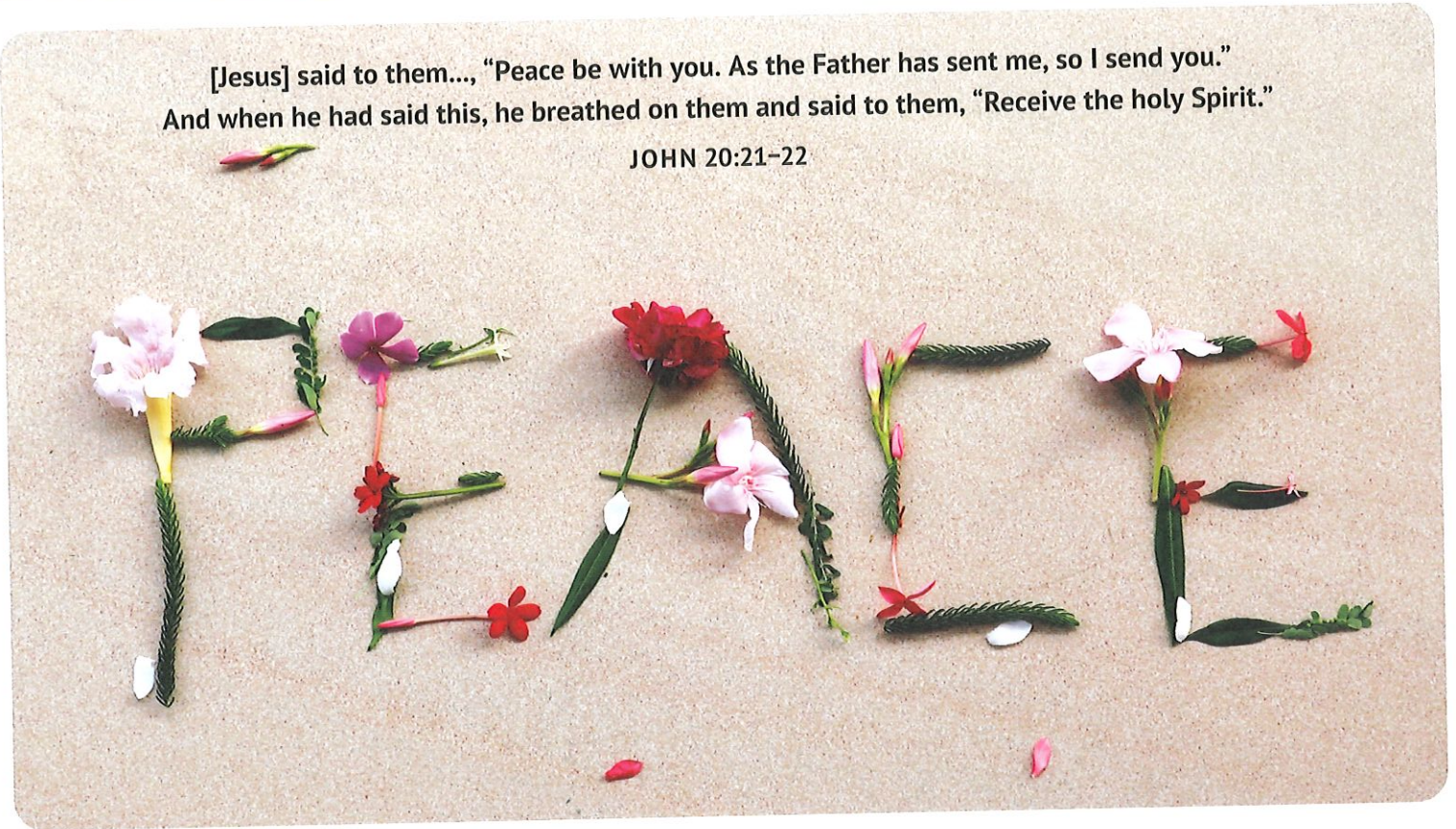




[Jesus] said to them..., "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit."

JOHN 20:21-22



Freed by the Spirit

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Fear can be a most powerful imprisoning force. Like the apostles who locked themselves behind closed doors after the resurrection for fear of the local leaders, there are times when our own fears lock us out of the future and into our past.

We find ourselves choosing not to be generous for fear that if we are, we will find ourselves empty-handed with no one to care for us because all of our resources have been used up. And so, because of our fear, we lock ourselves into our own selfishness. At other times, we hesitate to be kind for fear that our care will be misconstrued or, worse, will be taken advantage of and abused. And so, for fear of continual demands upon our kindness, we lock ourselves into indifference. At other times, we find ourselves too cautious to speak out in the face of injustice because of a misguided respect

for "someone else's business" or because we are afraid anger or rejection will come down upon us. So, we lock ourselves into silence.

