




Apron Strings

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS



[Jesus said], “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth.”

JOHN 14:16-17A

There are moments when we realize the baton has been passed to us, and now we must conduct the symphony of our lives. One such moment may be when both parents have died. “They” say we never fully grow up until that occurs, for from that time on we can no longer go home. I know of a daughter who received a gift from her mother when the daughter moved out on her own. Inside, the daughter discovered a pair of apron strings, a symbol of her break with home. At various times, life hands us a bountiful serving of responsibility as we commit to a vocation, or for many, become parents for the first time. On such occasions, the future may weigh heavily upon us.

This week’s Gospel is a farewell speech of sorts. Given to the Twelve on the night before his passion and death, Jesus promises he will not leave us orphans and that the Spirit will be given to us to do what we must do.

There have been any number of times when life has unfolded for me into new circumstances and life roles, occasions often filled with anxiety and sometimes even fear. I usually found I could deal with such realities by asking myself what would be the worst that could happen, and if it did, could I handle it? Every time, I found myself realizing I *could* handle the worst. Importantly, the ability to do what needs doing always seems to flow from God’s Spirit that is given to each of us. If our faith in God is alive in us, our spiritual apron strings are never severed. ●

Reflect

Has the Spirit of God ever helped you face a daunting responsibility?

Catholic Communities

Parish Pastor
Rev. William Pifher
419-446-9288



Our Lady of Mercy

409 E. Main St.
Fayette, OH 43521

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel
Pat Eisel
Ray Hollstein
Mike Burkholder
Traci Maginn
Barbara Roby

Clothing items can be donated via our drop off site on the east side of the building. Our store is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information.



OLM PARISH OFFICE

P.O. Box 429
Fayette, OH 43521

Phone: 419-237-2441

Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday

PARISH STAFF

Secretary: Sherry Renner
ourladyofmercyfayette@gmail.com

Bookkeeper

Ron Baker

Youth Leader/CRE

Anita Van Zile



St. Peter

614 N. Defiance St.
Archbold, OH 43502

MASS SCHEDULE

1st Saturday of month 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.

Parish Secretary

Kim Garrow 419-446-2150
email-stpeter@rtexpress.net

Religious Ed

Deb Herring

Parish Council President

Stephen Bernath

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

- **Baptism:** Please call Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be helpful.
- **Reconciliation:** Father will be available for confessions **starting 30 minutes before Mass each week.**
- **New Parishioners:** A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office or see the pastor as soon as possible. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish records.
- **Anointing of the Sick:** Those who can participate: Anyone who is seriously sick or suffering a grave illness (not a cold, or flu) which is treated or medicated for by a doctor. Also for those of old age which often brings morale or depression factors (body, mind, or spirit). Please make arrangements with Father or call the parish office.
- **Matrimony:** Please contact the Parish Office *six months* ahead of your planned wedding date, for Marriage Preparation and scheduling.
- **RCIA :** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a series of classes designed to bring new members into the Catholic church. Weekly sessions begin in September. People who have not been baptized, who have not been practicing or who have been raised in another faith are all welcome to register. Parishioners are encouraged to invite interested family members and friends. There is no obligation to join the church. This is simply an opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith. Contact Fr. William Pifher at 419-446-9288.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please note that the bulletin deadline is Tuesday, Noon. Please either call, email at ourladyofmercyfayette@gmail.com or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

6th Sunday of Easter

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAY'S AT 8 A.M.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER/GRANDMA/SISTER/AUNT/FRIEND(S) BANQUET

Thank you to all that attended and helped with the banquet, it was beautiful with all of you there. – Altar Rosary Society

ROSARY MONTH OF MAY

The Rosary will be prayed every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Come and ask the Blessed Virgin to intercede for you.



BACCALAUREATE MASS

Baccalaureate Mass will be on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

DID YOU KNOW....

