



## Yes or No?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**C**onfronted by a social obligation I would prefer to avoid, I frequently find myself musing that the timing is right for me to break a leg or get the flu. Yet more often than not, once I go, I find myself enjoying the gathering. Not all invitations are exciting or even desirable, but many become the building blocks of our lives.

When the parable of Jesus tells of an invitation to come to a wedding feast, it's really a story of our invitation to the kingdom of heaven, where, if we accept, we will dwell in the divine presence and enjoy the peace, joy, and love of God. Heaven is not only *where* we are but also *how* we are. It's an invitation to deeper and richer life—a taste of heaven, even in this life.

So it's good to consider going where we'd rather not

go. It's not simply about social gatherings, though a social gathering may be the event where you meet the person you fall in love with. It also may mean going for counseling when that may be a bit scary, or confronting one's addiction, or moving to a new city, or accepting serious and lifelong illness, or saying yes to having a child with special needs, or not getting the job you hoped for. Saying yes to what life brings may be the wedding garment that enriches our lives. It may be saying yes to God. ●

### Reflect

***When has going where you'd rather not go enriched your life?***

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son."

MATTHEW 22:2



# 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.



## 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@rtexexpress.net

### Religious Ed

Deb Herring  
Parish Council President  
Stephen Bernath

## 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

Tami Baker

[OLMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLMBookkeeper@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)

## 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 [OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com) or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin

# SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023

## 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Ordinary Time

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

### BFF'S (BREAKFAST, FRIENDS & FELLOWSHP) TODAY

Please come and join us after Mass on TODAY. Today will be a LIGHT breakfast.

### PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNSEL MEETINGS

Pastoral & Finance Counsel's will meet on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Finance Counsel at 5:30 p.m. and Pastoral Council at 6:15 p.m. in the Parish Office.

### THANK YOU

Thank you, Ron Baker, for your years of service as Bookkeeper here at Our Lady of Mercy. We appreciate all the work you have given us in all our bookkeeping needs. God Bless you and have a very Blessed time in Florida.

### ROSARY MONTH OF OCTOBER

The Rosary will be prayed every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. for the month of October. On October 18, 2023, 7 p.m., Father Bill will be leading the Rosary and everyone from the Parish is encouraged to attend.

### OCTOBER ATTENDANCE

Ushers, please mark the attendance on the sheet in the back of church. Please count all who are in attendance including baby's.

### SAVE THE DATE

Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting A Night of Healing with the Ministry to Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Diocese of Toledo. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 7 p.m. Please join us for a night of Worship, Healing, Adoration, Witness, Prayer and Reconciliation.

### PREVIOUS WEEKS BULLETINS

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

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

"Ask Jesus to make you a saint. After all, only He can do that"- St. Dominic Savio

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

**Oct. 15** – Suffering is an inevitable part of life. When suffering comes to us, let us accept it with a smile. This is one of the greatest gifts God has given us: the courage of to accept with a smile whatever He gives, whatever He allows, whatever He takes.

**Oct. 16** - If you were to die today, what would others say about you? What was in you that was beautiful, that was Christlike, that helped others to pray better? Face yourself, with Jesus at your side, and do not be satisfied with just any answer. Go deep into the question. Examine your life.

**Oct. 17** – When we realize that we are all sinners needing forgiveness, it will be easier for us to forgive others. We have to be forgiven in order to be able to forgive. If I do not understand this, it will be very hard for me to say, "I forgive you" to anyone.

**Oct. 18**– Material riches and spiritual riches can both choke you if you do not use them fairly. For not even God can put anything in a heart that is already full. One day there springs up the desire for money and for all that money can provide: superfluous luxury. Eating fine meals, the finest clothes, luxury homes, expensive vacations. These things are trifle. One desire leads to another, and then we begin to think that we need these things. The result is uncontrollable dissatisfaction. Let us live simply or remain as empty as possible so that God can fill us up.

**Oct. 19** – Life is an adventure, dare it.

**Oct. 20** – If we were truly humble, nothing would change us – neither praise or discouragement. If someone were to criticize us, we would not feel discouraged. If someone would praise us, we also would not feel proud.

