



With many such parables [Jesus] spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.

MARK 4:33

Life Happens

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The adage that “life is what happens to us as we’re busy doing other things” seems to be a rewording of this week’s Gospel about the kingdom of heaven, namely about God’s reigning activity in our lives. It is a parable about a man who sows seeds in his field. The seeds sprout, grow, and bear fruit, all without his knowing how. In effect, the message says that it is *God* who happens to us as we’re busy doing other things.

We tend to convince ourselves that we have complete control over our lives, when in reality that is somewhat of an illusion. Though we may decide what we will have for dinner, what TV program to watch, or what we will wear, we have much less control over the portions of life that so often give meaning and shape to who we are. The person someone marries

is dependent upon the mutual commitment of the two people in love. The degree of job satisfaction we eagerly hope to find can partly depend upon the people with whom we work and the expectations of others. “We walk by faith and not by sight” reveals that we recognize the reigning presence of God bringing us to a life we’d never imagined. In reality, the one thing we do have control over is how we respond to life’s events, which can then open us to the ways by which God brings us to fruitful abundance. ●

Reflect

**Think of three of your blessings:
How much did you have to do
with their coming about?**

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

11th Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

DONUTS FOR DADS

Happy Fathers Day to all the men in our Parish. Please join us after Mass in the basement for donuts, coffee and juice.



DIOCESAN CONVOCATION

Please keep all Priest from the Diocese of Toledo in your prayers the week of June 17 – 20 while at their Convocation.

SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday, July 14, 2024, after Mass to 12:00 p.m., Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting on display Veronica's Veil relic for veneration.

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

"I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind." - *St. Bernard of Clairvaux*

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 1

279 God made known to me what true love consists in and gave light to me about how, in practice, to give proof of it to Him. True love of God consists in carrying out God's will. To show God our love in what we do, all our actions, even the least, must spring from our love of God. And the Lord said to me, **My child, you please Me most by suffering. In your physical as well as your mental sufferings, My daughter, do not seek sympathy from creatures. I wan the fragrance of your suffering to be pure and unadulterated. I wan you to detach yourself, not only from creatures, but also from yourself. My daughter, I want to delight in the love of your heart, a pure love, virginal, unblemished, untarnished. The more you will come to love suffering, My daughter, the purer you love for Me will be.**

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

FAYETTE/SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

---May 4 – Sept. 28 – Farmers Market, Opera House parking lot 9 am – 1 pm

---June 19 – Community Meal – 5 – 6 pm Fayette Methodist Family Life Center

---**St Richard Craft show in Swanton.** Would you like to share your special talent with a local parish community? If so, this is just the event for you! St. Richard is going to also have a **TEEN ZONE** at our next craft show, Saturday, **September 28**. If you enjoy baking, sewing, pottery, jewelry making or any other crafty work please call/text Amanda for details. 419-438-2346

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:

IMMEDATE 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

DIOCESE OF TOLEDO NEWS

HELP WANTED

The Diocese has openings for employment. Check out the list at toledodiocese.org/careers

DIOCESE OF TOLEDO CALENDAR

For additional happenings in the Diocese of Toledo please visit toledodiocese.org/calendar

MASS ON ANNIVERSARIES OF MARRIAGE

Each year, the Diocese of Toledo celebrates the gift of marriage with the annual Mass on Anniversaries of Marriage. If you are celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary in 2024 – 25, 40, 50, 60, or 60+ years – plan to join Bishop Daniel E. Thomas for the Order of Blessing Married Couples within Holy Mass on Sunday, October 27th, 3:00pm at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral, 2535 Collingwood Blvd, Toledo.