About 15 percent of all hospitals in the United States are Catholic hospitals. In some parts of the world, the Catholic Church provides the only healthcare, education and social services available to people. (from catholic.org)



THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

"He that is truly obedient does not wait for a command, but as soon as he knows what his superior wishes to have done immediately sets himself to work, without expecting an order."
St. Albert the Great

Do Something Beautiful for God – The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa

- May 14** – Don't allow anything to interfere with your love for Jesus. You belong to Him. Nothing can separate you from Him. That one sentence is important to remember. He will be your joy, your strength. If you hold onto that sentence, temptations and difficulties will come, but nothing will break you. Remember, you have been created for great things,
- May 15** – Don't search for Jesus in far lands – He is not there. He is close to you; He is with you. Just keep the lamp burning and you will; always see Him. Keep on filling the lamp with all these little drops of love, and you will see how sweet is the Lord you love.
- May 16** – We are able to go through the most terrible places fearlessly, because Jesus is in us. Jesus is our joy, our strength, and our compassion.
- May 17** – Jesus loved us to the end, to the very limit, dying on the cross. We must have this same love which comes from within, from our union with Jesus. This love should be as normal to us as living and breathing.
- May 18** – Love is not about patronizing and charity isn't about pity, it is about pouring ourselves out for others. Charity and love are the same - with charity you give love, so don't just give money but reach out your hand also.
- May 19** We should ask ourselves, Have I really experienced the joy of loving? True love is love that causes pain that hurts, and yet brings joy. This is why we pray asking for the courage to love, and love more deeply than ever before.
- May 20** – To do God's work you need a few things. We need health of mind and body. We need the ability to learn. We need plenty of common sense and a cheerful disposition. I think common sense and cheerfulness are very necessary if we are to bring God's love to as many people as possible.

Prayer chain-ANYONE wishing to submit prayer requests can email Anita Van Zile at vanzilejn@hotmail.com or call Pat Eisel at 419-737-2163

Privacy Issues for Parish Office: IMMEDIATE FAMILY – must contact the parish office for all prayer requests to be posted in the parish bulletin. Please submit with exact verbiage requested. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday starting at 8 a.m. ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

Did you know that Deacon Larry Zachrich is also available for Baptisms and Weddings? Contact Larry at 419-966-7091.

June 15 - 17 – St. Peter Garage Sale – They need volunteers & donations (no books or large appliances, including TV's) June 14 is setup

FAYETTE/SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

- May 6 – Oct. 28 – Farmer's Market @ Fayette Opera House Parking Lot – Saturday's 9 am – 1 pm
- May 14 – Fayette Opera House – Cat Canyon - 12:30 p.m.
- May 19 – Community Meal – Methodist Community Center 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- May 20 – Lamp Lighter's fund raiser Mancino's, Archbold, OH

If you know of any Fayette Community events please either call or visit the office or email to ourladyofmercyfayette@gmail.com



DIOCESE OF TOLEDO NEWS

ACA in progress – information and envelopes are on the table in the back.
Our Lady of Mercy is at 80.87%.

HELP WANTED

The Diocese has openings for employment. Check out the list at toledodiocese.org/careers

25th Annual Open Arms Awards

June 3, 2023 @ 5 p.m. – Holy Trinity Parish (Assumption, OH)

or

June 4, 2023 @ 4 p.m. – St. Mary Parish (Sandusky, OH)

“PROTECT THEM BOTH” CAMPAIGN

In our state, forces are at work through an incoming proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution to attack those most vulnerable among us--the preborn and their families. Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, and their allies are putting abortion on the Ohio Ballot in November to be enshrined in Ohio's Constitution. The proposed amendment will allow abortions to take the lives of innocent preborn children through all nine months, to the point of birth, without any legal protection for the lives of the preborn or the health of their mothers.

The **“Protect Them Both” Campaign** has been launched in the Diocese of Toledo to raise the awareness of every Catholic parishioner with the message to VOTE NO on the proposed November Ohio constitutional amendment entitled, “Ohio Right to Make Reproductive Decisions Including Abortion Initiative. – see flyer in bulletin for more information. Prayer cards are on the table in the back.

For more Diocese of Toledo happenings please visit toledodiocese.org/calendar

Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of May 14 – May 20

Sunday, May 14 – St. Matthias the Apostle - St. Matthias the Apostle (1st c.) followed Jesus during his entire earthly ministry and was one of his 72 disciples. Matthias was chosen by the 11 Apostles to replace Judas Iscariot after his betrayal of Christ and subsequent suicide. After Christ's Ascension into heaven, St. Matthias devoted himself to preaching Christianity among the pagans, some of them barbarians and cannibals, all over Judea, Cappadocia, and Ethiopia for over 30 years. Many miracles are ascribed to him as the pagans sought to kill him: that he was unharmed after being forced to drink poison, that he once hid by becoming invisible, and that the earth opened up and swallowed his attackers. St. Matthias also preached the need for mortification of the flesh as an aid to growth in holiness. Eventually, at God's appointed time, he was martyred for the cause of Christ, though there are conflicting traditions as to exactly where and how. St. Matthias is the patron saint of carpenters, tailors, and reformed alcoholics. His feast day is May 14th.