**Oct. 21** – Bring love into your homes. If you truly love God, start loving your son or your daughter and your spouse. And the elderly, where are they? In nursing homes! Why are they not with you? And where is the retarded child? In an institution! Why is he not with you? That child is a gift from God.

### ST. PETER NEWS

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

#### ALL SAINTS (Day of Holy Obligation) – MASSES

October 31 – 7 p.m.

November 1 – 9 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

*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

--Oct. 18 – Community meal – Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5 – 6 p.m., OLOM hosting

---Oct. 21 – Mancino's Archbold, OH – fundraiser for Reach Up, Inc. Jail Ministry

---Oct. 24 – Fayette PTO Pancake & Sausage dinner – 5 -7 p.m. Fayette schools

If you know of any Fayette Community events, please either call or visit the office or email to  
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 the 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.**



Let us Pray

Please join our Religious Education Students in praying the Rosary with Fr Bill on Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

You are also invited to bring any of your non-blessed rosaries that evening to be blessed after the rosary is completed.

### **Our Lady of Mercy Youth Breakfast**

**Sunday, October 22, 2023**

**Immediately following the 8:30 am Mass**

Free will offering will be used to offset costs for our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual \*Catholic HEART Workcamp summer mission trip in June 2024.

\*Destination: Louisville KY



# Our Lady of Mercy Profit & Loss

For the Year Ended:	June 30	June 30	
	2023	2022	
Income	Amount	Amount	Notes:
Christmas & Easter Collection	2,308	2,956	
Misc Collection	597	499	Postage & Mission Collection, Votive Candles
<b>Maintenance Collection</b>	<b>11,669</b>	<b>14,091</b>	Maintenance
Stipends - Masses Said	760	730	Donations for Sacraments & Masses
Religious Education	140	475	
<b>Silent Festival</b>	<b>10,557</b>	<b>8,543</b>	
Youth Group & Mission Trip	4,126	2,090	Donations, Fundraisers & Mission Trip
Interest Income	1,581	452	
Misc Income	1,056	2,243	Christmas and Easter Flowers, rental, misc.
<b>Sunday Collections</b>	<b>63,796</b>	<b>65,554</b>	
Holy Day Collections	949	601	
Special Gifts - Unrestricted	4,025	5,000	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>101,564</b>	<b>103,234</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
Salary Expense	42,366	38,762	Wages, payroll taxes, & health insurance
Office Expense	7,061	6,493	
Rectory & Household Expense	4,545	4,925	Costs shared 1/3rd OLOM & 2/3rds St Peter
Altar, Sanctuary & Liturgy Expense	4,103	4,183	
Religious Education Expense	1,004	1,614	
Parish Activities & Charity Expense	1,210	1,262	
Youth Ministry Expense	5,302	1,571	Activities & Catholic Heart Work Camp
Building Expense - Utilities	9,826	7,651	Gas, Electric, Refuse, Water & Sewer
Building Expense - Maint. & Repairs, Taxes	2,918	1,570	
Building Expense - Insurance	3,960	3,660	
Diocese Assessments	10,020	9,026	Assessment, Priest Retirement, Scholarship
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>92,315</b>	<b>80,717</b>	
<b>Net ordinary income (loss)</b>	<b>9,249</b>	<b>22,517</b>	
Capital Fund Income - Living Christ Campaign	1,225	0	
Capital Expense	-5,556	-540	2023 - Share of Rectory Upgrades
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>4,918</b>	<b>21,977</b>	
<b>Account Balances as of June 30,</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	
Parish Checking Account	\$21,626	\$19,695	
Savings Account	97,849	95,050	
Petty Cash	38	41	
<b>Total Cash and Savings</b>	<b>119,513</b>	<b>114,786</b>	
Designated Collections Payable	154	345	
<b>Net Assets Held</b>	<b>\$119,359</b>	<b>\$114,441</b>	

## FISCAL YEARS

July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022

July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023



## DIOCESE OF TOLEDO NEWS

**ACA** in progress – information and envelopes are on the table in the back.  
Our Lady of Mercy is at 99.50%.

### HELP WANTED

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

### DIOCESE OF TOLEDO CALENDAR

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

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Office for Life and Justice of the Diocese of Toledo is **calling for volunteers** to knock on doors and make phone calls to inform voters about the importance of voting no on Issue 1. If you're willing to volunteer, please contact the Northwest Ohio Regional Coordinator, Tim Szocinski at [tim@createdequal.org](mailto:tim@createdequal.org). Most importantly, please join us in prayer for the defeat of this dangerous abortion amendment.