It is always the Spirit, however, that enables us to unlock those doors once locked by our fear. While that new power enables us to venture into a sometimes-shattering world, it does not promise we won't be shattered in the process. All that Jesus promised is that the Spirit would bring us peace. Such peace happens to us whenever we choose not to succumb to our fears. It is indeed a new creation taking place in us, even now.

Reflect

***Has fear ever paralyzed you,
keeping you from doing good?***

Catholic Communities



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.



Parish Pastor
Rev. William Pifher
419-446-9288

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

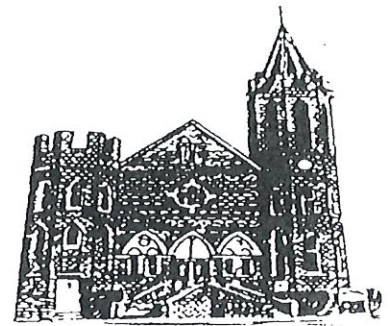
Bookkeeper

Ron Baker

Youth Leader/CRE

Anita Van Zile

Website (bulletin online)
stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy



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 28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

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

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.

DID YOU KNOW....

How many saints are recognized by the Catholic Church? There does not seem to be an official number, but it exceeds 10,000. Of course, any person who enters heaven is a saint, by definition, so it is certain the number of actual saints in existence is much greater than the number recognized by the Church. (from catholic.org)

OUR LADY OF MERCY WEBSITE/BULLETIN

You now can view the weekly bulletin online at www.stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

"If there be a true way that leads to the Everlasting Kingdom, it is most certainly that of suffering, patiently endured." - St. Colette

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

May 28 - Resist anything that leads to moodiness. Our prayer each day should be, "Let the joy of the Lord be my strength." Cheerfulness and joy were Mary's strength. This made her a willing handmaid of God. Only joy could have given her the strength to go in haste over the hills of Judea to her cousin Elizabeth, there to do the work of a handmaid. If we are to be true handmaids of the Lord, then we too, each day, must go cheerfully in haste over the hills of difficulty.

May 29 We are here to be witnesses of love and to celebrate life, because life has been created in the image of God. Life is to love and to be loved. That's why we all have to take a strong stand so that no child – boy or girl – will be rejected or unloved. Every child is a sign of God's love.

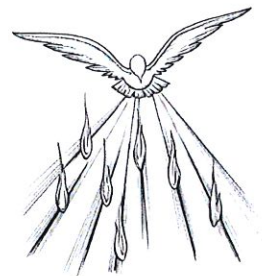
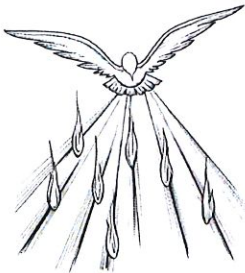
May 30 – Our life of poverty is a necessary as the work itself. Only in heaven will we see how much we owe to the poor for helping us to love God better because of them.

May 31 – Every day is preparation for death. By realizing this, it helps somehow, because we each have to die a little each day. Death is nothing except going back to Him, where He is and where we belong.

June 1 - One man told me: "I am an atheist," but he spoke so beautifully about love, Mother told me: "You cannot be an atheist if you speak so beautifully about love." Where there is love, there is God. God is love.

June 2 If you are hungry to hear the voice of God, you will hear. To hear, you have to cut out all other things.

June 3 – Let us offer everything to Jesus – every sorrow, humiliation, discomfort. In this way, you too, can take your stand at the foot of the Cross with Mary, our Mother.



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
---June 21 – Community Meal – Methodist Community Center 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

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

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.



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.

All Diocese of Toledo Parish Festivals have been added the Diocese's calendar toledodiocese.org/calendar or pick up the Festival Guide on the back table.



HelpOurMarriage.com
RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

The Retrouvaille Program is for Married Couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship

A weekend has been scheduled for the Northwest Ohio Chapter!

