      Greeter.....Marilyn McDaniel                      Greeter.....Lisa Spelling</p>	
<p align="center"><b><u>Sunday, April 14th at 8:30 a.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector 1.....Karen Sweeney                      Lector 2.....Rachel Still                      Bowl 1.....Geoff McCreary                      Bowl 2.....Brian Meyer                      Cup 1.....Ed Meyer                      Cup 2.....Karen Meyer                      Cup 3.....Marlene Meyer                      Cup 4.....Greg Morealli                      Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still                      Greeter.....Tony Gilmore                      Greeter.....Linda Kaleta                      AV Ministry.....Lisa Spelling</p>		<p align="center"><b><u>Sunday, April 21st at 8:30 a.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector 1.....Maria Carney                      Lector 2.....Nancy Mowery                      Bowl 1.....Tom Palisin                      Bowl 2.....Kathy Pearson                      Cup 1.....Donna Schersten                      Cup 2.....Teresa Shamburg                      Cup 3.....Chip Shamburg                      Cup 4.....John Skuce                      Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still                      Greeter.....Paul Sacco                      Greeter.....Patty Sacco                      AV Ministry.....Ken Marshall</p>	
<p align="center"><b><u>Sunday, April 14th at 11:00 a.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector.....Reagan Andrews                      Bowl 1.....Carole Peters                      Bowl 2.....Erica Taccone                      Cup 1.....Nancy Clark                      Cup 2.....Stacy Heidecker                      Altar Server.....Colton Catrabone                      Greeter.....Maggie Wuerstle                      Greeter.....Colton Wuerstle</p>		<p align="center"><b><u>Sunday, April 21st at 11:00 a.m.</u></b></p> <p>Lector.....Maureen Brainard                      Bowl 1.....Judy Iesue                      Bowl 2.....Nick Heise                      Cup 1.....Carole Peters                      Cup 2.....Steve Brainard                      Altar Server.....Makayla Inthavong                      Greeter.....Jill Henry                      Greeter.....Christine Stroker</p>	

**Knights of Columbus  
Golf & Sports Raffle**

The 28th Golf & Sports Raffle will be held on **Friday May 10** in the Gym and Sperry Hall from **6 to 11 p.m.** Tickets will be on sale in the Gathering Space after Mass on **April 14 , 21 , 28 and May 5.** Tickets will also be on sale in the Parish Office during the week from 8 till 3. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. The grand prize this year is \$ 1,000! Our Golf & Sports Raffle has become the largest in the Erie area thanks to the support of our parish and our many ticket sellers. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support youth programs in the parish, provide scholarships for parish high school seniors , and fund capital projects. Please help the Knights help the parish.



**Please join us for  
Eucharistic  
Adoration at  
6 p.m. on  
Wednesday  
April 10th.**



**Pastoral Planning Update**

Bishop Persico has announced that the Pastoral Plan for the parishes in Erie County will be made known on **April 11.**

Please continue to pray the Pastoral Planning Prayer

Loving God, author of creation,  
 your spirit pervades and enriches our world.  
 Through your Son, who shares our humanity,  
 you have called us to participate in your divine creativity  
 and to build the kingdom of God here on earth.  
 Form us, we pray, as one community  
 under the leadership of our bishop  
 to serve all the people of this region in your name.

Inspire us to discover new ways  
 and structures to spread your Gospel.  
 Open our eyes to see Christ in others,  
 especially the poor, the sick and the marginalized.  
 Empower us to be the hands and feet of Christ  
 in our parishes and communities.  
 Help us to welcome all into His embrace.

Guide us in our discernment,  
 as we pray with Pope Francis  
 for the vision to see new paths of possibility;  
 for a spirit of mission that invigorates our every effort;  
 and for the strength to be unafraid of what is new.  
 We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Congratulations to the winners of the Mission Trip Basket Raffle:**

CONGRATULATIONS  
and thank you

- Beach Basket – Todd & Laura Beckes
- Game Night – Ashley Heise
- Coffee – Elizabeth Sweeney
- Grillin’ – Tom & Colleen Welch
- Restaurant – Andrew Applebee
- Erie – Nick & Sara Heise
- Boys Activity – Lee Eighmy
- Girls Activity – Karns Girls
- Book Worm – Riley Whitney
- Candy – Karen Sweeney
- Cigar – Jim Canfield
- Spa – Nick Sorensen
- Lottery – Andrea Maille

Thank you so much to everyone who supported this fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip!

**Newsletter Deadline**



The deadline for content for the May 2024 edition of the For Mercy’s Sake Newsletter is **Sunday April 21st**.

