



[Jesus] was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

MATTHEW 17:2

## The Gift of Mystery

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**n life there are moments that some call transcendence, when the divine shines through the human and the veil that seems to cloak another world falls ever so briefly to reveal that there are not two worlds but only one wrapped in mystery. That is what took place on a mountaintop when Peter, James, and John realized that this Jesus with whom they talked and walked and shared meals, this friend, this very ordinary one, was so much more, was extraordinary, was “of God.” While real, it seemed better not to tell anyone about what they had seen.

Are there also moments in our lives when the human glows with the divine, when we come to realize more clearly than ever before that there is another power at play in life than you yourself? Most assuredly. While we are powerless to create such experiences of transcendence, more than 100 years ago the psychologist William James described such moments when they do occur. He identified four qualities in such experiences: 1) they seem closer to being emotional than intellectual or cognitive; 2) they tend to bring us new understandings of life and of what is, akin to insights, though they cannot be found in a book or be taught; 3) they tend to be very brief, a few seconds for most people; and 4) there is a sense of being sustained by a superior power. This was the apostles’ experience of the transfiguration, the feast we celebrate today. ●

### Reflect

***Have you had an experience of the transcendent that changed you?***

# 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  
[OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)  
**Bookkeeper**  
Ron Baker  
[OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)  
**Youth Leader/CRE**  
Anita Van Zile

Website (bulletin online)  
[stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy](http://stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy)



## St. Peter

614 N. Defiance St.  
Archbold, OH 43502

### MASS SCHEDULE

1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:ourladyofmercyfayette@gmail.com) or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin

# SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023

## The Transfiguration of the Lord

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

### BULL THISTLE FESTIVAL BREAKFAST

Thank you to everyone that supported us and all of our helpers.  
Our Lady of Mercy Altar Rosary Society

### CONDOLENCES

Our Condolences go out to the Ron Lichtenwald family, who passed on July 22, 2023. Also, to the Betty Kunkle family, who passed away on July 26, 2023. Dear God, grant eternal rest for Ron and Betty, Amen.

### PREVIOUS WEEKS BULLETINS

For your convenience, the previous bulletin will be on the back table.

### OHIO SPECIAL ELECTION AUGUST 8, 2023

Don't forget to **VOTE** on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 on Issue 1.

### SHARING YOUR FLOWERS WITH MARY

If you have any flowers out of your garden that you would like to share with Mary, there will be extra vases on the back table every Sunday to put them in and then you can place by the statue of Mary.

### THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

"If you wish to help someone, give secretly and avoid arrogance." - St. Ephrem

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

**Aug. 6** – Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand. Anyone may gather it and no limit is set.

**Aug. 7**– I see God in every human being. When I wash the leper's wounds, I feel I am nursing the Lord Himself. Is that not a beautiful experience?

**Aug. 8** – It is easy to smile at people outside your own home. It is so easy to take care of the people that you don't know well. It is difficult to be thoughtful and kind and to smile and be loving to those you live with day after day. This is especially true when we are tired and in a bad temper or bad mood. We all have these moments and that is the time that Christ comes to us in a distressing disguise.

**Aug. 9** – If peace and love are not allowed to take their rightful place at the table of negotiation, then hatred and anger will produce conflict that will continue for many years to come. It will solve nothing, and thousands of innocent lives will be lost. I ask you all to pray for peace. It is such an urgent priority.

**Aug. 10** – If you are humble, nothing will touch you. Neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are. If you are blamed, you won't be discouraged; if anyone calls you a saint, you won't put yourself on a pedestal.

**Aug. 11**- If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

**Aug. 12** – Sacrifice, surrender, and suffering are not popular topics today. Our culture makes us believe that we can have it all, that we should demand our rights, that with the right technology all pain and problems can be overcome. That is not my attitude toward sacrifice.

### ST. PETER NEWS

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

#### Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 15, 2023 Mass 7 p.m. (Day of Holy Obligation)

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

### FAYETTE/SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

---May 6 – Oct. 28 – Farmer's Market @ Fayette Opera House Parking Lot – Saturday's 9 am – 1 pm

---August 12 – Fayette 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration @ Fayette Schools 10 am – 3pm

---August 16 – Community Meal – Fayette Methodist Community Center

If you know of any Fayette Community events, please either call or visit the office or email to [OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)



**Prayer chain-ANYONE** wishing to submit prayer requests can email Anita Van Zile at [vanzilejn@hotmail.com](mailto: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 96.01%.

## HELP WANTED

The Diocese has openings for employment. Check out the list at [toledodiocese.org/careers](http://toledodiocese.org/careers)

## SAVE THE DATE

2023 Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries

Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral  
October 22, 2022 | 3:00 p.m.

