

Belonging to Two Families

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Adolescence can bring family life into an upheaval for both parents and adolescents alike. At its heart, adolescence is an urge for independence, a silent instinct to be part of the larger world. It is a calling sewn by God's Spirit into the very fabric of being human. At its best, family life can be the staging ground for that movement outward.

Hannah recognized this when she believed that her young son Samuel was chosen for a specific role in life. It moved her to bring Samuel to the temple to be raised there in growing service to the community. Ultimately Samuel became a charismatic leader of the Hebrew people who would anoint both Saul and David as king. That same calling seemed to take time

to unfold in the awareness of Joseph and Mary who wondered why Jesus stayed behind in the temple. "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" asked Jesus of them (Luke 2:49). All of us are meant to live more than a life of satisfaction for ourselves or even the fulfillment of our parents' dreams.

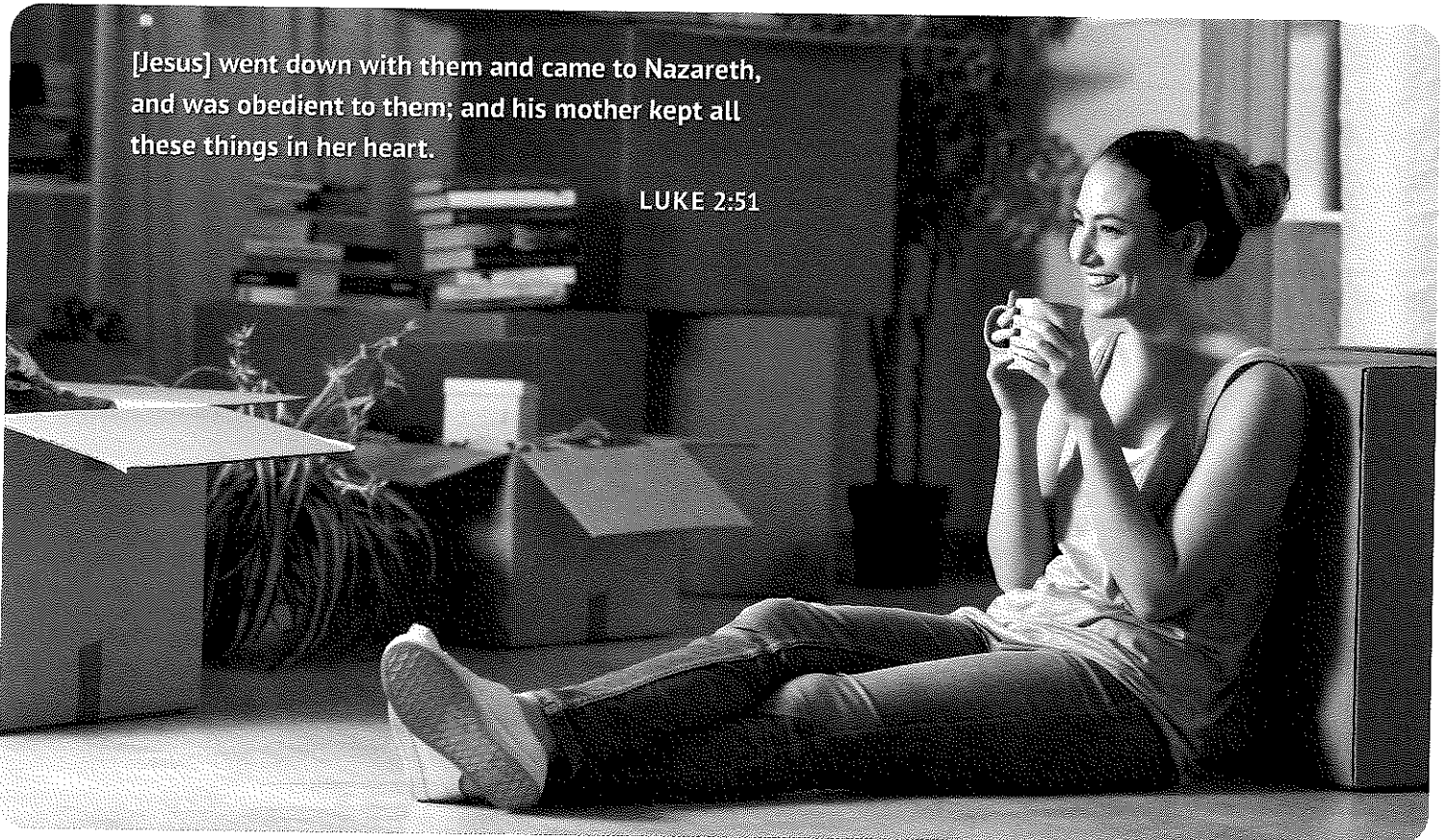
We may find ourselves asking a young person what they want to be when they grow up. A more valuable question might be what they think God wants them to be. While the Spirit of God does not usually ask us to be something contrary to our inclinations, the call of service to the needs of the human family is an added piece to the puzzle of what someone's life might look like. ●

