



Peace, the Marker of Faith

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Spiritual writers tell us that a sure sign of life lived with faith in God is peace, the inner kind of peace that enables you to rest in it with no worry or anxiety. When the risen Lord appears in the midst of the disciples just back from Emmaus and says to them first off, “Peace be with you,” that’s the sort of peace he’s talking about and wishing for them.

Such peace doesn’t seem to be something easy to come by, something that simply plops into the lap of your soul. More than anything it seems to be the fruit of prayerfulness—sometimes praying the rosary or other traditional prayers and sometimes just simply sitting in the quiet, in the midst of love without having to say any words.

There is something about surrendering to God’s love

over the course of many lived days that eventually brings us to that sort of trusting peace.

The thing about such peace is that only you know if it’s genuine. When you feel peace when life turns topsy-turvy, that’s God peace. When life is progressing smoothly, it’s not easy to know if that’s God’s peace or just a life without turbulence. But if you’re at peace when everything else around you is not, that’s when you know it’s the presence of God that has you all wrapped up in worry-free wonder. ●

Reflect

Have you ever felt at peace even when there is conflict or fear?



Jesus asked them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them.

LUKE 24:41–43

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

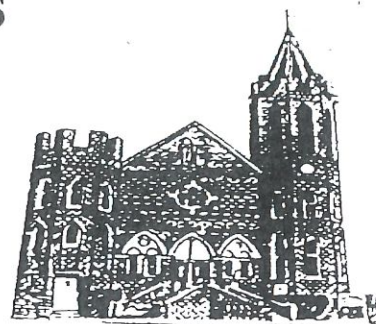
Bookkeeper

Tami Baker
OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Youth Leader/CRE

Anita Van Zile
OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

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@tecexpress.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 or email at

OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

3rd Sunday of Easter

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

BFF BREAKFAST

There will be a BFF Breakfast after Mass today. Please join us for Breakfast – Friends – Fellowship.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Brendan Woenker on his confirmation at St. Peter's, Saturday, April 13, 2024. May the Holy Spirit guide your way.

HELP NEEDED

Valerie Keefer, a long time Fayette resident was involved in a serious automobile accident on September 21, 2023. She was in a coma for 4 weeks. The next 4 weeks she recovered at a long-term care hospital where she began to slowly emerge from her coma and heal from her broken bones and body. After 4 weeks, she was transferred to a skilled nursing facility to continue her slow recovery. She is now receiving Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapeutic treatments at Sara's Garden, in Wauseon, OH. If you are able to help in supporting these treatments, please use this website for your donations <https://sarasgarden.org/valariekeefer/>.

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

"The source of justice is not vengeance but charity." - St. Bridget of Sweden

33 Days to Eucharistic GLORY – Matthew Kelly

"As you set off on your pilgrimage, let me share a short story. Many years ago, I met a Muslim man. We were working together on a project, and we came to know each other. I asked him questions about his faith, and he asked me questions about Christianity and Catholicism. This went on for over two years until the project was finished. Throughout this time, there was one question I wanted to ask him but had held back.

On the last day of the project there was a little downtime in the afternoon and Providence opened the door.

"Can I ask you one more question about your faith?" I began.

"Sure. Anything," he replied.

"We have spoken about Catholic belief surrounding the Eucharist. So, I was wondering, if you believed you could consume Allah under the guise of bread, what would you be willing to do in order to receive such bread?"

He looked at me for a long time. It might have been five minutes. It felt like an hour. At first, I thought I may have offended him in some way. But he was a man of deep thought and it became clear he was seriously considering my question.

Then a look came over his face, he cleared his throat, and he said, "If I believed as you described, I would crawl naked over red-hot broken glass to receive such bread."

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

"LIVE A LIFE OF NO REGRETS"

Robert Rogers – Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. – see flyer on bulletin for more information

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

---April 17 – Community Dinner – Methodist Life Center 5 – 6 pm

---April 27 - Fayette Opera House – Down Home At the Opera House 7pm

---May 17 – Fayette Opera House – Mr. Magic – Tom Patton – 7pm

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 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.



Diocese
of Toledo

Attention men between the ages of
29 and 59:

Do you feel called to be a

Permanent Deacon?



Step 1: Speak with your pastor about your interest.

Step 2: Attend one virtual Inquiry Session:

- **either** Thursday, September 12 **or** Monday, September 16
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. by Zoom.
- Pre-registration **not** required.