If you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2023 – 25, 40, 50, 60, or 60+ years – plan to join Bishop Daniel E. Thomas for the Order of Blessing Married Couples within Holy Mass. Registered couples receive a commemorative certificate and are invited to a reception following mass.

To register visit: [www.toledoanniversarymass.org](http://www.toledoanniversarymass.org)

## 2023 GRANT-SCHOLARSHIP REV. AUGUST SCHAEFER

The 2023 Rev. August Schaefer Liturgical Grant Cycle will open on Monday, July 3, 2023. Applications and deadlines can be found on the parish website at [stjosephmarblehead.org](http://stjosephmarblehead.org).

 **Love and Life Programs**  
Program 1: *I + YOU = WE*



Happy relationships don't grow on trees. Inspire your Marriage!

**October 7 - 8, 2023**  
Immaculate Conception Church • 414 Madison St. • Port Clinton, OH 43452

This is a unique weekend filled with lectures, dynamic workshops, and individual couple dialogue that leads you through 6 simple steps to real joy in your marriage. All married couples will benefit from this workshop.

**Program Leader**  
Fr. Jarosław "Jay" Szymczak  
Institute of the Holy Family • Warsaw, Poland

**Cost**  
\$250 per couple, \$300 after Sept. 25th

**Registration**



**Includes**

- Lecture & detailed workshop materials
- Coffee, tea & refreshments
- All meals

**More Information**  
[loveandlifeprogramsohio@gmail.com](mailto:loveandlifeprogramsohio@gmail.com)  
Aaron & Stephanie Gonyea 614-378-6975



Saturday, October 7th 8 am - 9 pm and Sunday, October 8th 8 am - 4 pm

For more Diocese of Toledo happenings please visit [toledodiocese.org/calendar](http://toledodiocese.org/calendar)

**THERE CAN BE NO EUCHARIST WITHOUT THE PRIESTHOOD,**  
JUST AS THERE CAN BE NO PRIESTHOOD WITHOUT THE EUCHARIST.  
POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

*In response to the priest shortage in the Diocese of Toledo,  
Bishop Daniel E. Thomas is asking the faithful to*

# PRAY & FAST

*for an increase in vocations to the priesthood*

**One Hail  
Mary**  
*every day*

**Fasting or  
Abstinence**  
*every friday*



**Diocese  
of Toledo**

[toledopriesthood.org](http://toledopriesthood.org)



# Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of August 6– August 12

**Sunday, August 6–St. Maria Francesca of Jesus Rubatto** - St. Maria Francesca of Jesus Rubatto (1844–1904) was one of eight children from an Italian family. Her father died when she was four. In her teenage years she received an offer of marriage, which she declined as she had taken a vow of virginity from an early age. When she was nineteen, after the death of her mother, Maria moved to Turin and befriended a noblewoman who gave her assistance. Maria taught catechism to the woman's children, in addition to the other children in the city. She also had a habit of visiting the sick and poor. One day a construction worker had an accident while building a convent, and Maria, who was walking nearby, helped him and gave him money so that he could recover from his injury. The sisters of the convent took notice of Maria for this act of charity and desired that she join their community. Maria accepted their invitation and was later appointed superior of this new community of Capuchin Franciscan sisters. She had a desire to serve in the overseas missions, and in 1892 left Italy and crossed the Atlantic Ocean to South America. She made this journey seven times in her work of founding Catholic missions in Uruguay and Argentina. Her feast day is August 6th. She was canonized on May 15, 2022 by Pope Francis.

**Monday, August 7 –Pope St. Sixtus II** - Pope St. Sixtus II (d. 258 A.D.) became the Roman Pontiff in the year 257 A.D. His early life is uncertain, and he is mentioned by name in the Roman Canon of the Mass. He helped mend the relationship between Rome and the Eastern and African churches over the problem of the rebaptism of converted heretics, a controversy which threatened schism. St. Sixtus II, a peaceful man, restored friendly relations and maintained unity. However, he served as Holy Father for only one year due to the persecution of Christians by Roman Emperor Valerian. As a result, Pope St. Sixtus II was suppressed and forbidden to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. He continued to worship in secret in defiance to the unjust law, and while offering Mass in a cemetery chapel he was ambushed and beheaded by Roman soldiers. His feast day is August 7th.

