



[John said,] “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.... He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire.

LUKE 3:16

## Spirit-Trained

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he Spirit that descended upon Jesus is the same Spirit with which we have been baptized. In one way or another, it calls us out into the world, into the lives of others. At times, that call is a passionate desire that burns like fire “eager to do what is good,” as Paul wrote to Titus (Titus 2:14). It shows itself as a call to the work we do in life—perhaps parenting, teaching, medical work, or creating jobs through business. The Spirit beckons us into making the world a better place in which to live.

Sometimes, however, the Spirit’s voice echoes with calls made to us by others. Teachers are urged to become principals. Employees are recognized as potential managers and supervisors. People receive requests to volunteer in community or school projects. At other times, the Spirit calls us through the needs of life. A child may need to care for an aged parent. A family may have a child with special needs. One-sided relationships may call for a listening ear that saps our patience.

Saint Paul wrote to Titus that, in all of this, we are being trained by God’s Spirit to live life as follows: temperately, with a sense of balance, perhaps between giving and receiving; justly, because life is not all about us; and devoutly, for there is a power greater than ourselves (Titus 2:12). It may help to realize that those in training do not always perform their work perfectly. It is the nature of being trained. Trust the Spirit to train you well. ●

### Reflect

*How is the Spirit training you to make the world a better place?*

# 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](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

**Bookkeeper**

Tami Baker

[OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

**Youth Leader/CRE**

Anita Van Zile

[OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

**Website (bulletin online)**

[stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy](http://stpeterarchbold.com/our-lady-of-mercy)



## St. Peter

614 N. Defiance St.  
Archbold, OH 43502

### MASS SCHEDULE

1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com) or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following week's bulletin.

# SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

## The Baptism of the Lord

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

### BFF'S

There is a BFF today after Mass. All are invited to enjoy Breakfast, Food & Fellowship.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After Mass – Jan. 19

At Home – Jan. 12 & Jan. 26

### ALTAR ROSARY

Altar Rosary Society will be meet today after Mass.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Finance and Pastoral will be meeting Thursday, January 16, 2025, Finance at 5:45 p.m. and Pastoral at 6:15 p.m.

### OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed January 21 thru January 28. It will re open on January 29. Please have all announcements for those dates in by January 14 at noon to be in the bulletin. If there is an urgent matter (Jan. 21 thru the 28<sup>th</sup>) that needs to be announced please see Barb Bruggeman.



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

“If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family.” – St. Teresa of Calcutta

### **DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**

Notebook 2

879 I saw Father Andrasz as he was saying Holy Mass today. Before the Elevation, I saw the Infant Jesus with His hands spread out, and He was very joyous; then, after a moment, I saw nothing more. I was in my room and I continued making my thanksgiving. But later on, I thought to myself, “Why was the Infant Jesus so merry: After all He is not always so merry when I see Him.” Then I heard these words interiorly: **Because I am very much at home in his hear.** And I was not at all surprised at this, because I know he loves Jesus very much.

### ST. PETER NEWS

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

#### FISH FRY-DAYS

Archbold Knights of Columbus Fish Fry-Days begin January 24 thru April 18

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

---Jan. 15 – Community Meal – 5 -6 pm – Fayette Methodist Life Center

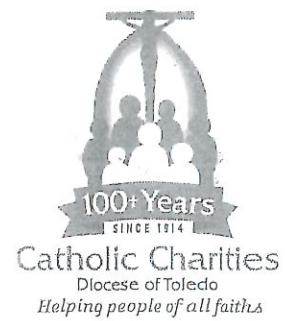
If you know of any Fayette Community events, please either call or visit the office or email to [OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

Prayer chain-ANYONE wishing to submit prayer requests can email or call Our Lady of Mercy office. Email [olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto: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.

THE OFFICE FOR  
**LIFE & JUSTICE  
MINISTRIES**



Friends for Life,

We're only about two weeks away from the 2025 March for Life in Washington DC!  
**Will you be joining us?** We hope so!

Our itinerary and meeting location is at [www.ToledoRespectLife.com](http://www.ToledoRespectLife.com) - Just click on the Info Sheet button under Pray and March for Life or click the button below.

We're still in need of assistance to make the pilgrimage affordable for the students. Any support you can sacrifice is appreciated! Be sure to list the March for Life as what you'd like to support. Click the button below to donate.

**Please continue to pray** for our team and all the pilgrims as we peacefully march to end abortion in our nation!

For Life,  
Kevin Jorrey

+JMJ+

# Saints of the Day

([www.morningoffering.com](http://www.morningoffering.com))

Week of Jan. 12 – Jan. 18

**Sunday, Jan. 12 – St. Marguerite of Bourgeoys** - St. Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620-1700) was born in France to a large middle-class Christian family. After having a deep religious experience at the age of 20, Marguerite dedicated her life to God through the Virgin Mary. She then joined an apostolate which served God by educating underprivileged children. When she was 32 the governor of Fort Ville-Marie (now Montreal, Canada), visited Marguerite's town and invited her to be a missionary in the New World as a lay teacher, instructing the children of the colonists and the Native Americans. Marguerite agreed and made the long ocean journey. Realizing the importance of the family in establishing New France, Marguerite mentored young ladies and prepared them for marriage and family life as pioneer women. She signed as a witness on the marriage certificates of many early settlers. As a result of these activities she was affectionately called the "Mother of the Colony." She also worked to build the first church and the first school. She also founded the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal, which is an active religious order to this day. For her great apostolic and missionary activity she is considered the co-foundress of Montreal. She is also the first woman saint of the Catholic Church in Canada. Her feast day is January 12.