### MESSAGE FROM BISHOP THOMAS ON OHIO ISSUE 1

As the November election nears, it is vital for every Catholic in the Diocese of Toledo and all of Ohio to understand the grave moral seriousness of Issue 1 and realize that this is not a political issue but an issue of *life*. In order to help the faithful understand the proposed abortion amendment, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas made a video going through the actual text of the and what it means.

Please join Bishop Thomas and all the faithful of Ohio is praying for the defeat of Issue 1 and voting no on Issue 1!

Link to video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucKKKlc0SEo>

Link to video on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bishopdethomas/videos/1764393774038509>

An extreme amendment is on the Ohio ballot in November that threatens the health and safety of women, the rights of parents and the lives of pre-born babies up to 9 months.

Vote **NO**  
Issue 1  
Nov. 7

PROTECT

*Women.*

PROTECT

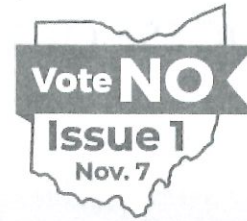
*Families.*

PROTECT

*Children.*



Early voting starts on Oct. 11. Scan to find out where you can vote early.



*Catholics across Ohio are praying a Rosary Novena*

for the protection of human life and dignity and the defeat of Issue 1.

This week the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary will be prayed Sunday through Friday followed by 9 days of the Sorrowful Mysteries.

Sign up for a daily email reminder with novena prayers here, or at [pray54ohio.org](http://pray54ohio.org).



  
**SANCTUS**  
EUCCHARISTIC FAMILY REVIVAL

**Saturday, November 4**

St. Joseph Parish, Sylvania

9:00am to 4:00pm

Guided by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, with worship led by Seph Schlueter.



Scan Me:



**ST. MARGARET MARY ALAOCQUE**  
Feast Day: October 16



*"My greatest happiness is to be before the Blessed Sacrament, where my heart is."*

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque is best known for Jesus revealing to her the devotion to His Sacred Heart. During these revelations, among other things, a "Holy Hour" of reparation was requested by Jesus. These revelations eventually helped to cement the idea of spending a "Holy Hour" before the Blessed Sacrament.

In 1675, within the octave of the feast of Corpus Christi, Jesus appeared to her and said: "Behold this heart which, notwithstanding the burning love for men with which it is consumed and exhausted, meets with no other return from most Christians than sacrilege, contempt, indifference and ingratitude, even in the sacrament of my love [the Eucharist]. But what pierces my heart most deeply is that I am subjected to these insults by persons especially consecrated to my service."

# Saints of the Day ([www.morningoffering.com](http://www.morningoffering.com))

Week of October 15 -October 21

**Sunday, Oct. 15–St. Teresa of Avila** - St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582), also known as St. Teresa of Jesus, was born in Spain to a large, devout, and prominent Catholic family. Fascinated with the lives of the saints taught to her by her pious parents, as children she and a brother tried to run away from home to seek martyrdom among the Moors. After an uncle found them and returned them home, they built hermitages for themselves in the family garden. At the age of 14 Teresa was plunged into sorrow upon the death of her mother; to find consolation she asked the Virgin Mary to be her new mother. When she began to exhibit worldly vanities, her father placed her in a convent to be educated with other ladies of her social class. Determined to avoid marriage, and motivated more by the need for security than love for God, at the age of twenty Teresa entered religious life as a Carmelite nun. For two decades she led what she describes as a mediocre prayer life, hindered by too much socialization with visitors. However, an intense prayer experience in her forties helped her to renounce worldly attachments and enter deeper into a life of prayer. She advanced rapidly and taught others to do the same, being encouraged by a vision of the place reserved for her in hell if she was unfaithful to God's graces. She had many profound mystical experiences for which she was often slandered and ridiculed. After the reform of her own life she worked hard to reform the laxity of many Carmelite convents, and was successful even while being greatly opposed in her efforts. She was a strong and important female figure of her era, and her great progress in the spiritual life led her to write the spiritual classics *Interior Castle* and *The Way of Perfection*. For these works St. Teresa of Avila was named the first female Doctor of the Church. Her feast day is October 15th.