Monday, May 15 – St. Dymphna - St. Dymphna (7th c.) was the daughter of a pagan Irish chieftain and a beautiful Christian noblewoman. Dymphna was raised as a Christian, and she consecrated her virginity to Christ at a young age. Dymphna's father loved his wife deeply. When her mother died, Dymphna's father was so overcome with grief that he became mentally unstable. Unable to find another suitable wife of equal character and beauty to his first wife, he attempted to marry Dymphna due to her close resemblance to her mother. Upon learning of his wicked plan, Dymphna fled across the sea into Belgium along with her tutor and confessor, Father Gerebran. Her father pursued them and eventually discovered their location by tracing the foreign money they used along the way. He killed Dymphna's confessor and pleaded with his daughter to return with him to Ireland to be his wife. When she refused, he cut off her head in a mad rage. St. Dymphna's church still stands on the place of her burial near Antwerp. There have been numerous accounts of those afflicted with epilepsy and mental illness visiting her tomb and receiving miraculous cures through her intercession. Because of this, St. Dymphna is the patroness of those suffering from mental and neurological disorders and illnesses, as well as of mental health professionals. Her feast day is May 15th.

Tuesday, May 16 – St. Simon Stock - St. Simon Stock (1165-1265) was born in Kent, England. He was strongly drawn to God as a child, and at the age of twelve he began to live as a hermit in the hollow of an oak tree. After two decades of this solitary and penitential life, he entered the world again to study theology and become a priest. His studies complete, he then returned to his hermitage. At this time the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him, instructing him to join the Carmelite Order that was just entering England. St. Simon became a Carmelite in 1212. By 1215 he became the order's leader and worked to establish it across Europe, especially at the great universities. He also traveled to Rome and Mt. Carmel in the Holy Land, and revised the Carmelite Rule to make them mendicant friars instead of hermits. Tradition holds that the Virgin Mary appeared to him again and presented him with a brown scapular, the habit of his order, promising that those who wore it would not be eternally lost in hell. This apparition is known as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and her "scapular promise" is that she will intercede with her Son to ensure that the wearer of the scapular obtains the grace of final perseverance, that is, of dying in a state of grace. This is the origin of the Brown Scapular devotion which soon spread to the laity to obtain the graces promised by Our Lady, a devotion later encouraged by many popes. St. Simon Stock's feast day is May 16th.

Wednesday, May 17 – Blessed Antonia Messina - Blessed Antonia Messina (1919-1935) was one of ten children born to a poor family on the island of Sardinia in Italy. Being the second oldest child, she had to leave school to help with the family chores after her mother became bedridden, a task which she accepted with obedience, humility, and joy. Antonia's mother referred to her daughter as "the flower of my life." Antonia was also active in her parish, joining the Young Women of Catholic Action organization at the age of ten and encouraging others to do the same. On May 17, 1935, while in the forest with a friend gathering firewood, Antonia was assaulted by a teenage boy who attempted to rape her. Her friend ran for help while Antonia bravely defended herself against her attacker. The young man, unable to achieve his goal due to her continuous resistance, brutally attacked Antonia with dozens of blows with a rock. By the time help arrived, it was too late. Antonia died at the age of sixteen. The entire town accompanied her body to the site of her burial. She is considered a martyr of sexual purity, and was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 1987. Her story has been likened to that of St. Maria Goretti. Blessed Antonia Messina is the patron of rape victims. Her feast day is May 17th.