Registered couples receive a commemorative certificate and are invited to a reception following mass. To register visit: www.toledoanniversarymass.org

GRACEFUL LIVING

Watch your mailbox for the latest issue of the Diocese of Toledo magazine, *Graceful Living!* In each issue, you'll find unique stories of the people and places in our 19-county 2372441 diocese. It is mailed to 42,000 homes in Northwest Ohio twice per year. You can read the online edition or sign up to receive future issues at toledodiocese.org/GracefulLiving

ACA UPDATE Our Lady of Mercy 76.11%

NORTHWEST OHIO CHAPTER



HelpOurMarriage.com
RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

The Retrouvaille program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationships

A weekend has been scheduled! Register at: <https://helpourmarriage.org>

July 26th - 28th, 2024

Call: 419-481-1116

Email:

NWOhio@helpourmarriage.org

A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages



THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE EXPLORED DURING THE POST WEEKEND PHASE:

- Building a Healthy Marriage • Listening and Communication • Family of Origin, Personality Styles • Needs, Expectations, Values, Personal Relationship with God
- Love and Commitment • Forgiveness and Trust • Managing Conflict • Intimacy • Sexuality • We are a Sacrament
- Sharing the Gift

Saints of the Day

(www.morningoffering.com)

Week of June 16 – June 22

Sunday, June 16 – St. John Francis Regis - St. John Francis Regis (1597–1640) was born to a wealthy French merchant and his noble wife. After being educated by the Jesuits, he joined their order at the age of 18 and was later ordained a priest. He grew into a skilled preacher and catechist, and received an assignment to evangelize the French provinces that had fallen to the Protestants – the Huguenots – as well as lapsed Catholics. He devoted his life to this mission and was very successful, winning countless souls to Christ. He preached the Gospel to men, women, and children in all walks and stations of life, even traveling on foot to wild mountain parishes as a missionary priest. He would live on meager meals while spending his days in prayer, preaching, hearing confessions, and visiting prisons and hospitals. He raised controversy when he established hostels for converted prostitutes to remain chaste and work for their sustenance in the lace-making and embroidery trades. He is also remembered for stationing a granary to feed the poor, which at times was miraculously replenished. St. Regis is the patron of embroiderers, social workers, and lace makers. His feast day is June 16th.

Monday, June 17 – St. Emily de Vialar - St. Emily de Vialar (1797–1856) was born in Gaillac, France to an aristocratic family in the years following the French Revolution. Because the Catholic faith was under severe persecution, she was baptized in secret by her parents and her religious instruction was given at home. She was a devout child who displayed an aptitude for prayer, and she shunned the luxuries of her state in life. After the death of her mother, her father arranged to find her a suitable husband when she reached 15 years of age. Emily, who desired to lead the religious life in service to the poor, resisted her father's attempts and endured his anger at her refusal. She desired also to repair the harm caused by the Revolution by catechizing the local children. Emily remained a virgin and privately consecrated herself to God while living in her father's home. When she was 21 she met a priest who helped her set up an out-patient service for the sick in her own home, which heightened her tense relationship with her father. When her grandfather died, Emily inherited a large fortune which allowed her independence in the service of God. She bought a large home in her town and began a religious order in service to the sick and poor, and to the education of children, which quickly flourished. In 40 years her order, called the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition, established 40 houses throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia. St. Emily de Vialar's feast day is June 17th.

Tuesday, June 18– Sts. Mark & Marcellian - Sts. Mark and Marcellian (d. 286 A.D.) were twin brothers who were martyred for their faith in Rome under Emperor Diocletian. According to legend they were both deacons from a distinguished family who were thrown into prison for being Christians. Their mother and father, who were pagans, visited their sons in prison and pleaded with them to return to the worship of false gods so that they could be saved. At the same time, St. Sebastian also visited the brothers and encouraged them to stand strong in their faith. St. Sebastian's exhortation was so persuasive that the parents of Marcellian and Mark were converted, along with several friends who were present, as well as the other prisoners. All of these new Christian converts were eventually martyred alongside Mark and Marcellian. The brothers had their feet nailed to a wood post, and later their bodies were pierced with lances. Their feast day is June 18th.

Wednesday, June 19 – St. Juliana Falconieri - Juliana Falconieri was born in Florence, Italy in 1270. Her family was wealthy and active in the affairs of the city. When Juliana's father died, her uncle, Alessio Falconieri, helped take care of her. Alessio had dedicated his life to God and was one of the founders of the Servants of Mary (the Servites). His vocation had a profound effect on Juliana and she, too, began to wear the habit and serve the poor. At the young age of sixteen she became a Servite Tertiary. After her mother died in 1204, Juliana gathered like-minded women, wrote a rule, and founded the Sisters of the Third Order of Servites. Juliana and her sisters offered fasting and many sacrifices in atonement for the violence that was common in Florence during the Middle Ages. Towards the end of her life, Juliana became ill and was unable to eat solid food. Eventually she was unable to swallow any food. This made it impossible for her to receive the Holy Eucharist. As her death drew near, a priest

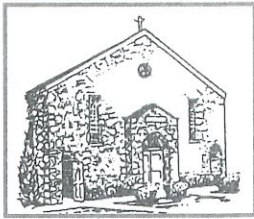
(St. Juliana Falconieri – cont.)

came to administer Last Rites and give her Viaticum. Juliana asked for a corporal to be spread across her chest and the Blessed Sacrament was placed there, close to her heart. When Juliana died, the Sacred Host disappeared! On Juliana's chest, at the place where the Blessed Sacrament had rested, appeared a cross similar to the one that had been on the host. The Servites continue to include this symbol of the Eucharistic miracle on their religious habit. St. Juliana Falconieri died in 1341 and was canonized by Pope Clement XII in 1737. Her feast day is June 19.

Thursday, June 20 – Blessed John Fenwick & Blessed John Gavan – Bl. John Fenwick and Bl. John Gavan (d. 1679) were Englishmen and Jesuit priests who were martyred for their faith in England during the monarchy's persecution of the Catholic Church. John Fenwick's Protestant parents disowned him when he became a Catholic. The two priests, along with three other Jesuits, were falsely accused of involvement in the "Popish Plot," a fabricated conspiracy that mounted to anti-Catholic hysteria in England over the course of three years. The men were charged with complicity to assassinate King Charles II and condemned on the charges of High Treason and subversion of the nation's Protestant religion. During their trial, John Gavan acted as the principal spokesman for the group; one historian called him one of the ablest priests of his generation. Both priests were condemned to be hung, drawn, and quartered. It is said that the King, knowing they were innocent yet unwilling to grant them pardon, permitted them to be hanged only. After giving a rousing speech declaring their innocence, Bl. John Fenwick and Bl. John Gavan were martyred together on June 20th, 1679. They share a feast day on June 20th.

Friday, June 21 – St. Aloysius Gonzaga - St. Aloysius Gonzaga (1568–1591) was born to a noble Italian family, the eldest of seven children, and was destined for the military. However, by the time he was nine years of age he chose the religious life and made a personal vow of chastity. As a safeguard against sexual temptation he always kept his eyes downcast in the presence of women. Although many tried to dissuade him from his chosen vocation, he was eventually allowed to renounce his inheritance and enter the seminary in order to become a Jesuit priest. While he was studying in Rome, there was an outbreak of the plague. Aloysius volunteered to care for the sick, despite the delicateness of his own health. As a result, he contracted the disease and died at the age of twenty-three, before completing his priestly studies. St. Aloysius was connected with two great figures of the Counter-Reformation: he received his First Holy Communion at the age of twelve from St. Charles Borromeo, and his Last Rites from St. Robert Bellarmine, both of whom served as his spiritual advisers. On the night of his death, St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi had a vision of him being received into great glory. St. Aloysius Gonzaga is the patron saint of youth and bodily purity. His feast day is June 21st.

Saturday, June 22 – St. Thomas More - St. Thomas More (1478–1535) was born in London, the son of a lawyer and judge. He was educated in the finest schools and became a brilliant English statesman. He served in parliament, on the King's council, as a diplomat, and in many other prominent positions in public administration. He was highly esteemed for his unflinching moral integrity, sharpness of mind, humor, and extraordinary learning. He was also a faithful Catholic, a loving husband, and a devoted father. For his great abilities he was promoted by his friend King Henry VIII to the high office of Lord Chancellor, second in position to the king. He resigned from this post when the king, in open defiance of Church teaching, sought to divorce his wife in order to marry another woman, and to declare himself sovereign of the Church in England. Thomas More, a defender against heresy, refused to condone the king's actions. After trying unsuccessfully to persuade his friend to approve of what he was doing, King Henry VIII imprisoned More in the Tower of London. At his trial, More testified boldly for Church autonomy over the state, for the authority of the pope as head of the Church, and for the indissolubility of marriage in the eyes of God. He was eventually condemned and beheaded, dying as a martyr for the Catholic faith. Thomas More is the patron saint of statesman, politicians, lawyers, civil servants, and large families. His feast day is June 22nd.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish



JUNE 16, 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. June 16	8:00a.m.	OLM	Jeannette Tidwell, Joy Short Ron & Melody Lichtenwald family
	10:30a.m	SP	For the People
Tues. June 18	7:00 p.m.	SP	For the People Communion Svc
Wed. June 19	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People Communion Svc
Thurs. June 20	9:00a.m.	OLM	For the People Communion Svc
Fri. June 21	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. June 22	4:30p.m.	SP	John Grieser, Doris Beck
Sun. June 23	8:30a.m.	OLM	Mike & Joyce Dwyer, Living & Deceased Sarnac family, Frances Uzdella Conklin family
	10:30a.m	SP	For the People

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for June 9, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (12 envelopes)	\$ 1,501.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 209.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	(\$ 37.00)
OTHER COLLECTION	
Maintenance	\$ 605.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 55.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other)	\$ 2,370.00

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

SEED – the propagative part of a plant
FAITH – belief in the doctrines or teachings of religion

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---June 16 – Donuts for Dads after Mass
 ---June 17 – 20 – Priest Convocation – Please Pray for all our Diocesan Priest

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	June 23, 2024
Greeters/Gifts	Mike Maginn Family
Reader	Ron Baker
Servers	Will Maginn
Ushers	Ron Baker Jerry Van Zile
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Ron Baker Dennis/Denise Miller Jerry Van Zile

“This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come.”
 Mark 4:26-29

Dear Padre,

*Why did Jesus always speak in parables?
Why didn't he give us clearer answers?*

Parables are short, relatable stories. Their simple images or comparisons convey a moral or religious lesson and put us in touch with the mystery of God and ourselves. Thus, parables confront the hearer or reader with a radical choice to enter God's kingdom: "One must enter the kingdom, that is, become a disciple of Christ, in order to 'know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 13:11). For those who stay 'outside,' everything remains enigmatic" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 546).

About a third of Jesus' recorded teachings are in parable form. After the Pharisees rejected Jesus (Matthew 12:14), he immediately changed his straightforward preaching to parables. This fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation [of the world]" (Matthew 13:35; see Psalm 78:2).

Parables are intended to reveal as much about us as they do about God. As John Shea writes in *Stories of God*, "God not only loves to hear our stories, God loves to tell stories. And, quite simply, we are the story God tells." In the telling, we ourselves are told. The timeless, universal stories of Jesus speak to us at different stages of life and provide multiple levels of meaning to the openhearted. ●



RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON, GUERCINO / WIKICOMMONS

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Aloysius	Weekday	Twelfth Sunday
1 Kgs 21:1-16	1 Kgs 21:17-29	2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14	Sir 48:1-14	Gonzaga, Religious	2 Chr 24:17-25	in Ordinary Time
Mt 5:38-42	Mt 5:43-48	Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Mt 6:7-15	2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20	Mt 6:24-34	Jb 38:1, 8-11
				Mt 6:19-23		2 Cor 5:14-17
						Mk 4:35-41



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

It may happen that we get discouraged, because we see the weakness of good as compared to the apparent power of evil.... The Gospel asks us to take a fresh look at ourselves and at reality...to discover the presence of God who as humble love is always at work in the soil of our life....

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 13, 2021

VARUNA / SHUTTERSTOCK