Reflect

How has the call to serve God and God's people shown itself in your life?

[Jesus] went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

LUKE 2:51

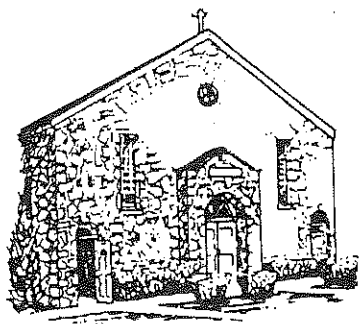


Catholic Communities

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

CRE

Mary Bird

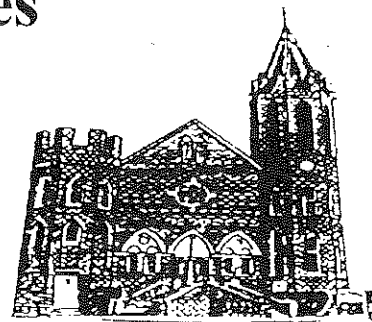
OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Prayer Chain

OLOMPrayerchain@olom.2441.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@rfecexpress.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.

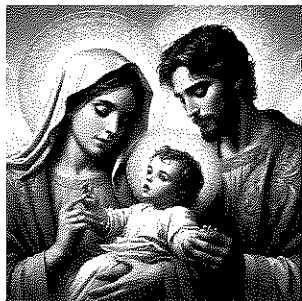
BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please note that the bulletin deadline is **Tuesday, Noon.** Please either call, email at

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

SUNDAY, December 29, 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE

St. Peter 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Our Lady of Mercy 9 a.m., Wednesday, January 1, 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR WELCOME 2025

May we feel God's presence in our lives for the New Year.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After Mass – Jan. 5 & Jan. 19

At Home – Jan. 12 & Jan. 26

ALTAR ROSARY

Altar Rosary Society will be meeting on January 12, 2025 after Mass.

SAINTS OF THE DAY

Will return next week Morning Offerings calendar has not been updated to 2025

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS – Introduction by *Matthew Kelly*

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks out his compassion to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now.” – *St. Teresa of Avila*

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 2

854 December 29, [1936]. Today after Holy Communion, I heard a voice in my soul: **My daughter, stand ready, for I will come unexpectedly.** Jesus, You do not want to tell me the hour I am looking forward to with such longing? **My daughter, it is for your own good. You will learn it but not now; keep watch.** O Jesus, do with me as You please. I know You are the merciful Savior and You will not change towards me at the hour of my death. If at this time, you are showing me so much special love, and are condescending to unite Yourself with me in such an intimate way and with such great kindness, I expect even **(234)** more at the hour of my death. You, my Lord-God, cannot change. You are always the same. Heaven can change, as well as everything that is created; but You, Lord are ever the same and will endure forever. So came as You like and when You like. Father of infinite mercy, I, Your child, wait longingly for Your coming. O Jesus, You said in the Holy Gospel, “Out of your mouth do I judge you.” Well Jesus, I am always speaking of Your inconceivable mercy, so I trust that You will judge me according to Your unfathomable mercy.

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

---Opera House events

Jan. 9, 7 p.m. Bean Creek Coffee House

Jan. 25, 7 p.m. Tina Mae, Becca Lynn and John Schwind

---Jan. 15 – Community Dinner – Fayette Methodist Life Center 5 – 6 p.m.