Thursday, May 18 – St. Felix of Cantalice - St. Felix of Cantalice (d. 1587) was born to a pious peasant family in Italy. He grew up tending sheep and was hired out to work for a farmer at the age of nine, which he did for twenty years. He evidenced signs of holiness and spent his free time in prayer. He had a friend read him the lives of the saints from which he drew much inspiration. Felix eventually joined the Capuchin Franciscans and served in Rome as the Order's official beggar. Although he could not read, and received no formal study, he had great influence over the Roman people because of his piety and the labors he undertook to convert even the most hardened sinners. Felix also encouraged those he met to lead greater lives of virtue, regardless if they were dignitaries or peasants. Men who lived scandalous lives retreated from his presence, lest he convict them of their sins. St. Felix's special apostolate was among the children of the city to whom he gave religious instruction with childlike humility and simplicity. He was a contemporary and friend of St. Philip Neri, who declared Felix to be the Church's greatest living saint. St. Felix served in this way for 42 years. He was beatified immediately after his death, becoming the first Capuchin Franciscan ever canonized. His body rests under an altar dedicated to him in the church of the Immaculate Conception in Rome. His feast day is May 18.

Friday, May 19 – St. Ivo of Kermartin - St. Ivo of Kermartin (1253–1303) was born to a noble family in Brittany, France. He studied civil and canon law, philosophy, and theology. He went on to practice law for many years in both the civil and ecclesiastical courts. He graciously defended the poor without charge, and visited them in prison as they awaited trial. He also worked to settle matters out of court to save litigants money and time. For these good works he became known as "Advocate of the Poor." St. Ivo also practiced a life of asceticism; he wore a hairshirt under his clothing, fasted regularly, and became a Franciscan Tertiary. These spiritual disciplines aided him in his practice of virtue in the courtroom: he fought the State in court on behalf of the rights of the Church, and became a diocesan judge who was unable to be tempted by bribes. St. Ivo eventually resigned from practicing law and joined the priesthood. He used the funds from his years practicing law to build a hospital for the poor, and he fed them with the harvests of his land. He became a miracle-worker during his life, feeding hundreds from a single loaf of bread. St. Ivo is the patron saint of judges, attorneys, lawyers, orphans, bailiffs, advocates, and canon lawyers. His feast day is May 19th.

Saturday, May 20 – St. Bernadine of Siena - St. Bernardine of Siena (1380–1444) was born to a noble family in Siena, Italy. As a young man he witnessed the bubonic plague raging mercilessly through the city, and volunteered to care for the sick in the local hospital. At this time he also spent much time praying and fasting to know God's will for his life. He discerned a call to Holy Orders and the religious life, and joined the Franciscans at the age of 22. He lived in solitude for over a decade before being sent to preach in the streets, which he did with incredible skill, so much so that he became the most renowned preacher of his day. He traveled on foot to strife-torn cities, attacking sin and paganism and encouraging all to a life of faith and virtue. Huge crowds numbering in the tens of thousands would come to hear him preach in the public square. His fame and effectiveness as a preacher caused the pope to compare him to St. Paul the Apostle. Bernardine was especially known for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and for promulgating devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. It was he who devised the IHS symbol over a blazing sun as a monogram and logo for the Holy Name of Jesus (in Greek) to replace the public display of insignias of rival family tribes which disturbed the peace. This symbol of Christ began appearing in churches and on public buildings, even to this day. He also served as the head of his Franciscan community. When he began there were 300 friars; when he died there were over 4,000. St. Bernardine's feast day is May 20th.



MOTHER'S DAY

catholictradition.org

For those who are lucky to still be blessed with your Mom this is beautiful. For those who aren't, this is even more beautiful.

Your Mother is always with you. She's the whisper of the leaves as you walk down the street, she's the smell of certain foods you remember, flowers you pick, the fragrance of life itself, she's the cool hand on your brow when you're not feeling well, she's your breath in the air on a cold winter's day. She is the sound of the rain that lulls you to sleep, the colors of a rainbow, she is Christmas morning.

Your Mother lives inside your laughter. And she's crystallized in every tear drop. She's the place you came from, your first home, and she's the map you follow with every step you take. She's your first love, your first friend, even your first enemy, but nothing on earth can separate you. Not time, not space
not even death!

Mother of Mercy

'Neath the foot of the Cross, She faithfully kept Her watch
Consoled by Saint John e'er so softly,
And from the Cross itself He bent down,
To give us a Mother of Mercy.

It was as if it was not enough to bear the Cross
That sinners wretched He might redeem,
More generous still, He bent down
To endow us with the fairest Queen.

Queen of Heaven, Queen of Angels, and Queen of all men,
Queen of Priests and Holy Souls awaiting,
Mistress to the pleading child in need,
Mother of Mercy: sweet succoring.

