

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

4th Sunday Ordinary Time

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

BFF BREAKFAST

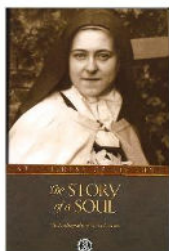
Join us today after Mass for breakfast, friends & fellowship in the church basement.

LENTEN ADULT STUDY

The Adult Lenten Study will be based on Bishop Robert Baron's program "The Mass". It will be a two-year study with 3 sessions this year and 3 sessions next year. This year, the group will meet the first 3 Sundays in March after Mass. In order for this program to proceed, at least 8 registrations with the fee included must be received by Tuesday, January 30. There is a flyer and registration form in this week's bulletin. Please prayerfully consider participating in this program.

ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX – THE STORY OF A SOUL

St. Therese of Lisieux – The Story of a Soul is available for purchase \$10, please use the signup on the sheet on the back table to reserve your book. There will be a discussion on the book on March 14, 2024, at 7 p.m. here at Our Lady of Mercy.



2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Please pick up your 2023 Contribution Statement at the back of the church.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

With winter weather upon us, this will be the implementation of closure for Our Lady of Mercy.

Sunday Mass – Our Lady of Mercy will close when there has been a Level 3 Emergency issued for Fulton County 2 hours prior to Mass beginning.

Thursday Mass – if Fayette School is closed for the day because of inclement weather (roads are bad) there will be NO Mass at Our Lady of Mercy.

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

"We can never know how patient or humble someone is when everything is going well with him. But when those who should cooperate with him do exactly the opposite, then we can know. A man has as much patience and humility as he has then, and no more." - St. Francis of Assisi

Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska – Notebook 1

Warsaw, August 1, 1925

(28) Once Jesus told me, **Go to Mother Superior** [probably Mother Raphael] **and ask her to let you wear a hair shirt for seven days, and once each night you are to get up and come to the chapel.** I said yes, but I found a certain difficulty in actually going to the Superior. In the evening Jesus ask me, **How long will you put it off?** I made up my mind to tell Mother Superior the next time I would see her.

The next day before noon I saw Mother Superior going to the refectory and, since the kitchen, refectory and Sister Aloysia's little room are all close to each other, I asked Mother Superior to come the Sister Aloysia's room and told her of the wish of the Lord Jesus. At that, Mother answered "I will not permit you to wear any hair shirt. Absolutely not! If the Lord Jesus were to give you the strength of a colossus, I would then permit those mortifications."

I apologized for taking up Mother's time and left the room. At that very moment I saw Jesus standing at the kitchen door, and I said to Him, 'You commanded me to ask for these mortifications, but Mother Superior will not permit them.'" Jesus said, **I was here during your conversation with the Superior and know everything. I don't demand mortification from you, but obedience. By obedience you give great glory to Me and gain merit for yourself.**

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 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.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY-DAYS

January 12, 2024 – March 29, 2024

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

---Feb. 8 – Bean Creek Coffee House 7 p.m. – Fayette Opera House – Free
---Feb. 21 – Community Dinner – Methodist Life Center – 5 pm – 6 pm
---Feb. 24 – Opera House – Public Scene - \$15 General Adm. \$12 Seniors \$10 Students

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



Our Lady of Mercy Parish



JANUARY 28, 2024

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. Jan. 28	8:30 a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Bob, Jeff & Jean Dominique
Tues. Jan. 30	7:00 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Jan. 31	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Feb. 1 Communion Svc.	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Feb. 2 Communion Svc.	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Feb. 3	8:00a.m.	SP	NO MASS
	4:30p.m.	SP	John Griser
Sun. Feb. 4	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Bob, Jeff & Jean Dominique

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Jan. 28 – BFF breakfast after Mass
- Jan. 31 – NO Rel. Ed
- Feb. 4 – Altar Rosary Society meeting after Mass
- Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday – see flyer in bulletin for Mass/Service times

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT Reported for January 21, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (9 envelopes) \$ 2,597.00
 LOOSE OFFERINGS \$ 138.00

BUDGET **\$ 1,747.00**
 Over/(Under) \$ 988.00

OTHER COLLECTIONS
 Maintenance \$ 250.00
 St. Vincent de Paul \$ 300.00
 CPC Jar \$ 3.00
 Youth Breakfast \$ 288.00
TOTAL COLLECTION **\$ 3,576.00**

