



Who Do People Say You Are?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Pain is the body's alarm clock that something is broken or not working correctly. Suffering, on the other hand, is a marker of our identity and points to what we value. Suffering through the struggles of raising a family says, "I am a parent. That's what parents do." Mental suffering that accompanies committed love says to the world that "I am married. This is something to be valued." Suffering seems to accompany our commitments and consequently contributes to our identity. We don't suffer over what is unimportant in our lives. When Peter recognized that Jesus was the Christ, the Messiah, Jesus then pointed out what sort of commitment accompanied being the Christ—that he would suffer greatly, be killed, and then rise on the third day. It was all much to Peter's dismay, especially when Jesus noted that those who follow him can expect similar suffering.

The suffering that flows from our own commitments may not pin us to a physical cross, but it often reveals a faithfulness to live out the values of Jesus. For people of faith, those values become woven into our everyday living: of raising a difficult child, caring for aging parents, working at jobs that sap our energy, or tolerating those who are unkind. Many times, we may not display those values as a conscious expression of our faith, yet it does point to who we are—followers of Jesus. ●

Reflect

Does your suffering reflect your values, your commitment to follow Jesus?



[Jesus asked the disciples],
"But who do you say that I am?"
Peter said to him in reply,
"You are the Messiah."

MARK 8:29

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Barb Bruggeman
Terry Kovar
Joanna Marry

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

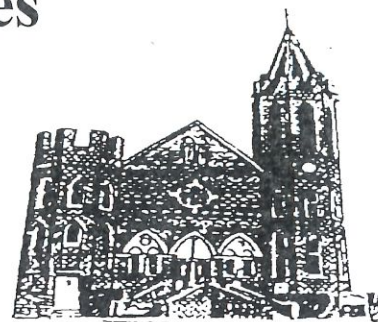
Youth Leader/CRE

Anita Van Zile

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

24TH Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

On Sept. 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter, Our Lady of Mercy students and parents are invited to a Mass for the start of Religious Education.

Sept. 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Holy Hour, Adoration, Rosary, & Divine Mercy Chaplet

Sept. 29, 2024 – after Mass 1st Religious Education Class

OUR LADY OF MERCY FEAST & FESTIVAL

There will be a Holy Hour on Sept. 19, 2024 at 7 p.m. with Adoration, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. The church will be open, September 14 – 2, every afternoon from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for your spiritual needs. See flyer in bulletin for the agenda for the festival.

OUR LADY OF MERCY FESTIVAL DESSERT CONTEST

To begin the Festival off we will be holding a dessert contest. Please bring a favorite dessert that your family and friends think is the BEST ever. Judging will be done by everyone at the festival. Any questions please see or call Sherry Renner 419-388-5695.

SILENT AUCTION BASKETS

Please contact Pat Eisel if you are planning on donating any baskets for the Silent Auction at 419-737-2163.

PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

The Diocese of Toledo remains committed to ensuring the protection of children and providing a safe environment for all young people. If you have any knowledge of abuse that has been committed by a cleric or by any personnel of the Catholic Church, you are urged to report the abuse to your local police department, Children Services, and the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (419)214-4880; or by mail at 1933 Spielbusch, Toledo, OH 43604.

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by Matthew Kelly

“I am not afraid. I was born to do this.” - St. Joan of Arc

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 1

576 O Holy Trinity, Eternal God, my spirit is drowned in Your beauty. The ages are as nothing in Your sight. You are always the same. Oh, how great is Your majesty. Jesus, why do You conceal Your majesty, why have You left Your heavenly throne and dwelt among us? The Lord answered me, **My daughter, love has brought Me here, and love keeps Me here. My daughter, if you knew what great merit and reward is earned by one act of pure love for Me, you would die of joy. I am saying this that you may constantly unite yourself with Me through love, for this is the goal of the life of your soul. This act is and act of will. Know that a pure soul is humble. (45) When you lower and empty yourself before My majesty, I then pursue you with My graces and make use of My omnipotence to exalt 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

---Sept. 18 – Community Dinner – Fayette Methodist Life Center 5 – 6 p.m.

---Sept. 28 – 38th Annual Steps for Life Walkathon & 5k Run please visit cpcnwo.org for more information & registration

---Sept. 28 - The Bryan Knights of Columbus Council 1915 will be holding a golf outing on September 28 at Patriot Hills golf course. This is a two person scramble and you can build your own team. Tee time is at 9 AM and it is open to the public. Contact Jeff at 567-239-1106 or Jose at 419-551-7519. There are many prizes for all!