O Mother most merciful, Mother of compassion,
Ark of Salvation, Gate of Heaven,
Refuge of sinners and those in despair,
To Thee we fly, unto Thy leaven.

O Mother most sweet, most radiant, O Mother of mothers!
Mother most pure, Mother most dear,
Thee do we entreat sending up our sighs,
As Thou bendest to blot every tear.

O Mother most tender, most mild, O Mother of Mercy!
Masterpiece of God's holy design,
Font of all graces, Thine to dispense,
To the humble, repentant, uncondign.

'Neath the foot of our crosses, Thou maintains Thy watch,
That Thy servants persevere e'er fast,
'Til from Cherubim'd Throne He bends down,
And with Thee, welcomes us home at last.

-----*Pauly Fongemie*
(*catholictradition.org*)



Our Lady of Mercy Parish



MAY 14, 2023

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is united by our commitment to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of our rural families and steward the resources entrusted to us. We value the diversity within our Catholic community and invite all to walk with us on our journey of faith.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Church	Intention
Sun. May 14	8:30 a.m.	OLM	Jeannette Tidwell
	10:30 am	SP	Mike & Joyce Britenriker
Tues. May 16	7 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. May 17	9:00a.m..	SP	For the People
Thurs. May 18	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
	7:00p.m.	OLM	Rosary
Fri. May 19	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. May 20	8:30a.m.	SP	NO MASS
	4:30p.m.	SP	For the People
Sun. May 21	8:30a.m.	OLM	Living & Deceased Sarnac family
	10:30a.m	SP	Juanita Arend

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Wednesday's – all of May
 Rosary 7 p.m.
 ---May 21 – Baccalaureate Mass

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for May 7, 2023

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (13 envelopes) \$ 586.00
 LOOSE OFFERINGS \$ 243.00

BUDGET \$ 1,747.00

Over/(Under) \$(918.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Maintenance \$ 485.00
 St. Vincent de Paul \$ 65.00
 Fayette Local Ministries \$ 50.00
 CPC Jar \$ 50.00
 Votive Candles \$ 10.00
TOTAL COLLECTION \$ 1,489.00

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	May 21, 2023
Reader	Graduates
Servers	Evan Beauregard Alise Herr Kennedy Kunkle
Greeters/ Gifts	Ivy Kunkle Mel Lichtenwald
Ushers	Jerry & Anita Van Zile
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Barb Bruggeman Dennis & Denise Miller



On that day you will
 realize that I am in
 my Father and you
 are in me and I in you.

John 14:20

Dear Padre,

If the Catholic Church recognizes baptisms from other Christian denominations, why not confirmations?

Baptism signs us with an indelible mark. It defines our character and can never be repeated. A baptism is always held to be valid if a person is baptized with water using the Trinitarian formula (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1256). If a priest is unsure of the validity of a person's baptism, he would baptize the person conditionally, recognizing the earlier baptism if it happened and was valid. The minister of baptism is usually an ordained minister, but in necessity anyone can baptize, including a non-Christian, if the person intends what the Church intends.

Confirmation also leaves an indelible mark, as does holy orders, and they also cannot be repeated. What makes confirmation different from baptism is that the minister of confirmation is ordinarily the bishop because this expresses the apostolic unity of the Church (CCC 1312). If someone had been confirmed in a Church that has apostolic succession, their confirmation would be considered valid, and the person wouldn't be reconfirmed.

Most Christian churches have a common understanding of what the sacrament of baptism is, but while other churches might have communion, confirmation, and ordination, their celebration of those sacraments may not include all the requirements necessary for the Catholic Church to consider them valid. ●



Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective
Catholic Update explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 15 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 16:11-15 Jn 15:26-16:4a	May 16 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 16:22-34 Jn 16:5-11	May 17 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 Jn 16:12-15	May 18 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 18:1-8 Jn 16:16-20	May 19 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 18:9-18 Jn 16:20-23	May 20 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 18:23-28 Jn 16:23b-28	May 21 <i>Ascension</i> Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[The Holy Spirit] is the Gift of God; he is God himself, who helps us to be free people, people who want and know how to love, people who understand that life is a mission to proclaim the wonders that the Lord accomplishes in those who trust in him.

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 17, 2020

CNS PHOTO/JAMES RAMOS, TEXAS CATHOLIC HERALD/MONDAY