July 14th – July 16th

**St. Francis Spirituality Center 200 St. Francis Ave
Tiffin, OH 44883**

Register at <https://helpourmarriage.org>

**Contact email: NWOHio@helpourmarriage.org Or
call: 419-481-1116**

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

Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of May 28 – June 3

Sunday, May 28 – St. Bernard of Montjoux - St. Bernard of Montjoux (c. 923–1008 A.D.), also known as St. Bernard of Menthon, was born to a wealthy and noble family in the Kingdom of Arles (present day France and Switzerland). As an adult he refused an honorable marriage and determined instead to give his life in service to the Church. He became a priest in northern Italy and spent more than four decades doing missionary work in the Alps. He built schools and churches, and is especially known for aiding travelers. The area where he ministered had an ancient, snowy, and dangerous pass winding through the mountains along which pilgrims traveled to and from Rome. To serve the pilgrims St. Bernard built a hospice at the highest point of the pass, 8,000 feet above sea level. Later he founded another hospice along another smaller pass. St. Bernard obtained papal approval for communities of priests to serve in the hospices, which have generously aided travelers for more than a millennium. The priests and their well-trained dogs (the St. Bernard breed named for the saint) would seek and rescue lost pilgrims. St. Bernard was declared the patron saint of skiers and mountain climbers by Pope Pius XI in 1923. His feast day is celebrated on May 28th.

Monday, May 29 – St. Bona of Pisa - St. Bona (1156 – 1207 A.D.) was born in Pisa, Italy. She experienced visions at a young age which led her into an ascetical life of penance and fasting. She dedicated herself to God at the early age of ten and became an Augustinian tertiary. At the age of fourteen she went on her first pilgrimage to Jerusalem where her father was fighting in the crusades. On her trip home she was captured and wounded by Muslim pirates and imprisoned, later being rescued by her fellow countrymen. She became fond of making pilgrimages and returned to the Holy Land many times. She also led a large pilgrimage group along the Way of St. James (Santiago de Compostela), a 1,000 mile journey. She had a great devotion to St. James, whom she had seen in a vision as a child. She was named an official guide of the ancient route by the Knights of St. James. St. Bona made the Way of St. James a total of nine times. On her tenth trip she had to return home due to illness, and died soon after. St. Bona of Pisa is the patron saint of travelers, couriers, tour guides, pilgrims, flight attendants, and the city of Pisa. Her feast day is May 29th.

Tuesday, May 30 – St. Joan of Arc - St. Joan of Arc (1412-1431) was born in Domremy, France to peasant farmers during the Hundred Years War between France and England. She was a pious child, and from age 13 she received visions of saints, most notably St. Michael the Archangel, St. Margaret of Antioch, and St. Catherine of Alexandria, who became her special patrons. Through these visions, voices, and other interior promptings, Joan understood that she was to help the King of France regain his throne. After overcoming her own reluctance, and that of the military and ecclesiastical authorities, she heroically led the French army in battle. With her leadership they recaptured Orleans and Troyes, which allowed Charles VII to be restored to the throne of France. All the while she wore the dress of a soldier to protect her virtue and modesty. The following year she was captured by the English, imprisoned, and placed on trial under accusation of heresy and witchcraft. She was treated unjustly and illegally during her captivity, and her trial became a circus. Under political pressure she was condemned and burned alive at the stake, even though she proved herself to be blameless and fearless in character and faith. As she burned she kept her eyes on a crucifix and repeatedly called on the name of Jesus. A second Church trial twenty-five years later nullified the earlier verdict and found her innocent of all charges, paving the way for her veneration as a saint. St. Joan of Arc is the patron saint of captives, rape victims, soldiers, and France. Her feast day is May 30th.

Wednesday, May 31 – St. Petronille - St. Petronille (1st c.), also known as Petronilla, was a virgin martyr of the early Church in Rome. According to tradition she was connected to St. Peter the Apostle; she may have been either his natural daughter, servant, convert (spiritual daughter), or co-laborer in the faith. It is also a tradition that St. Petronilla was cured of palsy by St. Peter. She is remembered for being beautiful, for refusing marriage to a pagan king due to her vow of chastity, and for suffering martyrdom for her unwavering faith. In the 8th century the chapel containing her relics became the burial place of French kings. This is due to the fact that she was the supposed daughter of St. Peter, and the French kings were considered the "adopted sons" of St. Peter; therefore, St. Petronille was invoked as an intercessor for all treaties between the Holy See and the French crown. Her relics were later moved to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, and on her feast day Mass at St. Peter's is offered for France and attended by French residents living in Rome. St. Petronille is the patroness of the dauphins of France, mountain travelers, and against fever. Her feast day is May 31st.