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 or call Our Lady of Mercy office. Email olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

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.

JANUARY

2025

Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass 9 a.m.	2	3	4
5 Religious Ed after Mass	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Religious Ed at Home BFF after Mass Altar Rosary/Society meeting after Mass	13	14	15	16 Council meetings Finance 5:45 p.m. Pastoral 6:15 p.m.	17	18
19 Religious Ed after Mass	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Religious Ed at Home	27	28	29	30	31	

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

The Octave of Christmas falls on New Year's Day. Given the fact that the pagans used to celebrate this day through dissolute activities and superstition, the ancient Church helped believers begin the new year with a "new spirit" through the practice of days of fasting and penance. In 431, during the Council of Ephesus that concluded on 22 June, the dogma of faith regarding "Mary's divine maternity" was declared. Thus, in 1931, on the Council's 15th centenary, Pope Pius XI established the liturgical feast that we already find celebrated in the 7th century. It is a day laden with meaning and contains many messages: the Octave of Christmas recalls the day Jesus was circumcised and given His name, it is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, and it is also the day on which the World Day of Peace is celebrated (established by Pope Saint Paul VI in 1968). There truly are many messages to be received on this first day of the year. We are invited to learn from the Virgin Mary to "keep" the Word in our hearts, and to ask ourselves what the Lord Jesus wants to say to us as the days go by, knowing that God's blessing always accompanies us, as the First Reading from Numbers reminds us.

(from www.vaticannews.va)

Numbers 6:22 – 27

The Lord said to Moses: "Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them:

The Lord bless you and keep you!

The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Prayer

*We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.
(Ancient Marian Prayer)*



Parents of Priests
Prayers for Priests

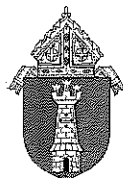
PRAY FOR CLERGY, RELIGIOUS, OR THE SPECIAL INTENTION FOR EACH DAY

Dear Lord, we pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry. We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5). May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross. May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

January 2025

			1 Pope Francis	2 Bishop Daniel E. Thomas	3 Your Parish Priests	4 Increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life
5 Parents of Priests	6 Rev. Savio Manavalan	7 Rev. Francis Mariadas	8 Rev. Jeffery McBeth	9 Deacon Kevin McGraw	10 Rev. Thomas McQuillen	11 Deacons and Missionary Priests
12 Rev. Melwyn Menezes	13 Rev. Thomas Merrill	14 Seminarian Andrew Messer	15 Rev. Msgr. Dennis Metzger	16 Rev. Evarist Miku	17 Rev. Christopher Mileski	18 Religious Brothers and Sisters
19 Rev. Jeremy Miller	20 Rev. John Miller	21 Rev. Theodore Miller	22 Rev. John Missler	23 Rev. Kevin Moebius	24 Rev. Juan Molina	25 Deceased Priests of our Diocese
26 Rev. Joseph Mominee	27 Rev. Msgr. Kenneth Morman	28 Rev. Eric Mueller	29 Rev. Joseph Newman	30 Rev. Michael Newman	31 Rev. Arthur Niewiadomski	

Saint John Vianney, patron of parish priests, pray for us.



Diocese
of Toledo



Our Lady of Mercy Parish



DECEMBER 29 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. Dec. 29	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	Cindy Eddy Loman Radabaugh
Tues. Dec. 31	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Jan. 1 Mary, Mother of God	9:00 a.m.	OLM	For the People
Thurs. Jan. 2	9:00 a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Jan. 3 Communion Svc	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Jan. 4	4:30 pm	SP	Ben Garza Mary Cole -prayers for health
Sun. Jan. 5	8:30a.m.	OLM	Karl & Lotte Obermoser Ruth Obermoser
	10:30a.m.	SP	Lynn Schrickel

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Religious Ed. Dates
- Jan. 5 & Jan. 19 – after Mass
- Dec. 29, Jan. 12 & Jan. 26 – at home
- Jan. 1 – Mass 9 a.m. Mary, Holy Mother of God
- Jan. 12 – BFF after Mass
- Jan. 12 – Altar Rosary meeting after Mass