**Monday, Oct. 16 –St. Margaret Mary Alacoque** - St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) was born in France to a virtuous and distinguished family. As a child she showed great devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and by the age of 9 was practicing severe penances. In her childhood she became sick with rheumatic fever and was confined to bed for four years. She made a vow to the Blessed Virgin to consecrate herself to the religious life, after which she was instantly healed. She often had visions of Jesus, which she thought was a normal experience in the spiritual life. When she turned 17 her mother insisted that she establish a place for herself in the world. Margaret imagined that her childhood vow was not binding, and persuaded herself that she could serve God while living at home and continuing her penances and charity to the poor. She then joined her brothers at dances and began considering marriage. One day, upon returning home from a carnival ball, Jesus appeared to her and reproached her for her infidelity, reminding her of her promise. Margaret then entered a Visitation convent at the age of 24. Jesus appeared to her frequently, and entrusted to her the mission of establishing devotion to his Sacred Heart during a time when religion in France had grown rigorous and cold. Because of her visions she was greatly persecuted by those around her, until her virtue under suffering won over her enemies. Her visions were determined to be genuine and officially recognized by the Catholic Church 75 years after her death. Her feast day is October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Tuesday, Oct. 17– St. Ignatius of Antioch** - St. Ignatius of Antioch (d. c. 98-117) was a Syrian who became a disciple of St. John the Apostle. Tradition holds that he was the infant whom Jesus took in his arms, saying, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me" as recounted in Mark's Gospel. St. Ignatius was a pagan convert to Christianity and succeeded St. Peter the Apostle as the third bishop of Antioch, being ordained by St. Peter himself. He was an important Church Father of the Apostolic age, an ideal pastor, and a fearless soldier of Christ. He was tireless in supporting his flock against dangerous heresies and the terrors of the persecutions of the Roman Emperors. When Ignatius violated the imperial edict to worship false gods, he was arrested and led before Emperor Trajan. After boldly proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ, he was condemned to be devoured by wild beasts for public sport in the Roman Colosseum. On his journey from Syria to Rome he wrote many letters to his fellow Christians, encouraging them with his apostolic zeal and exhorting them to obey their bishops. He also pleaded that none try to obtain his release, as he was eager to lay down his life for Jesus, saying, "The only thing I ask of you is to allow me to offer the libation of my blood to God. I am the wheat of the Lord; may I be ground by the teeth of the beasts to become the immaculate bread of Christ." He was devoured by lions in Rome in the early second century. St. Ignatius of Antioch is the first to have used the term "Catholic" Church, meaning "Universal." His feast day is October 17th.

**Wednesday, Oct. 18– St. Luke the Evangelist** - St. Luke the Evangelist (1st c.) was a well-educated Greek physician and a native of Antioch in Syria. He was a follower of St. Paul the Apostle and spent most of his life evangelizing with him in Asia Minor up until the time of Paul's martyrdom in Rome. Luke wrote a canonical account of his apostolic journeys with Paul (the Book of Acts) as well as a biography on the life of Christ (the Gospel of Luke). The two books of Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles were originally a single work. The intimate accounts contained in Luke's gospel of the early



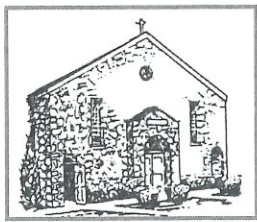
**(St. Luke – cont.)**

years of Christ's life (the Visitation, the Nativity, the Presentation, etc.) lead many scholars to believe that one of the eyewitnesses he interviewed was the Blessed Virgin Mary herself. According to tradition he was also a skilled artist and painted the first icons of Our Lady with the Child Jesus. Several of these icons are still venerated today, the most famous of which hangs in the Church of St. Mary Major in Rome. St. Luke is the patron saint of many trades including artists, painters, doctors, surgeons, and bachelors. His feast day is October 18th.