Prayer chain-ANYONE wishing to submit prayer requests can email Anita Van Zile at vanzilein@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.



Our Lady of Mercy
Feast Day & Festival
September 22, 2024

September 14 – 21, 2024

Start of Our Lady of Mercy Feast Mercy Novena
(Church will be open starting September 14 – 21
from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. for your spiritual needs)

September 19, 2024 – 7 p.m.

Holy Hour – Adoration, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet

September 22, 2024

Starting with a Special Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Followed by our annual Festival

Dessert for Breakfast

Silent Auction's

Catholic Trivia

Fellowship

Ending with an Our Lady of Mercy
festival dinner

COME JOIN THE FUN!!

Saints of the Day

(www.morningoffering.com)

Week of Sept. 15-Sept. 21

Sunday, Sept. 15 - St. Catherine of Genoa - St. Catherine (1447-1510) was born into an aristocratic family in Genoa, Italy. She was a quiet, obedient, physically beautiful, and holy child who devoted herself to prayer and penance. At the age of 13 she made an attempt to enter a convent, but was rejected. At the age of 16 she consented to a marriage arranged by her family for political and financial gain. Her husband was faithless and violent, and their marriage was miserable. Catherine did not bear any children, and for the first five years lived as a hermit in her fine home. After this time, upon her family's rebuke of her solitude, she began to engage in the kind of social activity expected for her state in life. This only increased her weariness and depression, and led to the loss of her religious fervor. Catherine prayed earnestly for assistance in her trouble. Taking the advice of her sister, who was a nun, Catherine went to confession, and through the sacrament had a profound mystical experience in which she clearly saw the depth of her sinfulness contrasted with the depth of God's love. From that point on she renewed her commitment to rigorous prayer, penance, and works of mercy, and God continued to favor her with mystical visions. Catherine later won the conversion of her husband, and they were received into the Third Order of St. Francis. Together they cared for the poor and sick in the Genoa hospital, over which Catherine became administrator. St. Catherine's mystical visions were recorded by her confessor toward the end of her life, the most famous being her Treatise of Purgatory. Her feast day is celebrated on September 15th.

Monday, Sept. 16- Pope St. Cornelius - Pope St. Cornelius (d. 253 A.D.) was a Roman citizen and a holy priest who became the twenty-first successor to the chair of St. Peter, following a fourteen-month vacancy when Pope St. Fabian was martyred by Roman Emperor Decius. When the Emperor temporarily left Rome, the persecution against the Christians subsided long enough for the Church to elect St. Cornelius as the new Roman Pontiff. During Pope St. Cornelius' two year reign a great controversy arose as to what to do with Catholics who apostatized from the Christian faith under threat of death during the persecution. Many were being received back to the sacraments without any penance. In response to the scandal, some maintained that apostates could not be forgiven and could only be admitted back to the sacraments if they were re-baptized. Chief among them was a priest named Novatian, who, as a result of the scandal, caused a schism when he had himself consecrated as an anti-pope. In response, Pope St. Cornelius convened a synod of bishops to confirm his rightful authority as Pope. Novatian was excommunicated and his doctrine was condemned as heresy. Pope St. Cornelius proclaimed that the Church had the power and authority to forgive repentant apostasy, and that converted apostates could be readmitted to the sacraments after true contrition with adequate penance. Soon a new wave of persecution against the Christians broke out, and Pope St. Cornelius was driven into exile and martyred. His feast day is celebrated on September 16th.

Tuesday, Sept. 17- St. Hildegard von Bingen - St. Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179) was born to a large and noble German family. She began to have mystical visions at the age of three which continued throughout her life. Her parents, promising her to the service of God, sent her to be educated at the Benedictine Abbey by an anchoress when she was about eight years of age. At the age of fourteen she became a consecrated nun attached to the Abbey, where she lived a quiet life of prayer for many years. At the age of 38, after the anchoress' death, she was chosen as the new leader of a growing group of nuns. Hildegard led a remarkable and unusual life for a woman of her day. She was an avid composer of sacred music and liturgy, in addition to poems and plays. She also wrote heavily on theology, natural medicine, and natural science. At the age of 42, at the command of God, Hildegard began writing down what she saw in her visions. Her works were widely read, even by the Pope, and leaders around the world sought her council. Her fame as a mystic and prophetess grew, earning her the name "Sibyl of the Rhine." More nuns flocked to join her, causing Hildegard to establish a new monastery at Rupertsberg. She wrote proficiently on the harmony of created nature and man's need to live in balance with it, especially in virtue, morality, and the love of God, which led Pope Benedict XVI to declare her the fourth female Doctor of the Church in 2012 alongside Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, and Thérèse of Lisieux. Because her works were far ahead of her time she is regarded as a historical phenomenon. Hildegard of Bingen is considered the founder of scientific natural history in Germany. Her feast day is September 17th.