**Tuesday, August 8– St. Dominic** - St. Dominic (1170–1221) was born in Spain to a family of noble lineage. His mother, Blessed Jane of Aza, prayed at the church of St. Dominic Silos to conceive a male child, her first two sons being given to the priesthood. In answer to her prayer, she dreamed that a dog leaped from her womb carrying a torch in its mouth which set the world ablaze. At his baptism, his godmother beheld a star shining from his forehead. As a child Dominic showed signs of great sanctity and intelligence, and he was also given to the Church for the priesthood. When famine struck Dominic sold his rare and expensive theology books to feed the poor. As a priest he traveled with his bishop into southern France and discovered that it had been overrun with a heretical movement which led many away from the Church. This inflamed his desire to devote his life to apostolic preaching for the salvation of souls, at the time an office reserved to bishops. With the Pope's approval he founded the Order of Preachers, or the Dominicans, committed to defend the truth of the Catholic faith. St. Dominic's Order was novel in that it combined the active and contemplative religious life with the labor of scholarly study and itinerate preaching. St. Dominic was innovative in meeting the needs of his time to defend the Church against her enemies. To aid his mission, Our Lady appeared to him and gave him a new devotion—the Holy Rosary. St. Dominic is the patron saint of scientists and astronomers. His feast day is August 8th.

**Wednesday, August 9– St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross** - St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (1891–1942) was born as Edith Stein in Prussia, the youngest of eleven children from a devout Jewish family. She was a bright and gifted child, and as she matured she became an atheist. She went on to receive a doctorate in philosophy, studying under the famous philosophers Heidegger and Husserl. Despite her atheism, she was affected by several friends who displayed a great passion for the Catholic faith. One day, while staying at a friend's home, she saw the autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila. She read it from cover to cover, and after finishing it she exclaimed, "This is the Truth." Edith was baptized in Cologne, Germany in 1922. From there she taught for a time at a Dominican school and studied St. Thomas Aquinas and other Catholic philosophers. When the rise of anti-semitism forced her to resign from a teaching post, she wrote to Pope Pius XI asking him to publicly denounce the Nazis. Discerning a call to the religious life, she became a Carmelite nun in Cologne 1934, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross after her special devotion to the Cross of Christ. When the Nazi threat grew in Germany, her Order transferred her to a convent in the Netherlands for safety. There Edith grew in her desire to offer her life for the salvation of souls. The Nazis eventually came for her, and she, along with her sister Rose, who was also a convert, were sent to the Nazi concentration camp in Auschwitz. They were both killed in the gas chamber. St. Edith Stein is the patroness of martyrs and Europe. Her feast day is August 9th.

**Thursday, August 10– St. Lawrence of Rome** - St. Lawrence of Rome (d. 258 A.D.) was likely a Spaniard by birth who lived in Rome while Christianity was outlawed under pain of death. He was appointed by Pope St. Sixtus II as archdeacon over the seven deacons of Rome, and held the sacred duty of tending to the Church's wealth and distributing alms to the poor. After Pope St. Sixtus II was beheaded by Roman Emperor Valerian, along with the six other deacons, Lawrence was left as the highest-ranking clergy in Rome. He was ordered by the Roman authorities to appear before the tribunal—a summons to his execution—along with the treasures of the Church that were in his possession. St. Lawrence then quickly distributed the Church's wealth to the poor so that the government could not confiscate it. On the appointed day, August 10th, Lawrence responded to the summons by bringing with him a multitude of the poor and crippled of Rome; these he proclaimed to be the true treasure of the Church. This angered the authorities so greatly that Lawrence was ordered to be burned alive on a gridiron. He was bound to the metal grate and slowly roasted to death over hot coals. During his torture Lawrence famously mocked his torturers by saying, "I am done on this side, turn me over." St. Lawrence is the patron saint of many causes including cooks, chefs, comedians, deacons, librarians, students, and the poor. His feast day is August 10th.

**Friday, August 11– St. Clare of Assisi** - St. Clare (1194–1253) was born in Assisi, Italy, to an aristocratic family, the daughter of a wealthy count. From childhood she was pious after the example of her mother, and as she grew up her longing for God increased. When she was eighteen she heard St. Francis of Assisi preach a Lenten mission in the local church. His holy example kindled her desire to renounce the world and follow Christ. She secretly begged Francis to help her live as he did, in simplicity according to the Gospel. St. Francis agreed. On Palm Sunday, Clare attended High Mass in all her finery for the final time. There she received a mystical experience which confirmed her desire to renounce the world and follow Christ after the example of St. Francis. That same night she secretly fled her father's house, along with two companions, to a chapel where St. Francis awaited her with his friars. She exchanged her fine clothes for a rough tunic and veil, and had her hair cut off. Francis placed Clare for a time with Benedictine nuns to escape the wrath of her family. She was soon joined by her sister, Agnes, and other young women whom St. Francis inspired. He permanently housed the women, with Clare as abbess, in the Church of San Damiano outside Assisi. This became the first foundation of the Poor Clare nuns. St. Clare lived there for the next forty years in prayer, penance, and fasting. She is the patroness of eyes and eye diseases, the telephone, and television. Her feast day is August 11th.

