

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
Website: 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 14, 2024 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar

Mon. 04/15	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Wild Hope SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Dunkin Discussion
Tue. 04/16	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	1:00 p.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Sophia's Circle SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed. Gr 3-6
	6:00 p.m.	Lifelong Faith Formation
	6:30 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Wed. 04/17	8:30 a.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	7:00 p.m.	OLM Book Group
Thur. 04/18	9:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	4:00 p.m.	Blood Drive
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Fri. 04/19		
Sat. 04/20	8:45 a.m.	First Eucharist Retreat
	12:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
Sun. 04/21		Newsletter Deadline
	9:30 a.m.	Religious Ed. Gr K-2
	9:30 a.m.	Healing Ministry

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. 04/15	Acts 6:8-15	/ Jn 6:22-29
Tue. 04/16	Acts 7:51-8:1a	/ Jn 6:30-35
Wed. 04/17	Acts 8:1b-8	/ Jn 6:35-40
Thur. 04/18	Acts 8:26-40	/ Jn 6:44-51
Fri. 04/19	Acts 9:1-20	/ Jn 6:52-59
Sat. 04/20	Acts 9:31-42	/ Jn 6:60-69
Sun. 04/21	Acts 4:8-10 / 1 Jn 3:1-2	/ Jn 10:11-18

We Remember...

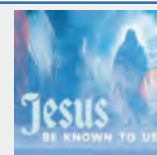
Petrina "Pat" Harrington,
sister of Esther Pohl & **Mar Kuzma,**
dear friend of Sue Berdis;
who passed away recently.

In Loving Memory

Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



When I was a kid, a friend at my home parish told me, "If you get to Mass by the Gospel reading, it counts!" As a lifelong late-arriver, it's something I have told myself many times, especially in my earlier years as a Catholic. If the "it counts" is justifiable on a pathetically minimal scale of liturgical legalism, then the Gospel reading today shows how insanely wrong-headed it is, and how helpful it is to re-think the Mass in its light.

The famous "Road to Emmaus" story recounts, on that first Sunday of the Resurrection, the basic two-fold structure of the Mass: Word, followed by Eucharist. Jesus spends a significant period of time with two dismayed disciples, as he connects a wide swath of the Hebrew scriptures with his own suffering, death, and resurrection. They would later report that this Liturgy of the Word touched their hearts with an inexplicable fire. This Word-induced flame alone is what leads the two disciples to discover Jesus' presence in the "breaking of the bread."

With this in mind, how can we possibly think that the Liturgy of the Word is unnecessary or incidental? The two disciples needed the Scriptures explained to them in order to experience Jesus alive in the eucharistic breaking of bread. Sure, we say, but they had the Risen Jesus. But that's precisely the point: Jesus is risen and accompanies us in both parts of the Mass. Imagine how much our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist would deepen if we (preachers and listeners) took even more seriously that Jesus himself sets our hearts ablaze with his Word so that we know him in the Eucharist. That Word-induced fire counts, too!

— Father John Muir
©LPi

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of **April 7, 2024**

Envelopes sent:	357	
Envelopes returned:	66	\$ 4,111.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	137	\$ 3,183.95
Loose Change:		\$ 155.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY:		\$ 7,449.95

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

Mon. 04/15		- NO MASS -
Tue. 04/16	8:30 a.m.	Patsy & Ann Marie Sette
Wed. 04/17	8:30 a.m.	Justin Raydo (Darcie Vargo)
Thur. 04/18	8:30 a.m.	Elaine Dombrowski (The Kujawinski Family)
Fri. 04/19	8:30 a.m.	
Sat. 04/20	6:00 p.m.	For the People of OLM
Sun. 04/21	8:30 a.m.	Mar Kuzma (Kevin & Sue Berdis Family)
	11:00 a.m.	Sam Garwig (Liana Wathen)

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.



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 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.



Sunday Morning *C*A*F*E*

Join us this morning at **9:45** for a spring CAFÉ. Enjoy fresh brewed coffee, delicious homemade goods 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 unfailing care on the road of addiction.



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.

Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of March 25 was **Luca Burick, grade 4**, who knew that Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are the days of the Triduum.

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.