Thursday, June 1 – St. Bede - St. Justin Martyr (100–165 A.D.) was a pagan philosopher from Samaria. After meeting a Syrian Christian who convinced him that the biblical prophets were more trustworthy in the pursuit of truth than worldly philosophers, St. Justin renounced his paganism and studied Sacred Scripture. The bold witness of the early Christian martyrs led to his own conversion to the Catholic faith. St. Justin then used his philosophical and rhetorical skills to defend Christianity, the "true philosophy," against rival pagan philosophies and political powers which maligned and persecuted the Church. He traveled throughout Asia Minor teaching, arguing, and persuading others to accept baptism and follow Christ, before arriving in Rome where he settled and started his own school. Justin was arrested for his faith in Rome and ordered to make sacrifice to false gods, which he refused. He was martyred by beheading along with several of his students. Justin Martyr is famous for writing the Church's first "Apology," or defense of the Christian faith, showing that Christianity was superior to the pagan religions, and that Christians were model citizens and should not be mistreated. His writings are a prime source of the history of the primitive Church in worship and sacraments, including the Holy Eucharist. He is one of the first great apologists of the Church, and for this he is the patron saint of speakers, apologists, and philosophers. His feast day is June 1st.

Friday, June 2 – St. Philip Neri - St. Elmo (d. 303 AD), also known as St. Erasmus of Formia, was an Italian bishop during the reign of Roman Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. During their brutal persecution against Christians, St. Elmo left his diocese and fled to Mount Lebanon where he lived for seven years. An angel advised him to return to his diocese in order to vanquish his enemies. As he traveled there he was stopped and questioned by Roman soldiers. After declaring himself to be a Christian, he was brought to stand trial before Diocletian himself. St. Elmo confessed his faith in Christ and denounced the emperor for his impiety. For this rebuke he was tortured and thrown into prison, but an angel miraculously freed him so that he could continue on his journey and save many souls along the way. Two more times St. Elmo would endure the cycle of working miracles, baptizing thousands of people, getting arrested and mercilessly tortured, and being miraculously freed before arriving back in his own diocese. During his travels he suffered many horrible tortures at the hands of his enemies, but according to the oldest tradition he died at peace in Formia, though later accounts have him being martyred there by disembowelment. St. Elmo is the patron of mariners and sailors, abdominal pain, intestinal cramps, and women in labor. The electrical discharge on ships at sea, "St. Elmo's Fire," is named for him. His feast day is June 2nd.

Saturday, June 3 – St. Augustine of Canterbury - St. Kevin of Glendalough (498-618 A.D.) lived in Ireland during the age of the great early Irish saints, many of whom were his contemporaries. He was baptized by St. Cronan, and from age seven was taught by St. Petroc. From age twelve he studied under the Irish monks as a student of St. Eonagh, and eventually became a monk himself. Among his friends were St. Comgall, St. Columba, St. Cannich, and St. Kieran. After his ordination he lived a penitential life as a cave-dwelling hermit for seven years. Word of his holiness spread, and he attracted a group of followers which led him to found the famous monastery at Glendalough. Because of his fame this remote spot became a town and then a city, with offshoots of several other monastic foundations rising up around it. He served as abbot at Glendalough, and once the monastery was well-established he withdrew to live as a hermit again for four years. He was then called back to Glendalough, and continued to serve as abbot there until his death at age 120. St. Kevin has many legends surrounding him involving wild animals obeying his commands, seeking him for refuge, and helping him feed others. St. Kevin is the patron of blackbirds, Glendalough, the Archdiocese of Dublin, and he is one of the patron saints of Ireland. His feast day is June 3rd.

To Our Blessed Mother

(catholic.org)

We fly to your protection, most holy Mother of God; please listen to our petitions and needs, and deliver us from all dangers, ever glorious and blessed Virgin Mary.

Mary, our model and mother, by your obedience and patience you have taught us how to be true children of God. Please help us by your powerful assistance to overcome all our weaknesses, and to fulfill perfectly our tasks in life.

By your compassionate aid may we ever stand in spirit with you beneath the cross of Christ so that we may also rejoice with you in your divine Son's triumphant victory over sin and death.

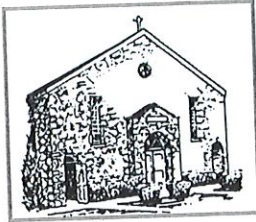
In your maternal kindness help us to be faithful to prayers in the company of God's Church as you were one with the Apostles in the upper room as you waited for the promised Spirit of Pentecost.

With your gracious assistance may we be near you in the glory of Christ's kingdom come to sing with you and all the faithful the eternal praise of God. Amen.

V. O Mary, conceived without sin,
R. Pray for us who have recourse to you.

You are all fair, O Virgin Mary,
You never knew the stain of sin;
You are the glory of Jerusalem,
You, the joy of Israel,
You, the great honor of our people,
You, the advocate of sinners.
O Mary, Virgin most prudent,
O Mary, Mother most merciful,
Pray for us,
Intercede for us with our Lord,
Jesus Christ.





