

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
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
Daytime Prayer Line (Donna): 814-899-9108
Evening Prayer Line (Gerri): 814-490-9681

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 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

December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent

THE WEEK AHEAD

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

Mon. 12/02	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	5:30 p.m.	Wild Hope SCC
	6:30 p.m.	Healing Service
Tue. 12/03	8:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	10:00 a.m.	Angels In Training SCC
	1:00 p.m.	Potters Clay SCC
	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed Gr 3-6
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Wed. 12/04	6:30 p.m.	Pastoral Council
	8:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	1:00 p.m.	Jubilee/Anniversary Planning Meeting
Thur. 12/05	6:00 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	8:30 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
	9:00 a.m.	Painting/Crafting Group
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 12/06	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	6:00 p.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Sat. 12/07	10:00 a.m.	OLM Pickleball Club
Sun. 12/08	3:45 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
	10:30 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr K-2 & 7-8
	10:30 a.m.	Gr. 9 Confirmation Service Event

MERCY MEMORIES

Finally on the Fourth Sunday of Advent 1999, the community celebrated the Rite of Return to the new worship site, once again processing with the sacramental symbols of parish life.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Due to holiday bulletin deadlines, the weekly financial support portion of the bulletin will not be available. If you have questions regarding weekly financial support amounts, please contact the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 12/02		- NO MASS -
Tue. 12/03	8:30 a.m.	Helen Behringer (Morning Mass Group)
Wed. 12/04	8:30 a.m.	Andrew Cerula (Rose Galeza)
Thur. 12/05	8:30 a.m.	Ann & Vinny Ciotti (John Abbate)
Fri. 12/06	8:30 a.m.	Leo Bliley (Jim & Nadene Happe)
Sat. 12/07	4:30 p.m.	Leo Heise (The Heise Family)
Sun. 12/08	9:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

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

Please notify the Parish Office of any schedule changes

Saturday, December 7th at 4:30 p.m.

Lector.....	Glory Piovarcy
Bowl 1.....	Kathy Mauro
Altar Server.....	Nick Mauro
Greeter.....	Lisa Spelling
Greeter.....	Marilyn McDaniel

Sunday, December 8th at 9:30 a.m.

Lector 1.....	Carrie Galbreath
Lector 2.....	Denise Lewandoski
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.....	Marilyn Garwig
Greeter.....	Tony Gilmore
AV Ministry.....	Ken Marshall
CLW Leader.....	Rachel Still

Comedy Corner

What do gingerbread men have on their bed?
Cookie sheets!



Please join our "flock" by signing up at olmharborcreek.flocknote.com or using the QR code provided.



Operation Assisting Santa

It is that time of year again. Time for "Operation Assisting Santa" for Christmas presents for the children of needy veterans. Names for the children of needy veterans will be available in the Gathering Space for the weekends of **November 16/17 and 23/24**. Please take a card and buy a gift for the child on the card and return it UNWRAPPED with the CARD ATTACHED to it by **November 30/December 1**. All names for gifts are from the Veterans Hospital. Thank you very much for your help!



Ella Cochran Food Pantry Giving Tree

The Food Pantry Giving Tree will be up this weekend. Please take a tag, shop for gifts and return the gift wrapped with the tag by **Dec. 7/8th**.



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.



Thank You - Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank those parishioners and their friends who attended the 6th annual Groove dance on **Nov. 8**. Everyone who attended had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed the music played by the most popular band in Erie. Smiling faces were seen all evening. By popular demand the Groove will be back again next year. They really enjoy playing for us as it is a very lively event. A special moment of silence was held for Linda Kaleta during the intermission. Linda ,with a little bit of help from Frank, started the dance. It was a touching tribute for all who were there. Thank you Linda.



Hearing Impaired Devices Available

For those who have a problem hearing at Mass we have help for you. Hearing receiver units are available that have ear buds that receive a signal directly from a transmitter behind the altar. Speaking voices are clear with adjustable volume control. If you are interested call **Tom Palisin at 814-572-5437** or see or call Katie in the office.



Book Group

Join us **Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Pat Marshall, 516 W.Eaglewood as we view "Cabrini". We will return to our books in January as we discuss In The Woods: Dublin Murder Squad #1 by Tana French.

Question of the Week

Question-of-the-Week winner for the week of Nov. 17 was **Kinslie Inthavong, grade 2**, who knew that Jesus chose 12 Apostles.

Bulletin Deadlines

Please be aware that the publisher bulletin deadlines change during the busy holiday season. To assure your content makes it into the bulletin in a timely manner, please send your announcements to Katie **2 weeks before** the bulletin you want published in is published.