OLM Bus Trip



We are organizing a bus trip to St. Anthony Chapel in Pittsburgh, the home of the world's largest collection of relics. Join us Saturday, June 22 aboard an Anderson bus. The day will include a visit to Pittsburgh's famous Strip District for lunch and shopping, a tour at St. Anthony Chapel, Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Stanislav Chapel and dinner in Cranberry. Cost is \$65 (which does not include food). In order to see if there is sufficient interest, people are asked to sign up on the easel in the Gathering Space by May 1. Payment is due to the Faith Formation Office by May 15.

Discover the Woman

Ladies, please join us for a Discover the Woman Within program on **Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00** in the **Worship Space**. The topic will be vulnerability and our speaker will be Lois Stanley. It will be an evening of reflection and much LAUGHTER!!!! Bring a friend, all are welcome and stay for fellowship following the program.



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

Everyday Encounters with Christ

Name: Anonymous
I encounter God in the sunrises & wildlife
from our window on clear days.



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

***If you can not make your scheduled Mass,
please contact another minister to sub for you***

Saturday, April 20th at 6:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, April 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Lector.....Colette Landfried
Bowl 1.....Marilyn Rinke
Bowl 2.....Gerri Extein
Cup 1.....Kay Kaerberlein
Cup 2.....Fred Kaerberlein
Altar Server.....Nick Mauro
Greeter.....Jason Rzodkiewicz
Greeter.....Joyce Rzodkiewicz

Sunday, April 21st at 8:30 a.m.

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
CLW Leader.....Rachel Still

Sunday, April 28th at 8:30 a.m.

Lector 1.....Joe Tarquinio
Lector 2.....Tim Fuhrman
Bowl 1.....Gary Smith
Bowl 2.....Mary Beth Smith
Cup 1.....Rachel Still
Cup 2.....Karen Sweeney
Cup 3.....Dan Szczesny
Cup 4.....Tish Szczesny
Altar Server.....Kaylyn Still
Greeter.....Mike Chase
Greeter.....Jane Chase
AV Ministry.....Adam Baker
CLW Leader.....Nancy Mowery

Sunday, April 21st at 11:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, April 28th at 11:00 a.m.

Lector.....Adriana Grosch
Bowl 1.....Maureen Brainard
Bowl 2.....Erica Taccone
Cup 1.....Nick Heise
Cup 2.....Judy Iesue
Altar Server.....Madden Inthavong
Greeter.....Maggie Wuerstle
Greeter.....Colton Wuerstle

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.

KofC Basket Raffle Donations Needed

The Knights are currently accepting donations for the basket raffle. Please drop items off at the Parish Office Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Kaerberlein.



Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments



Child Abuse Prevention Month Reporting Child Abuse

Throughout the Gospel, Christ calls upon His followers to care for the most vulnerable among us, especially children. Mandated Reporters in the Diocese of Erie are people who hold positions of trust in our schools, parishes, agencies, and institutions and are mandated by Pennsylvania law and the diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children to report child abuse. All clergy, employees and volunteers working/serving for the Diocese of Erie, in our parishes, schools or agencies are mandated both legally and morally to report any reasonably suspected or known child abuse to ChildLine, the local police, or other appropriate agency. Visit www.eriercd.org/childprotection/ to learn the specific reporting procedures required by the diocese.

Pastoral Planning Update

Bishop Persico announced the Pastoral Plan for the parishes in Erie County on **April 11**. Please continue to pray the Pastoral Planning Prayer. Due to publishing deadlines, more information can be found in next weekends bulletin.

Pastoral Council Seeking New Members

Every spring the Pastoral Council seeks out parishioners who can help us envision the future of this community. The Pastoral Council engages in the process of pastoral planning and helps to set the direction of the parish community in prayer, leadership, service and pastoral action in consultation with the Pastor and staff.

A nominee must be a parishioner who:

- Has been confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church.
- By his or her free and consistent choice is a registered member of Our Lady of Mercy Parish.
- Contributes to the betterment of the parish community.

We ask your prayerful consideration in nominating either yourself or another member of the parish community.



SUNDAE SUNDAY



Sunday, April 28

12:00 Noon in

Sperry Hall

All Welcome!

Celebrate the Easter Season

Make-Your-Own Sundae Bar

& a Cake Walk

Please tell us if you can bake & donate a cake for the Cake Walk. You can email ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or add your name to the list in the Gathering Space.

Supporting Our Lady of Mercy Since 1993



Knights of Columbus

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Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

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Erie, PA 16510
899.5424

West
5341 West Lake Road
Erie, PA 16505
835.6960

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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.