Our Lady of Mercy Parish



MAY 28, 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 28	8:30 a.m.	OLM	Joyce Dwyer
	10:30 am	SP	Pat & Juanita Arend Greg Wlasiuk
Tues. May 30	7 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. May 31	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
	7:00p.m.	OLM	Rosary
Thurs. June 1	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. June 2	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. June 3	8:30a.m.	SP	For the People
	4:30p.m.	SP	Mary Grime
Sun. June 4	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Gina Damman

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Wednesday's – all of May
Rosary 7 p.m.
---June 4 – Altar Rosary meeting after
Mass

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for May 21, 2023

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (10 envelopes)	\$ 371.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 106.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over/(Under)	(\$ 1,270.00)
OTHER COLLECTIONS	
Postage Help	\$ 5.00
Ascension	\$ 65.00
Votive Candles	\$ 6.00
Youth Group Donation	\$ 800.00
TOTAL COLLECTION	\$ 1,353.00

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	June 3, 2023
Reader	Pat Eisel
Servers	Evan Beauregard Alise Herr Kennedy Kunkle
Greeters/ Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Ron Baker Barb Bruggeman



“Receive the
Holy Spirit.”
John 20:22

Dear Padre,

I am a practicing Catholic and I don't remember being confirmed. Is it too late for me to be confirmed?

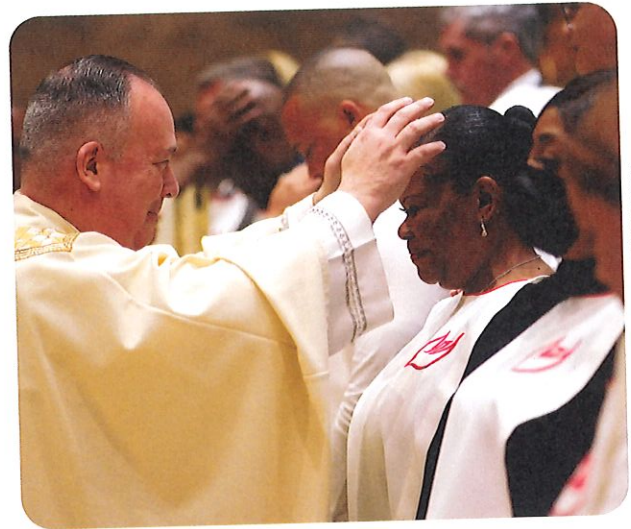
The sacrament of confirmation usually happens when a person is older, and therefore you would likely remember the occasion. It could be that you were not confirmed. You can check with the parish you lived in during your school years to be sure. They keep records of confirmations done in the parish.

Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation. Baptism ushers us into our life with God by giving us new life. Confirmation seals us with the spirit so we can follow Jesus and live out our particular vocation. And the Eucharist gives us strength for the journey and keeps us in union with God.

If you discover you have not been confirmed or if you can't find out for certain, talk with your pastor. You would not be the first adult seeking confirmation. Your pastor can tell you how your diocese handles confirmation for adults. There might be a program of adult instruction for confirmation to ensure you understand the sacrament and the teachings of the Church.

Today is Pentecost, the day when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the apostles. The Spirit gave them strength for what they had to do. The Spirit can do the same for you.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



CNS PHOTO/GUGLIEMO MANGIAPANE, REUTERS

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
May 29 <i>Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church</i> Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14 Jn 19:25-34	May 30 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 35:1-12 Mk 10:28-31	May 31 <i>Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16 Lk 1:39-56	June 1 <i>St. Justin, Martyr</i> Sir 42:15-25 Mk 10:46-52	June 2 <i>Weekday</i> Sir 44:1, 9-13 Mk 11:11-26	June 3 <i>St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs</i> Sir 51:12cd-20 Mk 11:27-33	June 4 <i>Most Holy Trinity</i> Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9 2 Cor 13:11-13 Jn 3:16-18



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were still disoriented and fearful. They did not yet have the courage to go out in the open. We too, at times, prefer to remain within the protective walls of our surroundings. But the Lord...sends upon us the Holy Spirit who envelops us and overpowers all our hesitations.

REGINA CAELI, ST. PETER'S SQUARE, MAY 23, 2021

A VIGIL LED BY POPE FRANCIS AHEAD OF PENTECOST SUNDAY AT THE VATICAN IN JUNE 2019.
CNS PHOTO/REMO CASILLI, REUTERS