**Saturday, August 12– St. Jeanne de Chantal** - St. Jeanne (Jane) Frances de Chantal (1572–1641) was born in Dijon, France. She was the daughter of the president of parliament, and lived up to her noble status as a refined, cheerful, and beautiful woman. At the age of twenty-one she married a baron and together they had six children. She was strong in her faith, having daily Mass said in her castle, giving alms to the poor, and skillfully managing her household. After seven years of marriage, her husband was killed in an accident. To protect the estate for her children, she was obliged to live with her ill-tempered father-in-law for seven years. When she was thirty-two she met St. Francis de Sales, whom she had previously seen in a vision after praying for a spiritual director. To her private vow of chastity she added another of obedience to his direction, while continuing to provide for her children. At the age of forty-five, after meeting her family obligations, she and St. Francis founded a religious institute for women, the Congregation of the Visitation, which was to exemplify the virtues of the Virgin Mary at the Visitation. The Visitation sisters accepted women who were rejected from other religious orders due to age or illness. They were notable for their charitable works. Aristocrats and the nobility flocked to Jeanne de Chantal's reception-room to seek her counsel. She underwent great trials, including the deaths of many of her close family and friends. She also traveled extensively to found new Visitation houses, having established eighty-six at the time of her death. Her feast day is August 12th.



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish



AUGUST 6, 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. Aug. 6	8:30 a.m.	OLM	Chad Miller Maxine Sanders Judy Miller
	10:30 am	SP	Mary Grime
Tues. Aug. 8	7 p.m.	SP	Pat & Juanita Arend
Wed. Aug. 9	9:00a.m..	SP	Mike Salinas
Thurs..Aug. 10	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Aug. 11	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Aug. 12	8:30a.m.	SP	NO MASS
	4:30p.m.	SP	Mary Grime, Mona LaNeve
Sun. Aug. 13	8:30a.m.	OLM	Marcel Bonin
	10:30a.m	SP	Gina Johnson, Cindy Eddy

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Aug. 17 – Finance Council meeting  
5:30 p.m.

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for July 30, 2023

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (14 envelopes)	\$ 821.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 266.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over/(Under)	(\$ 660.00)
<b>OTHER COLLECTIONS</b>	
CPC Jar	\$ 20.00
Maintenance	\$ 500.00
CHWC (funds not used)	\$ 200.00
Bull Thistle Food donation	\$ 15.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$ 1,822.00</b>

### NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

August 13, 2023

Reader	Pat Eisel
Servers	
Greeters/ Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ushers	Phil & Tami Baker
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Phil & Tami Baker Barb Bruggeman

**Word(s) of the week** (from Merriam-Webster online dictionary)

**TRANSFIGURE** - to give a new and typically exalted or spiritual appearance to

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. *Matthew 17:2*



# Dear Padre,

*For the past year or so I have been trying to pray on a regular basis, but I am constantly distracted. My mind wanders so easily. Do you have any suggestions?*

Distractions in prayer are an inescapable part of the human condition and the result of our imagination. Even great saints experienced distractions in prayer, and some of their suggestions may help. When St. Thérèse of Lisieux struggled with prayer, she would recite an Our Father or a Hail Mary or read from the Gospels. Praying an act of faith or returning to God's presence and love can turn our focus away from other concerns, but even then, distractions may still arise.

When we become aware of them, we should calmly renew our focus and continue our prayer. Saint Teresa of Ávila offers this guidance: "We should not be distressed by reason of our thoughts, nor allow ourselves to be worried by them....The thing is inevitable, therefore do not let it disturb or grieve you" (*The Interior Castle*). No matter how often distractions return or how long they last, they are not sinful. Rather, they are opportunities to show God that we are sincere about praying.

Saint Alphonsus, another great teacher of prayer, reminds us that prayer is necessary, beneficial, and always possible. Hang in there, he says, because the devil would like nothing better than for you to stop praying. ●

**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**



ENADAN / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
August 7 Weekday Nm 11:4b-15 Mt 14:13-21	August 8 St. Dominic, Priest Nm 12:1-13 Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14	August 9 Weekday Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 Mt 15:21-28	August 10 St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr 2 Cor 9:6-10 Jn 12:24-26	August 11 St. Clare, Virgin Dt 4:32-40 Mt 16:24-28	August 12 Weekday Dt 6:4-13 Mt 17:14-20	August 13 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We have not seen with our own eyes the face of Jesus shining like the sun. However, we too were given the Word of Salvation, faith was given to us, and we have experienced the joy of meeting Jesus in different ways. Jesus also says to us: "Rise, and have no fear" (Matthew 17:7).*

ANGELUS, MARCH 8, 2020