**Monday, Jan. 13 – St. Hilary of Poitiers** - St. Hilary of Poitiers (300–368 A.D.) was born in France to noble pagan parents. He was well instructed in philosophy and converted to Christianity after studying the Old and New Testaments. He was baptized into the Church along with his wife and daughter. He was widely respected by the people of Poitiers, so much so that they elected him their bishop. Hilary worked hard to defend the Catholic Church against the entrenched heresy of Arianism which resulted in his four-year exile to Phrygia, and his popular title, "Hammer of the Arians." Although he was a gentle and courteous man, he was labeled a 'disturber of the peace' for defending Jesus' sacred humanity and divinity against the Arian heretics, the only orthodox bishop in his region doing so. He was renowned for his great learning and sanctity, and for defending the Church valiantly in word and by pen. While in exile he wrote numerous and important theological works resulting in his title as a Doctor of the Church. St. Hilary's feast day is January 13.

**Tuesday, Jan. 14– St. Felix of Nola**- St. Felix of Nola (d. 250 A.D.) was born in Italy near Naples, the son of a Syrian soldier. After his father's death, Felix gave his goods to the poor and entered the priesthood. He was ordained by his bishop, St. Maximus of Nola, and served as his assistant. When persecution against Christians increased under Roman Emperor Decius, St. Maximus hid in the desert while St. Felix was captured, tortured, and thrown into prison. While in prison an angel appeared to Felix and freed him from his chains, bidding him to go to the aid of his bishop, St. Maximus, who was at the point of starving to death. After assisting the bishop, Felix fled from his captors by hiding in a hole. Miraculously, a spider quickly spun a web over the hole and prevented St. Felix from being caught by his pursuers. Felix continued hiding in a dry well for six months until the persecution abated. Afterwards he declined an offer to become the bishop of Nola following the death of St. Maximus. Felix's property was confiscated in the persecutions, so he lived his remaining years farming a few acres of rented land for his own sustenance as well as alms for the poor. His feast day is January 14.

**Wednesday, Jan. 15 – St. Arnold Janssen** - St. Arnold Janssen (1837–1909) was born in Germany to a large Catholic family. He was a man of simple faith who studied theology, entered the priesthood, and served as a school teacher. He had a profound devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which awakened in him an increasing desire for missionary work. This led him to found The Little Messenger of the Sacred Heart, a monthly magazine sharing news of the Church's missionary activities and encouraging German Catholics to do more to help the missions. This was during a time of anti-Catholic persecution in Germany, and many priests were expelled from the country. Arnold suggested that these expelled priests serve in the missions, and for this purpose he founded the Society of the Divine Word, known as the Divine Word Missionaries, a religious congregation of missionary priests and lay brothers. He also founded two Orders of religious sisters associated with this missionary activity. Today more than

**(St. Arnold Janssen – cont.)**

6,000 Divine Word Missionaries are active in 63 countries. St. Arnold was canonized in 2003 by Pope St. John Paul II. His feast day is celebrated on January 15.

**Thursday, Jan. 16 –St. Priscilla of Rome–** St. Priscilla of Rome (1st c.) was a Christian noblewoman who served as a benefactor to the Christian community in Rome. She supported St. Peter the Apostle, the first Bishop of Rome, and her home near the catacombs served as his headquarters. She was the wife of Manius Acilius Glabrio, a Roman politician, who was executed by the Emperor Domitian for atheism, that is, his refusal to worship the Roman gods because he was Christian. Priscilla buried him in what was once a quarry and donated the property to the Church so that others could also be laid to rest there. Her catacombs, known since the earliest days of Christianity as the "Catacombs of Priscilla" are also referred to as the "Queen of the Catacombs" because such a large number of martyrs and popes were buried there. It also holds a significant collection of early Christian iconography including the earliest known depiction of the Madonna and Child. St. Priscilla was also martyred for her Christian faith and buried there. Her feast day is January 16.

**Friday, Jan. 17– St. Anthony of the Desert -** St. Anthony of the Desert (251–356 A.D.), also known as St. Anthony the Great (or St. Antony the Great) and also St. Anthony of Egypt, was a leading figure among the Desert Fathers, the early Christian monks who lived in the Egyptian desert in the 3rd and 4th centuries. The story of his life was written by St. Athanasius of Alexandria. St. Anthony's parents were wealthy, and after their death Anthony desired to conform himself to the manner of life of the Apostles and early Christians. On hearing these words from the Gospel of Matthew in church, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me," St. Anthony left everything behind to live a life of prayer, fasting, self-denial, and labor. Whenever he heard of other holy people living in this manner, he would visit them to learn from their virtues in order to imitate them. He eventually removed himself from all society and became the first Christian to live a life of consecrated solitude. He occasionally left his hermitage for pressing matters, once to encourage persecuted Christians, and another time to support Pope Athanasius against the heresy of Arius. St. Anthony died at the age of one hundred and five. His feast day is January 17th.

**Saturday, Jan. 18– St. Margaret of Hungary -** St. Margaret of Hungary (1242–1271) was the daughter of King Bela IV of Hungary, and niece of the famed St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Her royal parents made a vow to God that if Hungary was saved from the Mongol invasion they would dedicate Margaret to religion. God heard their prayer and the country was saved. The king and queen then entrusted four-year-old Margaret to be raised and educated in a Dominican convent. At the age of ten Margaret was transferred to the Convent of the Blessed Virgin founded by her parents, built on an island her parents named after her. Margaret spent the rest of her life there, dedicating herself to prayer and severe penances. She opposed her father's attempts to arrange her political marriage with the King of Bohemia, even though her suitor obtained a dispensation from the pope to release her from her religious vows so that she could enter into matrimony. Margaret made her solemn vows as a Dominican nun at the age of eighteen. Although a beautiful princess, she took the most menial tasks in the convent and dedicated her life to serving the poor and sick. She was considered a saint during her life and after her death. Many miracles, especially the curing of illnesses, were attributed to her intercession. She died at the age of 28. Her feast day is January 18.



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish



JANUARY 12, 2025

## 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. Jan. 12	8:30a.m.	OLM	Marcel Bonin
	10:30a.m	SP	Cindy Eddy John Van Pelt
Tues. Jan. 14	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Jan. 15	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Jan. 16	9:00 a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Jan. 17	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Jan. 18	4:30 pm	SP	For the People
Sun. Jan. 19	8:30a.m.	OLM	Jeannette Tidwell
	10:30a.m	SP	For the People

## UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Religious Ed. Dates
  - Jan. 19 – after Mass
  - Jan. 12 & Jan. 26 – at home
- Jan. 12 – BFF after Mass
- Jan. 12 – Altar Rosary meeting after Mass
- Jan. 16 – Council meetings
  - Finance 5:45 p.m.
  - Pastoral 6:15 p.m.

## SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for January 5, 2025

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (16 envelopes)	\$ 925.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 174.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 648.00)
<b>OTHER COLLECTION</b>	
Maintenance	\$ 150.00
CPC Jar	\$ 2.64
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 55.00
Initial Offering	\$ 120.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 63.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday &amp; Other)</b>	<b>\$ 1,489.64</b>

## NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

January 19, 2025

Greeters/Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Reader	Mary Bird
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Terry Kovar Michelle Miron Phil Baker

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

**BAPTISM**– a ceremonial immersion in water, or application of water as an initiatory rite or sacrament of the Christian church

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon hi in bodily form like a dove.  
**Luke 3:21-22**

# Dear Padre,

***We are told that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and that baptism is necessary for our salvation. But why was Jesus baptized?***

Jesus was baptized, not because he needed saving, but so that others might be saved. By accepting baptism, he established this act as the normative path for salvation. Saint John Chrysostom addressed this question: "Though [Christ] needed not baptism for his own sake, yet carnal nature in others had need thereof." Or as St. Gregory

Nazianzen said more poetically: "Christ was baptized that he might plunge the old Adam entirely in the water."

Another reason Jesus accepted baptism is suggested by St. Augustine. He said our Lord was baptized "because he wished to do what he had commanded all to do." This is true servant leadership—not asking of others what one is not willing to do oneself. Or as St. Ambrose said, "This is justice, to do first thyself that which thou wishest another to do, and so encourage others by thy example."

Perhaps as we launch into a new year, we might try to remember our baptismal promise to "put on Christ" and imitate Jesus in this way: to not ask of anyone—our children or parents; employers or employees; teachers or students; principals or pastors; or even presidents—what we do not ask of ourselves, especially when it comes to honesty, dedication, civility, and charity.

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



SWEET MARSHMALLOW / SHUTTERSTOCK

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
January 13	January 14	January 15	January 16	January 17	January 18	January 19
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Heb 1:1–6 Mk 1:14–20	Heb 2:5–12 Mk 1:21–28	Heb 2:14–18 Mk 1:29–39	Heb 3:7–14 Mk 1:40–45	Heb 4:1–5, 11 Mk 2:1–12	Heb 4:12–16 Mk 2:13–17	Is 62:1–5 1 Cor 12:4–11 Jn 2:1–11



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## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Let us thank the Lord for baptism. Let us also thank him for the parents who brought us to the font, for those who administered the sacrament...for the community in which we received him.... Do I acknowledge, in my life, the light of the presence of God, who sees me as his beloved son, his beloved daughter?***

**ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 7, 2024**