**Thursday, Oct. 19 – St. Isaac Jogues** - St. Isaac Jogues (1607–1646) was born in France to a middle-class family, and at the age of 17 entered a Jesuit seminary where he displayed a talent for writing and teaching. He was ordained in January of 1636 at the age of 29, and three months later was sent as a missionary priest to the rugged wilderness of New France (now Canada) to work among the Huron and Algonquin Native American tribes. Despite the hardship of life in the wilderness, Isaac experienced great spiritual joy in his mission. One day, six years into his work, he was captured by a Mohawk-Iroquois war party. He was enslaved and ritually tortured, in addition to being malnourished and inadequately clothed. His hands were severely mutilated and many of his fingers destroyed, which prevented his ability to say Mass. He continued to preach the faith and was named Ondessonk, "the indomitable one," by his Mohawk captors. After over a year in captivity he escaped with the help of Dutch settlers. He went back to France where he was honored as a "living martyr." He obtained special permission from the pope to say Mass with his mutilated hands. Instead of continuing his life in peace, St. Isaac was zealous to return to his mission field. He returned to New France, and by that time a peace treaty was arranged between the warring native tribes allowing him to work among the Mohawks. However, when they suffered a crisis of crop failure and epidemic disease, the Mohawks blamed the Christians for sorcery and attacked the settlers. St. Isaac Jogues died after being tomahawked in the head, and his body was thrown into the Mohawk River. He is the patron of the Americas and Canada. Isaac Jogues earned the name "Apostle of the Mohawks" for his work. New York state's first Catholic baptismal record was due to his priestly ministry. He and his companions were the first martyrs of the North American continent officially recognized by the Church. His feast day is October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Friday, Oct. 20– St. Paul of the Cross** - St. Paul of the Cross (1694–1775) was born near Turin, Italy, the second of sixteen children—only six of whom survived infancy. His devout parents ensured his strong religious upbringing. In his childhood Paul went to daily Mass, spent much time before the Blessed Sacrament, and attended to his studies. He taught catechism in the local churches before experiencing a deep religious conversion at the age of 19 through the writings of St. Francis de Sales. After a brief stint as a soldier and declining an offer for a good marriage, at the age of 26 he learned through prayer that God was calling him to found a new religious order which came to be known as the Congregation of the Passion, or the Passionists. He was instructed in a vision as to what the new habit of his order should look like: a black tunic bearing a heart surmounted by a white cross, with the words "Passion of Jesus Christ" written inside the heart. To the religious vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience he added a fourth: to spread devotion to Christ's Passion among the faithful. His mission was to ignite a love for Jesus in the hearts of the faithful at a time when many saw Him only as a great moral teacher. St. Paul of the Cross was one of the most powerful preachers of his day, as well as a mystic, and he was known to bring even the most hardened sinners to tears. He also took special care of the sick, poor, and suffering. His feast day is October 20th.

**Saturday, Oct. 21– St. Ursula & her 11,000 Companions** - St. Ursula (4th c.) was a pious Christian princess from Britain, perhaps Wales. According to the 13th century Golden Legend she set sail and embarked on a pilgrimage to Rome with a large court of handmaids prior to settling in what is today western France, where she was to be joined in marriage to a local governor. Along her pilgrimage route she attracted many followers who were influenced by her holy example. On the return journey St. Ursula and her traveling maidens fell into the hands of the Huns, violent nomads from the East, who had invaded large swaths of Europe. St. Ursula and her company of virgins and other followers, which numbered 11,000, were tortured in an effort to have them renounce their faith. Steadfastly refusing, they were massacred in Cologne, Germany and buried together in a mass grave over which was built the Basilica of St. Ursula. Due to the varying accounts of her martyrdom and the difficulty of separating fact from legend, her feast day was suppressed in modern times. St. Ursula is the patroness of the Ursulines, a female religious order founded in 1535 by St. Angela Merici for the education of young girls. St. Ursula is also the patron of students, teachers, Catholic education, and of a holy death. Her feast day is October 21st.