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for December 22, 2024

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (14 envelopes)	\$ 881.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 190.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	(\$ 676.00)

OTHER COLLECTION

CPC Jar	\$.21
Maintenance	\$ 450.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 50.00

TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday & Other) \$ 1,571.21

CHRISTMAS

Christmas (16 envelopes)	\$ 770.00
Loose Offering	\$ 1,499.00
CPC Jar & Votives	\$ 28.00
TOTAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION	\$ 2,297.00

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

FAMILY- any group of persons closely related by blood, as parents, children, uncles, aunts and cousins

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	Next Week Schedule	
	Jan. 1	Jan. 5
Greeters/Gifts	Mike Maginn Family	Ron & Pat Eisel
Reader	Mary Bird	Pat Eisel
Servers	Will M	Kennedy K
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice	
Money Counters	Phil Baker Joanna Marry Barbara Roby	

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and when he prays, is heard.

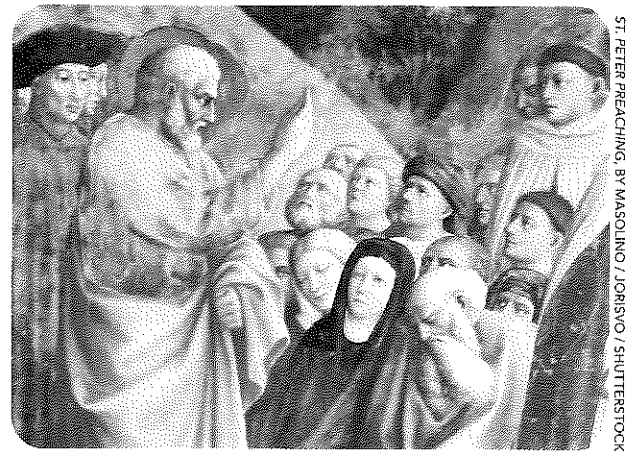
Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

Sirach 3:6

Dear Padre,

If Jesus was a Jew, why are we Catholic and not Jewish?

Jesus was a first-century Jew, as were his first disciples. They continued their Jewish practices after Jesus' resurrection, but they believed and proclaimed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah, the fulfillment of Judaism. Such claims inevitably led to clashes with Jewish authorities, as when St. Stephen, the first martyr, was charged with blasphemy and stoned to death in Jerusalem in the year 36 (Acts 6–7).



ST. PETER PREACHING, BY MASOLINO / JORISNO / SHUTTERSTOCK

Nevertheless, Jesus' followers initially saw themselves as reformers of Judaism—not founders of a new religion. The Acts of the Apostles traces the first thirty years of this community of believers, from Jesus' ascension in Jerusalem to Paul's imprisonment in Rome. It details the beginnings of their separation from Judaism, as when the Jewish disciples wanted to impose certain practices of Mosaic Law on the Gentile disciples—circumcision, for example (Acts 15:11). Acts and the epistles also chronicle the expansion outside of Jerusalem to the Mediterranean region, where, for example, in Antioch, the disciples of Jesus were called Christians for the first time (Acts 11:26). The first written reference to "Catholic Church" is from St. Ignatius of Antioch around the year 107. Catholic means "universal." "The Church is catholic: she proclaims the fullness of the faith.... She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 868). ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / 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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 30	December 31	January 1	January 2	January 3	January 4	January 5
<i>Octave of Christmas</i>	<i>Octave of Christmas</i>	<i>Mary, Holy Mother of God</i>	<i>Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church</i>	<i>Christmas Weekday</i>	<i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</i>	<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>
1 Jn 2:12–17 Lk 2:36–40	1 Jn 2:18–21 Jn 1:1–18	Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21	1 Jn 2:22–28 Jn 1:19–28	1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Jn 1:29–34	1 Jn 3:7–10 Jn 1:35–42	Is 60:1–6 Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6 Mt 2:1–12



JICO JULIA AMARAL / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Every day, families have to learn to listen and understand one another, to walk together, to face conflicts and difficulties.... And this too helps...talk within the family, talk at table, dialogue between parents and children, dialogue among siblings. It helps us experience our family roots that come from our grandparents. Dialogue with the grandparents!

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 26, 2021