Wednesday, Sept. 18 - St. Joseph of Cupertino - St. Joseph of Cupertino (1603-1663) was the son of a poor Italian carpenter. His father died before he was born, leaving his mother destitute. As a result Joseph was underfed and often sick. He was an intellectually dull child who constantly found himself the worse off in every situation. He was awkward, absent-minded, unintelligent, and difficult to be around. Many people thought he was good for nothing—including his own mother, who treated him harshly and considered him a burden. Added to the scorn he received from everyone, at the age of eight he began receiving ecstatic visions for which he was also ridiculed. At the age of seventeen Joseph found work with the Capuchin Franciscan friars, eventually joining their order once they recognized his holiness beneath his irritating demeanor. His

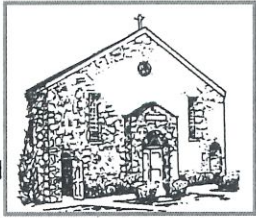
(St. Joseph of Cupertino – cont.)

ecstasies became more pronounced, and he would often levitate or float as they happened. These ecstasies could be triggered easily through the mention of anything heavenly, or by any mortification. These occurrences became a spectacle and disturbance to others and caused Joseph much suffering; they were a cross he would bear his whole life. For example, as a priest he could not celebrate Mass publicly due to his distracting ecstasies. He was even reported to the Inquisition for fear he was involved in witchcraft. Yet St. Joseph lived a life of deep prayer and severe penance through continual fasting, subjecting himself every year to seven Lents of forty days each. Sometimes called "The Flying Saint," St. Joseph of Cupertino is also the patron of air crews and aviators. His feast day is September 18th.

Thursday, Sept. 19 – St. Januarius – St. Januarius (d. 305 A.D.), also known as San Gennaro, was the Bishop of Benevento, Italy. Little is known of his early life. He was arrested and imprisoned for his faith while visiting other Christians in jail during the persecution of Roman Emperor Diocletian. Many attempts were made to kill him, but one after another they failed. He was thrown into a fiery furnace, but he came out unscathed. He was then thrown to wild beasts in the amphitheater, but they did not attack. He was finally beheaded, and his blood was collected by Christians and kept in a sealed glass vial for veneration. The vial of blood is still kept today in the Naples cathedral, and it has continually demonstrated miraculous properties for which no scientific explanation has been offered. St. Januarius' blood liquefies and becomes fresh on particular occasions throughout the year, especially his feast day, for which the saint has become famous. This phenomenon has been occurring with regularity for centuries, and is one of the "blood miracles" that is historically well-documented among the relics of certain saints. He is the patron saint of blood banks and the city of Naples, Italy. St. Januarius's feast day is September 19th.

Friday, Sept. 20 – St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon - St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon (1821-1846) was born to a noble family in Korea, and was baptized at the age of 15 after his parents converted to the Catholic faith. Andrew's father, great-grandfather, and great-uncle were martyred during the government's staunch persecution against Christianity, leaving the remaining family in poverty. Andrew was later chosen to travel over 1,000 miles to the nearest seminary in China to be trained for the priesthood. He was ordained in Shanghai as the first native Korean priest in the Church's history of evangelizing in that country. He returned to Korea in secrecy to avoid detection by the authorities. Once back in his hometown, he worked to catechize the faithful until his bishop summoned him to Seoul to help smuggle French missionaries from China into Korea, with the aid of Chinese fishermen. During this operation he was caught and imprisoned by the border patrol, and charged as a traitor to his country. He was tortured and beheaded on September 16, 1846, at the age of 25. Pope John Paul II canonized Fr. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, along with 102 other Korean martyrs, on May 6, 1984. St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon is the patron saint of Korea. His feast day is celebrated on September 20th.