An Invitation to Explore the Catholic Faith

Some days, the world feels as if it is spinning out of control. Natural disasters, international crisis, political discord, economic uncertainty, ecological threat, we often find ourselves grasping for an anchor to steady our lives. God is the one anchor that remains sure and stable, no matter what troubles shake the ground under our feet. A relationship with God, our Creator, our Savior, our Advocate lived in the supportive arms of the Church family and nourished by the grace of the sacraments can help us live with peace and joy no matter what life throws at us. Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith? Have you toyed with the idea of being baptized? Would you like to explore your questions about what life as a Catholic Christian would mean? If you would like to start a conversation or learn more about the process of preparing to join the Catholic faith, contact Irene Lucas at ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org or **814-899-6132**.



Our Neighbors' Place Help Needed

We need your help with Season 13 of Our Neighbors' Place, a seasonal overflow shelter for adults who are homeless. The shelter will now be housed at our Community Resilience Center , 450 East 16th St. Our first session will be 1/8/25 – 1/14/25 and the second will be 3/19/25 - 4/2/25. We are in need of volunteers to work the **7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.** shift, provide bagged meals, and donations. For more information, contact Mary Ellen Lieb at melieb4@gmail.com or Mary Hoffman at mymary14@gmail.com



Gift Basket Auction for Faith Formation

Once again the Faith Formation Ministry will be running a gift basket auction in conjunction with the February spaghetti dinner. As you are shopping for Christmas deals, please consider our gift baskets. Donations can be brought to the Faith Formation office. Your generosity is appreciated. Please only donate new items; broken, used or discolored items can not be included in baskets. We do not have any way to store perishable food items.





#iGIVECATHOLIC
ON GIVING TUESDAY

12.03.24

Advanced Giving starts Nov 18

[Erie.iGiveCatholic.org](https://erie.igivecatholic.org)

<https://erie.igivecatholic.org/organizations/our-lady-of-mercy-parish-4b60a05f-7657-40cc-a47a-0bb8b871de44>

A MERRY MERCY CHRISTMAS
December 15
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Our Lady of Mercy Church
837 Bartlett Rd. Harborcreek, PA

Featuring
15 privately decorated Christmas trees
in our Gathering Space

*Holy Moments
A Time to Heal*



Date: Monday, December 2, 2024
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: Our Lady of Mercy Church
837 Bartlett Rd - Harborcreek

Please join us for an evening of prayer, music, laying of hands, and quiet reflection. All are welcome. Come and bring a friend.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY
DECEMBER 15, 2024**



A Merry Mercy
CHRISTMAS

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES BY:
**ERIE PLAYHOUSE SHOWSTOPPERS
MERCYHURST PREP SHOW CHOIR
OLM CHOIR**

Free Entry with options to purchase food, beverages and merchandise

Doors Open At 2:00 PM

Craft, Food and Beverage Vendors; Tree Decorating; Santa & his reindeer; Crafts for children & adults; hot cocoa; hay rides; bake sale & so much more!

837 Bartlett Rd. Harborcreek, PA 16421

MUSIC FOR MASS

Recessional: Canticle of the Turning

Processional: # 284 Christ, Circle Round Us (v. 1, 2, 3)

Offertory: Come to Us, O God

Refrain

*Come to us, O God. Be the hope with - in our long-ing. Dwell with - in us,
 O Light of the world: O God - with - us, Em - man - u - el.

Communion: Beyond the Moon and Stars

Refrain

Be - yond the moon and stars, as deep as night, so great our
 hun - ger, Lord, to see your light. The spar - row finds her home
 be - neath your wing. So may we come to rest where an - gels
 sing.

verses on the next page...

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
 that the God of my heart is great,
 And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
 that you bring to the ones who wait.
 You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
 and my weakness you did not spurn,
 So from east to west shall my name be blest.
 Could the world be about to turn?

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
 Let the fires of your justice burn.
 Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
 and the world is about to turn!**

Though the nations rage from age to age,
 we remember who holds us fast:
 God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
 This saving word that our forebears heard
 is the promise which holds us bound,
 'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
 who is turning the world around. (*My heart shall sing...*)

Verses

1. Our eyes have longed to see your lov - ing
 2. Your roads have led us, Lord, 'cross des - ert
 3. Up - on our dark - ness, Lord, a light has
 4. With shin - ing star at night, and cloud by
 5. When life's great jour - ney ends, and day is

to Refrain

1. face, to live with - in your courts for all our days.
 2. sand. We place our hopes and dreams with - in your hand.
 3. shone. You chose to dwell with us in flesh and bone.
 4. day, you brought us here to see your love's dis - play.
 5. done, then may our eyes be - hold your Ho - ly One.

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Josh Skarzenski – 3rd Generation Owner & Parishioner

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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.



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