Step 3: Attend the in-person Inquiry Session (with your wife, if married)

- Tuesday, October 15
- 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- St. Wendelin, Fostoria

Step 4: Apply for the program. Deadline for Part 1 of Applications:

- Friday, January 4, 2025

Contact Information/Questions

Deacon Daniel Brahier

Delegate for Permanent Deacons

1933 Spielbusch Avenue

Toledo, OH 43604

Phone: 419.244.6711

Email: dbrahier@toledodiocese.org

For more information, contact Deacon Daniel Brahier, go to toledodiocese.org/diaconate, or use the QR code to access the Deacon Webpage and retrieve Zoom links for the virtual September Inquiry sessions.



Schedule for 2030 Cohort

- Inquiry Sessions:
Fall 2024
- Application Process:
Winter/Spring 2024-25
- Aspirancy I: 2025-2026
- Aspirancy II: 2026-2027
- Candidacy I: 2027-2028
- Candidacy II: 2028-2029
- Candidacy III: 2029-2030
- Ordination: September 2030

Saints of the Day (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of April 14 – April 20

Sunday, Apr. 14– St. Lidwina of Schiedam - St. Lidwina of Schiedam (1380-1433) was born to a poor family in Holland. She had a devotion to the Blessed Mother and would often pray before the miraculous image of Our Lady of Schiedam. One winter, when she was 15 years old, she fell while ice skating and broke a rib, which she never recovered from. Gangrene spread throughout her body, which became as one big sore, and she was bed-ridden for the rest of her life. No medicine was able to help her. Her gradual physical deterioration was so grotesque that many suspected her of being possessed by the devil. However, when a priest brought her an unconsecrated Host, she was able to discern that it was not the Body and Blood of Christ. She experienced great suffering in this way until she was 53, but God rewarded her with the gift of heightened prayer, mystical visions, and spiritual consolations. Although she was not cured, many miraculous healings were attributed to her intercession. She fasted continuously, eventually surviving on only the Eucharist, and after her death on Easter Sunday the sweet odor of sanctity filled her room. Her grave became a pilgrimage site over which a chapel was erected. St. Lidwina of Schiedam is the patron of the chronically ill and ice skaters. Her feast day is April 14th.

Monday, Apr. 15–St. Hunna - St. Hunna (d. 679 A.D.) was born in Alsace, France. She was the virtuous daughter of a duke, and she married a similarly virtuous nobleman. Hunna and her husband did not indulge in unnecessary luxuries according to their high state in life, and instead detached themselves from their riches by opening their home to the poor and assisting them in their need. St. Deodatus, a bishop who resigned from his See, came to live with the holy couple for a time. St. Hunna and her husband greatly profited from his religious instruction and grew in sanctity as a result. When Hunna bore a son, she named him after St. Deodatus. This child, raised by such holy parents, later joined a monastery and also became a saint. After her husband's death Hunna continued to spend her life serving the poor, especially women. No task was too menial for her. She tended to the poor and the sick and regularly, including their laundry and mending, even to the point of exhaustion. For this she was nicknamed the "Holy Washerwoman." She also gave away her wealth and property to build churches and monasteries. So many miracles were attributed to her that Pope Leo X canonized her in 1520. St. Hunna is the patron saint of laundresses and her feast day is April 15.

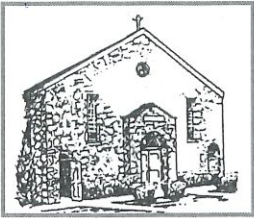
Tuesday, Apr. 16– St. Bernadette Soubirous - St. Bernadette Soubirous (1844–1879) was the eldest of nine children born to an impoverished family from Lourdes, France. She was a sickly child who suffered from severe asthma her entire life. While out collecting firewood on February 11, 1858, at the age of 14, Bernadette saw an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary in a grotto cave on the banks of the Gave River. It was the first of 18 times that the Blessed Mother would appear to her. Bernadette faced much controversy and opposition as a result of her visions, including humiliating interrogations from both the civil and ecclesiastical authorities. Yet, many of the townspeople believed her and gathered at the grotto when she continued to have visits from the Virgin Mary. During one of the visits a hidden spring was shown to St. Bernadette which proved to have miraculous healing power. When Our Lady finally revealed her name to Bernadette as the "Immaculate Conception," the local bishop acknowledged the visions as authentic. As requested by Our Lady of Lourdes, a church was erected at the site of the grotto and spring. Today, Lourdes is one of the most visited Catholic pilgrimage shrines in the world. Multitudes have experienced medically documented cures of body and soul from the Lourdes waters. St. Bernadette became a nun and died at a convent in Nevers, France, on April 16, 1879, at the age of 35. She was canonized in 1933 by Pope Pius XI. Her feast day is April 16th.