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish



OCTOBER 15, 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. Oct. 15	8:30 a.m.	OLM	Jeannette Tidwell, Anne Obermoser Colenzo Short
	10:30 am	SP	For the People
Tues. Oct. 17	7 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Oct. 18	9:00a.m..	SP	For the People
Thurs. Oct. 19	9:00a.m.	OLM	Father J. Norbert Howe
Fri. Oct. 20	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Oct. 21	8:30a.m.	SP	No Mass
	4:30p.m.	SP	For the People
Sun. Oct. 22	8:30a.m.	OLM	Giovanni Stella
	10:30a.m	SP	Mike & Joyce Britenriker, Pat & Juanita Arend

### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Oct. 18-- Rosary 7 p.m. (every Wed. month of October)
- Oct. 18 -- Rel. Ed. 6:45 p.m. Elem. & H.S.
- Oct. 18 -- OLOM hosting Fayette Comm. Meal 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- Oct. 18 -- Family Rosary with Father Bill 7 p.m.
- Oct. 19 -- Finance Council – 5:30 p.m.  
Pastoral Council – 6:15 p.m.
- Oct. 22 -- Youth Breakfast after Mass
- Nov. 15 -- Night of Healing with MCCR, Diocese of Toledo – at Our Lady of Mercy, 7 p.m.

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for October 8, 2023

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (13envelopes) \$ 801.00  
 LOOSE OFFERINGS \$ 136.00

**BUDGET** \$ **1,747.00**  
 Over/(Under) (\$ 810.00)

#### OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC jar \$ 11.00  
 Maintenance \$ 100.00  
 St. Vincent de Paul \$ 50.00  
 Catholic University \$ 10.00  
**TOTAL COLLECTION** \$ **1,108.00**

#### SILENT FESTIVAL

Parishioner's donation \$ 50.00  
**GRAND TOTAL (to date)** \$ **11,553.62**

### NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

October 22, 2023

Reader	Shelly Gruman
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle Will Maginn
Greeters/ Gifts	Mary Bird Shelly Gruman
Ushers	Phil & Tami Baker
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Phil & Tami Baker Dennis & Denise Miller

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

**STRENGTHEN** – to make/become stronger

“I can do all things in him who strengthens me.” **Philippians 4:13**

# Dear Padre,

*My prayer-group leader is encouraging us to write our own prayers for our meetings. Don't you need some formal religious training to write prayers? Will our prayers count?*

It's given to every human being to be able to pray. On the level of the spiritual life, prayer is as basic as breathing is to physical life. Everyone at every moment has the grace to say a prayer.

Sometimes I ask people, "Do you pray?" At times they tell me they don't. Then I ask them, "Well, do you talk with God?" And most answer, "Of course." That's praying.

When writing your prayers, I suggest you use this ancient definition as inspiration: Prayer is the raising of the mind and heart to God. I'm sure your prayers will be that in word and feeling, and they will count.

When writing more formal prayers, it's nice to include the prayer elements the Church considers important: adoration of God, contrition and sorrow for sin, thanksgiving for life and for God's care of us in good times and bad, and petition for what we desperately need in our poverty. And for you, a final word. Remember that no matter how bad things may get, no matter how out of control things feel, you always have the gift and power of saying a prayer. Especially in time of temptation—when things really go bad—ask Mary your Mother to pray with you. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*



## 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

October 16  
Weekday  
Rom 1:1-7  
Lk 11:29-32

### TUESDAY

October 17  
St. Ignatius of  
Antioch, Bishop  
and Martyr  
Rom 1:16-25  
Lk 11:37-41

### WEDNESDAY

October 18  
St. Luke,  
Evangelist  
2 Tm 4:10-17b  
Lk 10:1-9

### THURSDAY

October 19  
Sts. John de  
Brébeuf and  
Isaac Jogues,  
Priests, and  
Companions,  
Martyrs  
Rom 3:21-30  
Lk 11:47-54

### FRIDAY

October 20  
Weekday  
Rom 4:1-8  
Lk 12:1-7

### SATURDAY

October 21  
Weekday  
Rom 4:13,  
16-18  
Lk 12:8-12

### SUNDAY

October 22  
Twenty-ninth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Is 45:1, 4-6  
1 Thes 1:1-5b  
Mt 22:15-21

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*The banquet hall is filled with the "excluded," those who are "outside," those who never seemed worthy to partake in a feast, in a wedding banquet. In fact, the master, the king, tells the messengers: "Call everyone, both good and bad. Everyone!"....He prepares his banquet for everyone: the just and sinners.*

ANGELUS, ROME, OCTOBER 11, 2020