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

February 4, 2024

Reader	Mary Bird
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle Kruz Lichtenwald
Greeters/ Gifts	Joyce Bonin Marge Crowell
Ushers	Dennis & Denise Miller
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Dennis & Denise Miller Jerry Van Zile

Word(s) of the week (from The America College Dictionary)

PROPRIETY– conformity to established standard of behavior or manners

ADHERE – to be devoted to; be attached as a follower or upholder

I am telling you this for your own benefit, not to impose a restraint upon you, but for the sake of propriety and adherence to the Lord with out distraction. - **1Corinthians 7:35**

Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of January 28– February 3

Sunday, Jan. 28– St. Thomas Aquinas - St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) was born into a wealthy and noble family in Aquino, Italy. He was the pious and brilliant son of a count, and a lucrative future was planned for him. When Thomas set off to enter the newly founded Dominican order to be a poor mendicant friar, his mother held him prisoner in the family castle in order to dissuade him. His brothers tried to destroy his purity, and thus his vocation, by tempting him with a prostitute. However Thomas resisted and turned to God for help; as a result, angels were sent to guard and preserve his chastity. This long ordeal only strengthened his vocation, and eventually he escaped and joined the Dominicans. He was ordained to the priesthood and went on to become a famed professor and prolific writer. His works remain immensely influential in philosophy and theology, the most famous being his *Summa Theologica*, and multiple popes have upheld him as the model of a systematic Catholic education. St. Thomas Aquinas is the foremost Doctor of the Catholic Church, known as the "Angelic Doctor" for his purity of mind and body, and remarkable intelligence. St. Thomas Aquinas is the patron of schools and universities, students, philosophers, theologians, apologists, academics, and chastity. His feast day is January 28.

Monday, Jan. 29 –St. Aquilinus of Milan - St. Aquilinus of Milan (d. 1015 A.D.), also known as St. Aquilinus of Cologne, was born to a noble family in Bavaria, Germany. He received his education in Cologne, Germany and was ordained to the priesthood. He was offered the bishopric of Cologne, but turned it down in order to be a missionary priest and itinerant preacher. He traveled through various European cities fighting against the dangerous and spreading heresies of the Cathars, Manichaeans, and Arians. He was also known to work miracles by healing people from disease, especially during a cholera epidemic. He eventually settled in Milan, Italy, and was so effective in his preaching against the Arian heretics that they stabbed him to death and threw his body in the city sewer. His body was recovered and buried in the Basilica of San Lorenzo, in a chapel which now bears his name. His feast day is January 29.

Tuesday, Jan. 30– St. Martina of Rome - St. Martina of Rome (d. 228 A.D.) was born to a noble Roman family and orphaned at a young age. She was zealous in the practice of her faith, remained a virgin, and, in preparation for the Christian persecutions sweeping the city, gave much of her inheritance to the poor. She was martyred under Roman Emperor Alexander Severus. According to the accounts of her martyrdom, she was discovered praying in a church and was arrested by Roman soldiers. She was ordered to pay homage to the pagan gods, which she refused. She was then cruelly tortured over several days. She was raked with iron hooks and scourged, and when a bright light enveloped her, some of her torturers were converted to the Faith amid her fervent prayers. She was then taken to the temple of Diana to be forced to offer sacrifice, but at her presence the temple's demon left with a scream. They next tried to throw her to a lion (it showed no interest in her) and to burn her alive, but she would not catch fire. Finally, she was beheaded. St. Martina's feast day is January 30.

Wednesday, Jan. 31– St. John Bosco - St. John Bosco (1815–1888) was born in Italy to a poor farming family. His father died when he was two, leaving his religious instruction to his pious mother. At the age of nine he had his first of many powerful visions which would come throughout his life. In it, Jesus and the Virgin Mary showed him that he was to instruct poor, wayward boys and bring them back to God. John eventually joined the priesthood, paying his way through school with odd jobs. As a priest he began ministering to the poor and neglected boys of Turin, Italy, who were driven to desperate conditions in the wake of the Industrial Revolution. Many of these street boys ended up in prison as teenagers. Don Bosco became a mentor and spiritual director to them, helping them to live a life of virtue and saving many from a future of crime and poverty. He met with them as a group – called the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales – and catechized them as a kindly spiritual father. He also established the Salesians of Don Bosco, priests and brothers who minister to and educate boys under the patronage of the great spiritual director, St. Francis de Sales. Don Bosco is the patron saint of boys, laborers, young people, students, and Mexican young people. His feast day is January 31st.