Saturday, Sept. 21 – St. Matthew the Apostle - St. Matthew the Apostle (1st c.) was a Jew who also went by the name of Levi. He was from Galilee and served in Capernaum as a tax collector for Herod Antipas before becoming a disciple of Jesus. It was in the home of St. Matthew that Jesus dined with the "sinners and tax collectors." Under Jesus' influence St. Matthew was led to repentance for the evil he had done as a tax-collector, a position despised by his fellow Jews. He repaid those he cheated four-fold, sold all his possessions, and followed Christ as one of the twelve Apostles. St. Matthew preached among the Jews for fifteen years following the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus. He is the author of the Gospel that bears his name, which he wrote to convince the Jews that Jesus Christ was the Messiah promised to Israel. According to tradition, St. Matthew the Apostle brought the Gospel to Syria, Media, Persia, Parthia, and finished his preaching in Ethiopia with a martyr's death. He is the patron of guards, bankers, accountants, security forces, and stock brokers. His feast day is September 21st.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

SEPTEMBER 15, 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. Sept. 15	8:00a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Loman Radabaugh
Tues. Sept. 17	7:00 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Sept. 18	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Sept. 19	9:00a.m.	OLM	Joy Short
Fri. Sept. 20	9:00a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Sept. 21	4:30p.m.	SP	Deceased Member of the French & Florence Dominque family
Sun. Sept. 22	8:30a.m.	OLM	Joy Short Giovanni Stella
	10:30a.m.	SP	Frank O & Mary Smith Cathy Warner

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Religious Ed. Dates

Sept. 18 – Rel. Ed. Mass 6:30 p.m. St. Peter

Sept. 29 – Rel. Ed. Kick Off after Mass

---Sept. 14 -22 – Our Lady of Mercy

Novena – Parish will be open

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

---Sept. 19 – Council meetings

5:45 p.m. Finance 6:15 p.m. Pastoral

---Sept. 19 – Holy Hour 7 p.m.

---Sept. 22 - Our Lady of Mercy Festival begins after Mass

---Sept. 24 – Our Lady of Mercy Feast Day

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for September 8, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (11 envelopes) \$ 726.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS \$ 29.00

BUDGET \$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under) (\$ 992.00)

OTHER COLLECTION
Maintenance \$ 600.00
Silent Festival \$ 260.00
Altar Rosary Dues \$ 5.00
Religious Ed donation \$ 50.00

TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other) \$ 1,670.00

NEXT
WEEK'S
MINISTERS

September 22, 2024

Greeters/Gifts	Joyce Bonin Marge Crowell
Reader	Mary Bird
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle Will Maginn
Ushers	Jerry & Anita Van Zile
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Phil Baker Dennis Miller Jerry Van Zile

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

SUFFER – to undergo experience, or be subjected to (pain, distress, injury, loss, or anything unpleasant)

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days.

Mark 8:31

Dear Padre,

Why does OCIA take so long? I've been married to a Catholic for fifty years and would like to become Catholic. My parish's Order of Christian Initiation of Adults program runs from September through Easter. That's a long time for someone in her eighties. Is there any way to accelerate the process?

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults and the new name for RCIA) was designed to meet the needs of two main groups: those who have been baptized as Catholics or in a Protestant tradition but have received no additional instruction in the Catholic faith, and those who have not been baptized. Someone in the first group has a different starting point from someone who has little knowledge of Christ, or who has never participated in a church community. OCIA programs use an instruction process called catechumenate, in which people seeking to become Catholic (catechumens) experience a worshiping community, learn to pray, and reflect on God's word. The catechumenate is divided into steps that are marked by liturgical rites; some parts of the process are optional, depending on each catechumen's pastoral situation. Catechumens can be received into the Church at any time of year. Talk to your priest about your closeness to Catholicism since your marriage and how it has formed your faith. Together, you can determine the amount and type of preparation that's right for you. ●



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Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSsR / DearPadre.org



ALESSIA PIERDOMENICO / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" ...Today too, the Lord looks at each of us personally and asks: "Who am I—in fact—for you?".... This question, addressed to each of us, calls for more than a quick answer straight out of the catechism; it requires a vital, personal response.

HOMILY, BUDAPEST, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Monday

September 16
Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
1 Cor 11:17–26, 33
Lk 7:1–10

Tuesday

September 17
Weekday
1 Cor 12:12–14, 27–31a
Lk 7:11–17

Wednesday

September 18
Weekday
1 Cor 12:31–13:13
Lk 7:31–35

Thursday

September 19
Weekday
1 Cor 15:1–11
Lk 7:36–50

Friday

September 20
Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs
1 Cor 15:12–20
Lk 8:1–3

Saturday

September 21
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Eph 4:1–7, 11–13
Mt 9:9–13

Sunday

September 22
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 2:12, 17–20
Jas 3:16–4:3
Mk 9:30–37