Please send all newsletter articles or flyers to Katie at

[secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:secretary@ourladyofmercychurch.org).

Anything sent after the deadline can not be guaranteed to make it in the May edition, so send your content early!

**Save The Date**

Discover the Woman  
Wednesday April 24th at 7:00 p.m.

*We Remember...*

*Loving Memory*

Douglas Gregory, cousin of Todd Beckes;  
Jack Shoemaker, uncle of Sue Berdis; &  
Charlotte Martin, aunt of Beth Stephenson  
who passed away recently.  
Please hold them and their families in prayer during  
this difficult time.

**Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments**



**Child Abuse Prevention Month  
Reporting Child Abuse**

It is every adult’s moral responsibility to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Physical and sexual abuse of minors are pervasive societal problems, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the 2022 Pennsylvania statewide report there were 4,992 substantiated reports of child abuse and 440 more cases in the court system. 2,056 or 38.2% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse, 1,501 were physical abuse. 62.2% of the victims were female. Parents remain the persons most responsible for abuse of their children. To report child abuse, call Childline at **1-800-932-0323** (anytime 24/7). For particular questions on reporting abuse in the Diocese of Erie, you may call the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at **814-824-1195**.



**Eclipse Viewing Events**  
with the Benedictine Sisters of Erie  
April 7-8, 2024

Lakefront viewing • free eclipse glasses  
spiritual opportunities • art experiences  
environmental activities  
happy hour • monastery tours

Details, schedule, and registration at  
[eriebenedictines.org/eclipse](http://eriebenedictines.org/eclipse)



6101 and 4270 East Lake Road • Mount St. Benedict Monastery and Glinda Center



April 2	Luke Bradley	3
April 6	Ava Still	7
April 11	Mariska Habursky	17
April 11	Kellen Landfried	13
April 15	Samantha Bryan	16



April 15	Oscar Erikson	9
April 17	Alex Lunger	18
April 18	Alexandra Bryan	12
April 21	Braeden Knepper	14
April 22	Isla Duda	6
April 22	Lydia Hordych	7
April 29	Kara Taccone	8
April 29	Patrick Wuerstle	5
April 30	Hannah Smith	18
April 30	Giovanni Coletta	15



Supporting Our Lady of Mercy Since 1993



**Knights of Columbus**

Join the Catholic Brotherhood Changing the World

Call Jim: 814-899-6207



*Where There's Always  
Something GROWING On!*

Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

*East*  
5001 Buffalo Road  
Erie, PA 16510  
**899.5424**

*West*  
5341 West Lake Road  
Erie, PA 16505  
**835.6960**

**William D. Elkin  
Funeral Home**

65 South Lake St. • North East

**725-4511**

*Timothy P. Elkin, F.D.*

*William D. Elkin, F.D.*

Pre-Arrangements Available



**LIBERTY ROOFING PROS**  
*Your Local Roofing Pros!*

libertyroofingpros.com

**724-605-4024**



5416 East Lake Road  
Erie, PA 16511

814-899-8600

www.brevillier.org

Ball Pavilion  
Short Term Rehab  
Long Term Nursing  
Care

Barnabas Court  
Licensed Personal  
Care, Residency &  
Independent Living.

Conrad House  
Independent Living



*"Your Computer  
Professional"*

**NEW SYSTEMS  
USED • REPAIRS**

*"WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS"*

**898-8300**

*Jerry & Dee Law - Parishioners*

**JDLCOMPUTERS.COM**

**OLLINGER  
PLUMBING, HEATING  
& AIR CONDITIONING**



Residential • Commercial  
Quality Installations & Service

**899-2809**

**catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>**  
Pennsylvania



**CatholicMatch.com/PA**



**Erie Cemetery  
ASSOCIATION**

Erie • Laurel Hill • Wintergreen Gorge

*Celebrate Life Through Remembrance*

**814.459.2463**

All Faiths Welcome

Many Options for Traditional Burial  
and Cremation Services



**DUSCKAS - TAYLOR**



*Funeral Home & Cremation Services*

*Robert D. Taylor*  
Supervisor

5151 BUFFALO ROAD  
ERIE • PENNSYLVANIA 16510

814-315-0911

dusckas-taylorfuneralhome.com

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**

Place Your Ad Here and Support  
Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Mike Hall**

mhall@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6311

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Change of Address     Moving out of the Parish

New Parishioner  
To start the new member process please call the parish office at 899-5342; or request a phone call by filling out this form and returning it to the office by mail or collection basket.