Wednesday, Apr. 17– St. Donan - St. Donan (d. 617 A.D.), also known as St. Donnán of Eigg, was a prominent Celtic missionary and Gaelic priest. Little is known of his life except that he was likely an Irishman who traveled as a missionary throughout Galloway and northward along the west coast of Scotland. He is thought to have been a contemporary of St. Columba. Donan formed a religious community on the tiny northwest island of Eigg in Scotland. The community grew to fifty-two men. One year, after celebrating the Easter Vigil Mass, they were unexpectedly attacked and martyred either by pirates or a band of Viking raiders. Tradition holds that the community was gathered together and killed in the refectory on the night of April 17, 617. The martyrdom of Christian missionaries at this time was rare, leading many to suspect the attack was instigated by a malicious local queen who viewed St. Donan and his monks as a threat to her power. His feast day is April 17th.

Thursday, Apr. 18– St. Peter of St. Joseph Betancur – St. Peter of St. Joseph Betancur, or Pedro de San José Betancur (1626-1667), also known as Hermano Pedro, was born into poverty in the Canary Islands. He was a shepherd until the age of 24 at which time he traveled to Guatemala, then the capital of New Spain, hoping to connect with a relative and to begin training to be a priest. The journey so impoverished him that he entered a bread line served by the Franciscans. He took up work in a textile factory and later entered a Jesuit college to study for the priesthood. Being too poor to continue his studies, he instead became a Franciscan tertiary. He dedicated his life to helping the poor and oppressed in jails and hospitals, as well as ministering to African slaves, Native Americans, and anyone else in need. He also founded a hospital, a school for the poor, and a homeless shelter. He also preached to the rich, inviting them to repent of their sins. Because of his effective apostolate he became known as "St. Francis of the Americas." People were attracted to his way of life and followed him, leading to the founding of the Bethlehemite Brothers and Sisters. In addition to serving the poor, they had the charism of special devotion to the Divine Child and the Blessed Virgin, and offered prayer and sacrifices for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Each night St. Peter would carry a heavy wooden cross through the streets as a form of penance and evangelization. It is also said that he was the first to start the Posadas procession during Advent. He died in 1667 and was canonized by Pope St. John Paul II as the first saint from Central America. His feast day is April 18.

Friday, Apr. 19– St. Timon - St. Timon (1st c.) is mentioned by name in the Acts of the Apostles. He belonged to the group of seventy disciples who followed Jesus during his earthly ministry. After Jesus' ascension into heaven, St. Timon was one of the original seven deacons, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, chosen by the Apostles to help with the work of ministering to the growing Christian community. Timon was later ordained a bishop by the Apostles. He baptized many Greeks and Jews into the Christian faith. He also had the supernatural ability to heal the sick and to cast out devils. St. Timon suffered martyrdom for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to tradition he was thrown into a furnace, but by the power of God he came out of it unharmed, and later died by crucifixion. His feast day is April 19.

Saturday, Apr. 20 – St. Agnes of Montepulciano - St. Agnes of Montepulciano (1268–1317) was born into a noble family in Tuscany. Her birth was announced with strange lights surrounding her dwelling, considered a sign that she was a favored child. At nine years of age she requested to enter the local Franciscan monastery in Montepulciano. Although doing so at her young age was against Church law, she obtained special permission from the pope. She became a model nun, reached a high degree of contemplative prayer, and executed her duties so well that she was chosen to help found and lead a new monastery in Proceno when she was just 15 years old, again with special permission at her young age. She lived there for 20 years and became known as a great mystic and visionary while cultivating a special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. She became locally famous for her miracles as well as for her austerities. She lived on bread and water, slept on the ground, and used a stone for a pillow. Eventually, Agnes returned to Montepulciano. By request she founded and led an even larger monastery, this time receiving a vision that it should be a convent of Dominican nuns dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Through her prayers she cured the sick, multiplied food, and raised to life a child who had drowned. Her feast day is April 20.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish



APRIL 7, 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. April 14	8:00a.m.	OLM	Eddie Tidwell Living & Deceased Sarnac family Ron & Melody Lichtenwal family
	10:30a.m.	SP	Tom Stierwalt Sharon Gigax
Tues. April 16	7:00 p.m.	SP	Cathy Warner
Wed. April 17	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. April 18	9:00a.m.	OLM	Joy Short
Fri. April 19	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People Communion Svc
Sat. April 20	4:30p.m.	SP	Grace New Gina Damman
Sun. April 21	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Sharon Gigax