Thursday, Feb. 1 – St. Brigid of Ireland – St. Brigid of Ireland (451–525 A.D.), also known as St. Brigit of Kildare, was born to a pagan Irish chieftain and a Christian slave mother. Being the daughter of a slave woman, she also was a slave, and worked as a dairy maid. She became known for her virtuous life and her charity to the poor. Recognizing her great piety and special graces, a Christian king convinced her father to grant Brigid her freedom. Once free to follow her own course in life, St. Brigid refused marriage, consecrated herself to Christ, and became Ireland's first nun. She also formed Ireland's first convent at Kildare and became its abbess. She went on to found many other religious communities, as well as a School of Art famous for its metal working and illuminated manuscripts. St. Brigid was known for her extraordinary

(St. Brigid of Ireland cont.)

spirituality, even converting her father to the faith after he witnessed her fashioning the sign of the cross from strands of rushes. She was also a contemporary and friend of St. Patrick. When she died, her sisters kept a fire burning in an enclosure at her Kildare convent. This fire burned for centuries, tended by the sisters and not burning out until the 13th century. It was later re-lit and burned for 400 more years until the Protestant revolt. St. Brigid is the patroness of Ireland and many other causes, most notably of dairy and milk maids, chicken farmers, travelers, and sailors. Her feast day is February 1st.

Friday, Feb. 2– St. Lawrence of Canterbury - St. Lawrence of Canterbury (d. 619 A.D.) was among the original band of missionaries sent from Rome to evangelize England with St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury. As a fruit of their labor the region's most powerful ruler, the King of Kent, became a baptized Christian along with many of his countrymen. When Augustine died, Lawrence became Canterbury's second Archbishop. He was a zealous leader and urged the Celtic bishops to keep peace and unity with Rome. When the King of Kent died, his pagan son caused great damage to the faith of the people and the mission work which had been done among them; because of this, some of the missionaries fled to Gaul. Lawrence was so upset by the abandonment of Christianity among his flock that he considered abandoning his bishopric as well. In response, St. Peter the Apostle appeared to him in a vision, rebuked him, and scourged him so badly that Lawrence had physical marks on his body from the encounter. St. Lawrence then relayed his vision to the king and showed him his wounds, causing the king to convert to the Christian faith as his father did. St. Lawrence's feast day is February 2nd.

Saturday, Feb. 3– St. Blaise - St. Blaise (d. 316 A.D.) was born into a wealthy Christian family in Armenia. He was trained as a physician before becoming a priest, and was finally ordained a bishop. When a wave of Christian persecution began, God instructed St. Blaise to hide in a desert cave. While he was in hiding, birds miraculously brought him food and sick men came to him to be healed. The king's hunters eventually discovered his cave and found it surrounded by a myriad of wild animals who came to the saint to be blessed, with Blaise able to walk freely among them. Recognizing him as the local bishop, the hunters took Blaise into custody. As he went with them he continued to preach and perform miracles along the way: he healed a boy choking to death on a bone, and commanded a wolf to release a captured pig belonging to a poor woman. When Blaise was sentenced to be starved to death, the woman killed her pig to feed St. Blaise in prison. He was eventually martyred under the reign of Licinius, his body torn with wool combs before being beheaded. Blaise is known as the patron saint of throat ailments, physicians, woolcombers, and wild animals. His feast is commemorated with the Blessing of the Throats, and is celebrated on February 3rd.



Ash

W E D N E S D A Y

February 14, 2024

Image by Freepik

Mass & Services

7:00 a.m. – Mass with distribution of Ashes – St. Peter

9:00 a.m. – Mass with distribution of Ashes – Our Lady of Mercy

6:30 p.m. – Liturgy with distribution of Ashes – St. Peter

7:00 p.m. – Liturgy with distribution of Ashes – Our Lady of Mercy