

[Jesus said to the disciples,]
“Come away by yourselves to a
deserted place and rest a while.”

MARK 6:31

Dancing in the Dark

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In 1931, Arthur Schwartz and Howard Dietz collaborated to write the song “Dancing in the Dark.” It’s said that the lyrics are primarily about how we feel our way through life, not sure where life is leading us and wondering why we’re here. There are many who feel they are “dancing in the dark.”

The Scriptures this week promise that God will shepherd us through difficult times, particularly when we feel lost amid uncertain choices we must make. Consequently, we are tempted to look for signs about what to do—paying attention to billboards, hoping a tune on the radio will give an answer, opening the Bible at random and pointing to a verse, multiplying prayers in hope of a sudden revelation.

The reality is that God does speak to us, but usually in the silence, in the quiet moments of a busy day.

At times, it may be when we begin to second-guess ourselves and realize we are becoming the sort of person we do not want to become. God’s voice may be camouflaged in our emotions, helping us recognize how our fears may be calling us to trust in him, or in our anxieties that move us to face the futility of a relationship. He might be calling us through friends who offer advice contrary to what we think, yet persistently insisting we face what we do not wish to see. It is in the silence that we begin to move from dancing in the dark to marching in sync with a divine rhythm. ●

Reflect

Have you ever emerged from a dark time feeling more in touch with God and God’s will for you?

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.



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

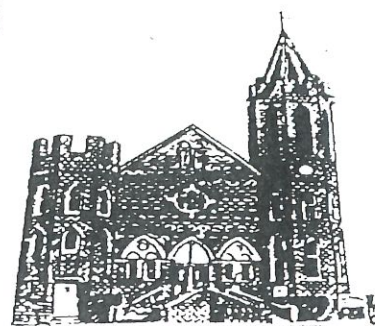
Youth Leader/CRE

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, JULY 21, 2024

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

BLESSED CRUXIFIXES AND MEDALS

On the back table are Blessed Crucifixes and Medals that were received at St. Vincent de Paul's. Please help yourself to whatever you need.

SAVE THE DATE

Our Lady of Mercy, Altar Rosary Society, Bull Thistle Breakfast, August 3, 2024, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. Please join us for breakfast or if you would like lend a helping hand please see Sherry Renner.



THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

“Every fall, even if it be very grave and repeated, serves us always and only as a little step towards a higher perfection.” - *St. Maximilian Kolbe*

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 1

326 Once, Jesus said to me, **My gaze from this image is like My gaze from the cross.**

327 Once, my confessor [Father Sopocho] asked me where the inscription should be placed, because there was not enough space in the picture for everything. I answered, “I will pray and give you an answer next week.” When I left the confessional and was passing before the Blessed Sacrament, I received an inner understanding about the inscription. Jesus reminded me of what He had told me the first time; namely, that these three words must clearly in evidence: “Jesus, I trust in You.” [Jezu, Ufam Tobie.”] I understood that Jesus wanted the whole formula to be there, but He gave no direct orders to this effect as He did for these three words.

I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: “Jesus, I trust in You.”

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

---Aug. 3 – Fayette Bull Thistle Festival

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

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

PROJECT RACHEL

A one-day healing retreat for woman who are hurting after an experience with abortion will be offered in the Diocese of Toledo on Saturday, November 16, 2024. To register or learn more, contact Kerstin, Project Rachel Coordinator in the Diocese of Toledo, at kpakka@toledodiocese.org or 419-260-5811.

REVEREND DENNIS G. WALSH APPOINTMENT

Pope Francis has named Reverend Dennis G. Walsh, currently pastor of St. John the Evangelist in Delphos, St. John the Baptist in Landeck, and St. Patrick in Spencerville, as the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa. We're thrilled by this historic appointment!

RELIGIOUS SISTERS 2024 JUBILEES - CONGRATULATIONS

80TH JUBILEE – 1944

Sister Generose Kubesh, RSM
Sister Ricarda Witt, OSF-S

JUBILEE OF GRACE (70) 1954

Sister Rebecca Aelker, OSF-T
Sister Beth Hemminger, OSU
Sister Regina Smith, OSU
Sister Marilyn Gottenmoeller, RSM
Sister Patricia Schnapp, RSM
Sister Mary Roseria Helmkamp, SND
Sister Norlee (Stella Caeli) McDonnell, OP

DIAMOND JUBILEE (60) 1964

Sister Catherine Laboure Busam, OSF-S
Sister Nora Klewicki, OSF-S
Sister Bernarda Breidenback, OSU
Sister Mary Krista Benda, SND
Sister Mary Francein Herold, SND
Sister Mary Stephan Kreinbrink, SND
Sister Mary Jo Toll, SND

GOLDEN JUBILEE (50) 1974

Sister Judith Mary Frederickj, SND
Sister Linda Marie White, SND
Sister Karen Jean Zielinski, OSF-S

75TH JUBILEE - 1949

Sister Nancy Thompson, RSM
Sister Mary Ann Thue, RSM
Sister Joel Zabro, RSM
Sister Joyce (Rose Dolores) LaVoy, OP

IRON JUBILEE (65) 1959

Sister Mary Bryan Gabel, SND
Sister Mary Ralph Gerdeman, SND
Sister Mary Lucille Kime, SND
Sister Mary Barbara Ostheimer, SND
Sister Mary Jesse Thompson, SND
Sister Mary dePorres Westrick, SND

Sister Mary Peter Kaminski, OSF-S
Sister Margretta Wojcik, OSF-S
Sister Janice Ann Brown, OSU
Sister Elizabeth Maria Garcia, SND
Sister Betty Jeanne Marie Kramer, SND
Sister Mary Sartor, SND
Sister Jacqueline "Jackie" (Lloyd Thomas) Phillips, OP

RUBY JUBILEE (40) 1984

Sister LeReine-Marie Mosely, SND

Saints of the Day

(www.morningoffering.com)

Week of July 21– July 27

Sunday, July 21– St. Victor of Marseilles - St. Victor of Marseilles (d. 290 A.D.) was a Christian soldier serving in the Roman imperial army in Marseilles, France. Christianity was thriving there, until Emperor Maximian arrived with the intention of putting the Christians to death. This caused the Christians to fear, and St. Victor would go from house to house under the cover of night to admonish them to stand strong in their faith. This behavior drew attention, and during one of his nightly rounds he was arrested. The Roman prefects tried to dissuade him from following a "dead man" (Jesus), but St. Victor testified boldly for the truth of the Christian faith. Enraged, the prefects had him bound and dragged through the streets. Victor was undeterred and continued to denounce the Roman gods. His tortures were renewed until his torturers grew tired, after which he was thrown into a dungeon. That night he was visited by angels, and his three guards were converted and baptized that same night. The next morning the Emperor had the guards beheaded, while St. Victor was kept alive for fresh torments. After three days of abuse, the Emperor commanded Victor to burn incense to the gods. Instead, St. Victor walked up to the altar and kicked it over with his foot. In retaliation, his foot was cut off. Seeing that his efforts to cause Victor to apostatize were useless, the Emperor finally had him crushed to death on a grindstone. His body was thrown into the sea before being recovered and buried by Christians. His tomb became a place where many miracles occurred. St. Victor of Marseilles' feast day is July 21st.

Monday, July 22 – St. Mary Magdalen - St. Mary Magdalen (1st c.) was a friend and devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Formerly she had been a woman of ill repute out of whom Jesus exorcised seven demons. Mary Magdalene has a special place among the Lord's disciples and is mentioned several times in the Gospels.* She stood at the foot of the Cross with St. John and the Blessed Mother, and went the next morning to Christ's tomb to anoint his body. As a reward for her great love and faithfulness, she is the first recorded witness of Jesus' Resurrection. It was Mary Magdalene who informed the twelve Apostles that Jesus rose from the dead—for this she is called "Apostle to the Apostles." After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, Mary Magdalene continued her mission as an evangelist, contemplative, and mystic in the heart of the Church. According to the Eastern tradition, she went to Ephesus with the Virgin Mary and died there. St. Mary Magdalene is the patron of women, repentant sinners, penitent women, reformed prostitutes, contemplatives, converts, pharmacists, perfumers, hairstylists, and against sexual temptation. Her feast day is July 22nd.

Tuesday, July 23– St. Bridget of Sweden - St. Bridget (1303-1373) was born into a devout and prestigious family in Sweden. Her father was a governor, judge, and one of the wealthiest landowners in the country. Bridget received an excellent religious education, and from a young age demonstrated a great capacity for holiness. She even experienced mystical visions in her childhood. At the age of thirteen she was given in marriage to a similarly devout young man named Ulf. Together the two had a happy marriage and raised eight children, one of whom was St. Catherine of Sweden. St. Bridget became famous for her sanctity, and she was well-acquainted with the Swedish king and many theologians who sought her counsel. When Bridget and Ulf were in their forties, they went on pilgrimage along the famous Way of St. James. Shortly afterwards Ulf died, and Bridget gave herself entirely to the religious life. Her visions became more frequent, and were written down in a famous work called the Revelations of St. Bridget of Sweden. She also founded a new religious order known as the Brigittines. To obtain approval for her Order she traveled to Rome with her daughter Catherine, where she lived until her death. St. Bridget of Sweden is one of the six patron saints of Europe. Her feast day is July 23rd.

Wednesday, July 24 – St. Chirstina the Astonishing - St. Christina (1150-1224) was born to a peasant family in Belgium. She was orphaned as a child and raised by her two older sisters. When she was 21 she had what was believed to be a severe seizure, and was pronounced dead. At her funeral she suddenly revived and levitated before the bewildered congregation. She said that during her coma she had been to heaven, hell, and purgatory and had been given the option to either die and enter heaven, or return to earth to suffer and pray for the holy souls in purgatory. Christina chose the greater act of charity. From then on she lived in extreme poverty: wearing rags,

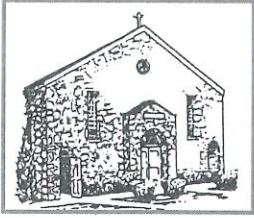
(St. Christina the Astonishing – cont.)

sleeping on rocks, and begging for her food. She is called "Astonishing" because she did the most bizarre things and suffered the pains of inhuman feats without being physically harmed by them. She would roll in fire and hide in hot ovens; she would stand in freezing water for hours in the dead of winter; she allowed herself to be dragged under water by a mill wheel; she spent much time in graveyards. She would also climb trees to escape the strong odor of sin in those she met. Many thought her to be possessed by demons or insane, but many devout people recognized and vouched for her sincerity, obedience, and sanctity. They believed that she was a living witness to the pains that souls experience in purgatory, willingly suffering with them and for them. Christina the Astonishing is the patron of those with mental illness and disorders, mental health workers, psychiatrists, and therapists. Her feast day is July 24th.

Thursday, July 25 – St. James the Greater – St. James the Greater (died 44 AD) is the brother of St. John the Apostle, and was one of Jesus's original 12 Apostles. The title "Greater" was added to distinguish him from St. James the Lesser, and is believed not to concern status or holiness, but physical height. Besides being the son of Zebedee, what is known of St. James's life comes after he and his brother were called to leave their father and their nets and follow after Jesus. James was one of the three apostles invited to witness the miraculous Transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor. As well, his righteous anger at seeing a Samaritan town reject Jesus inspired him to ask Jesus to call down fire on the town, which Jesus gently rebuked. Following Christ's Resurrection and Ascension, James preached the Gospel across the Roman empire before traveling to Spain, where he spread the Gospel for many years. The famous "Camino de Santiago" pilgrimage path in Spain is named in his honor (Santiago is Spanish for James). At the end of his life, James returned to Jerusalem, where he was the first apostle to be martyred. His feast day is July 25th.

Friday, July 26– St. Anne & St. Joachim - St. Anne and St. Joachim (1st c. B.C.) are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the maternal grandparents of Jesus. Their names have been preserved in Church tradition since the second century, although little is known of their lives. It is believed that St. Joachim and St. Anne, although wealthy, lived a devout and simple life of voluntary poverty, chastity, and generosity to the poor. According to legend, after long years of suffering from infertility and praying for a child, Joachim and Anne were each separately visited by an angel in their old age, who announced that they would give birth to a very special child. Their moment of joy at this happy news is depicted with their embrace and kiss at the Golden Gate in Jerusalem. It was from their holy and chaste marriage that the Immaculate Conception was brought into the world. According to tradition, when the Child Mary was three years old, they dedicated her to God and presented her to live in the Jerusalem temple until the time of her betrothal to St. Joseph. St. Anne is the patroness of unmarried women, wives, expectant mothers, pregnancy, women in labor, grandmothers, childless couples, and against poverty and sterility. Women praying to meet their future spouse often turn to St. Anne. St. Joachim is the patron of fathers and grandfathers. Their feast day is July 26th.

Saturday, July 27 – Pope St. Celestine I - Pope St. Celestine I (d. 432 A.D.) was a Roman deacon who was elected Supreme Pontiff in 422 A.D. He was a contemporary of St. Augustine, and it is said that the two were good friends. He also lived with St. Ambrose in Milan prior to serving in Rome. Pope St. Celestine led the Church for nine years during a troubled time of social upheaval. Within the Church there were multiple dangerous heresies spreading and corrupting the faith of the people, especially Nestorianism and Pelagianism, which he staunchly fought against, and for this he is known as a defender of orthodox doctrine. Outside the Church, barbarian hordes were invading the West, leading to the collapse of the Roman Empire. Pope St. Celestine I worked to restore the churches that were attacked when Alaric the Goth sacked Rome. He also established the papal diplomatic service to send ambassadors, known as nuncios, from the Vatican to other governments around the world. He is also the Holy Father who sent St. Patrick to evangelize Ireland, and who introduced the responsorial psalm into the papal Mass at Rome. His feast day is July 27th.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

JULY 21, 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. July 21 | 8:00a.m. | OLM | Giovanni Stella, Living & Deceased Sarnac Family, Ron & Melody Lichtenwald Family |
| | 10:30a.m. | SP | John Grieser, Gina Damman |
| Tues. July 23 | 7:00 p.m. | SP | For the People |
| Wed. July 24 | 9:00 a.m. | SP | For the People |
| Thurs. July 25 | 9:00a.m. | OLM | For the People |
| Fri. July 26 | 9:00a.m. | SP | For the People |
| Sat. July 27 | 4:30p.m. | SP | Doti Young |
| Sun. July 28 | 8:30a.m. | OLM | For the People |
| | 10:30a.m. | SP | Andy & Ann Dominique Retirement, Amelia Salinas |

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Aug. 3 – Bull Thistle Breakfast
8 a.m. – 10 a.m.

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for July 14, 2024

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| SUNDAY OFFERTORY (8 envelopes) | \$ 631.00 |
| LOOSE OFFERINGS | \$ 237.00 |
| BUDGET | \$ 1,747.00 |
| Over / (Under) | (\$ 879.00) |
| OTHER COLLECTION | |
| St. Vincent de Paul | \$ 50.00 |
| CPC Jar | \$ 24.00 |
| Maintenance | \$ 275.00 |
| TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other) | \$ 1,217.00 |

| NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS | July 28, 2024 |
|----------------------------|--|
| Greeters/Gifts | Ron & Pat Eisel |
| Reader | Pat Eisel |
| Servers | Evan Beauregard |
| Ushers | Ron & Pat Eisel |
| Ministers of the Eucharist | Until further notice |
| Money Counters | Ron Baker Barb Bruggeman Terry Kovar |

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

FLOCK – a crowd; large number of people

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. – **Mark 6:34**

Dear Padre,

What does it mean to call the pope infallible?

Jesus established the Church, gave Peter a special place in it, and promised that the powers of evil would never overcome the Church (see Matthew 16:13–19). This promise indicates that Jesus would not allow the Church to be misled in essential matters of faith or morals. In these matters, Jesus grants the gift of infallibility...not only to the pope, but to the bishops and the faithful in union with the pope.

The pope speaks infallibly when he teaches *ex cathedra* (“from the chair”) as the leader of the whole Church, expressly defining doctrine as a matter of faith or morals (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 891). The pope has done this only once in the past one hundred years, when he declared the dogma of the Assumption of Mary.

The Church’s understanding of infallibility reflects our Catholic belief that God will not allow evil to lead the Church astray. It helps us to distinguish what is essential from what is not. A clear understanding of infallibility and its limits may be seen as a safeguard against the misuse of authority. Understood in this manner, infallibility is another gift the Lord gave to the Church. ●



GIULIO MAPOUTANO / SHUTTERSTOCK

[The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org](http://TheRedemptorists/DearPadre.org)

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

Monday

July 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Sg 3:1–4b or
2 Cor 5:14–17
Jn 20:1–2,
11–18

Tuesday

July 23
Weekday
Mi 7:14–15,
18–20
Mt 12:46–50

Wednesday

July 24
Weekday
Jer 1:1, 4–10
Mt 13:1–9

Thursday

July 25
St. James, Apostle
2 Cor 4:7–15
Mt 20:20–28

Friday

July 26
Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Jer 3:14–17
Mt 13:18–23

Saturday

July 27
Weekday
Jer 7:1–11
Mt 13:24–30

Sunday

July 28
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kgs 4:42–44
Eph 4:1–6
Jn 6:1–15

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[Jesus’] tender invitation—rest a while—should accompany us. Let us beware...of efficiency, let us put a halt to the frantic running around dictated by our agendas. Let us learn how to take a break, to turn off the mobile phone, to contemplate nature, to regenerate ourselves in dialogue with God.

ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 18, 2021



DEER WORAWUT / SHUTTERSTOCK