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Apr. 14- BFF after Mass
- Apr. 17- Rel. Ed. - Elem.
- Apr. 17 Finance & Pastoral Council meeting - 5:45 p.m.
- Apr. 21- Youth Breakfast
- Apr. 28 - First Communion

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for April 7, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (10 envelopes)	\$ 1,106.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 232.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over/(Under)	(\$ 409.00)
OTHER COLLECTIONS	
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 55.00
Maintenance	\$ 530.00
Perpetuate the Gift Rebate	\$ 350.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other)	\$ 2,273.00

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

April 21, 2024

Greeters/Gifts	Joyce Bonin Marge Crowell
Reader	Mary Bird
Servers	Maeve & Micah Maginn
Ushers	Dennis & Denise Miller
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Barb Bruggeman Dennis & Denise Miller

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

PEACE - freedom from strife or dissension

"Peace be with you."

Luke:24:36

Dear Padre,

What is a “covenant,” and how are marriage and covenant related?

“Covenant” is the word the Church employs to define and describe the sacrament of matrimony. It is clearly based on the idea of “covenant” contained in Scripture. In contrast, society uses the related word “contract,” as in the “marriage contract.” However, these two words do not mean the same thing.

The meaning of “contract” is too limited to contain the full commitment of Christian marriage. When you sign a contract, you are legally bound only to its terms. You need not do more or less than what is stipulated in its wording.

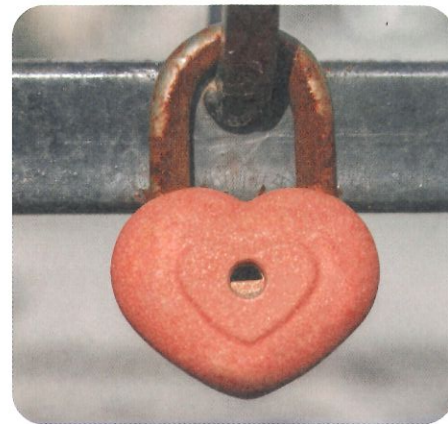
Warmth and concern for the well-being of one party for the other are not stipulated in a contract.

A covenant, on the other hand, is different. Although it may contain some aspects of contract, it establishes a personal relationship of closeness, affection, and warmth, and it locks the couple into a mutual commitment to each other’s well-being.

As God freely chose Israel from all the nations possible, so do two people choose each other from all other people. As God declared, “I will take you as my people, and I will be your God” (Exodus 6:7). In the same way, a husband and wife pledge total commitment to each other.

Christian marriage bears the same characteristics of covenant commitment—the personal relationship of caring, loyalty, intimacy, exclusivity, permanency, and, above all, love; hence the use of “covenant” to define Christian marriage. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



ANDRES SONNE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

MONDAY

April 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 6:8–15
Jn 6:22–29

TUESDAY

April 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 7:51–8:1a
Jn 6:30–35

WEDNESDAY

April 17
Easter Weekday
Acts 8:1b–8
Jn 6:35–40

THURSDAY

April 18
Easter Weekday
Acts 8:26–40
Jn 6:44–51

FRIDAY

April 19
Easter Weekday
Acts 9:1–20
Jn 6:52–59

SATURDAY

April 20
Easter Weekday
Acts 9:31–42
Jn 6:60–69

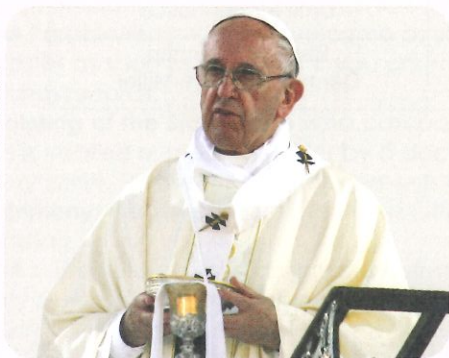
SUNDAY

April 21
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:8–12
1 Jn 3:1–2
Jn 10:11–18

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Eating, when we do so together, among family or friends, also becomes an expression of love, an expression of communion, of celebration. How often the Gospels present us with Jesus experiencing this convivial dimension! Even as the Risen One, with his disciples. To the point that the Eucharistic Banquet has become the emblematic sign of the Christian community.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 18, 2021



GIOVANNI CARDILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK