

**“Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.”**

**JOHN 2:10**

## When Water Becomes Wine

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**F**or all of us, at one time or another, life seems to run out of wine. We look at our relationships and find ourselves saying, “There’s no more wine.” It may be a friendship of five years or a marriage of twenty-five years, but, for some, the wine runs out. For others, it is the job that loses its challenge. Or, one day, the foreman gathers everyone to announce that the plant is closing. In a moment, all has turned into vinegar; there is no more wine. For others still, it is when retirement suffocates the future, choking all that once gave meaning.

However, there are also those times when hope is reborn, when we feel “espoused” not only by life but also by God, when the ordinary turns extraordinary—and the water becomes wine. It is the phone call offering a new job after we have collected unemployment checks for months. It is falling in love when we have given up on the notion. It is conceiving a child after years of barren waiting. It is someone who listens, finally, when no one else would. It is at times like these—and many others as well—when we are caught off-balance and trip into God unwittingly, saved from drudgery and redeemed to live a life enriched, when water is turned into wine. It is a deeply felt joy that reveals God’s presence. ●

### Reflect

***Is there an area in your life where you need “new wine”?***

# 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

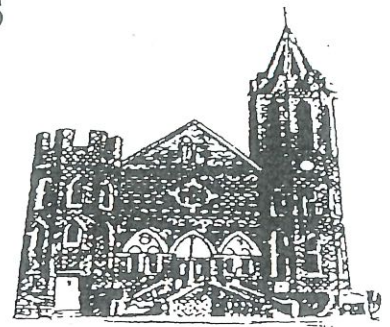
P.O. Box 429  
Fayette, OH 43521

**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@rtexexpress.net](mailto:email-stpeter@rtexexpress.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 19, 2025

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

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

### BFF'S

The next BFF will be on February 9, 2025.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After Mass – Jan. 19, Feb. 2 & Feb. 16

At Home – Jan. 26, Feb. 9 & Feb. 23

### OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed January 21 thru January 28. It will re open on January 29. If there is an urgent matter during this time that needs to be announced please see Barb Bruggeman.

### SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, March 1, 2025, Our Lady of Mercy will be having a Mardi Gras Event. All parishioners 21 and over are invited for a night of Mardi Gras style food and games. Please mark your calendars. More information will be available closer to the date.

### THANK YOU THANK YOU

The baby wipes and ointment collected during Advent were taken to the CPC Women's Health Resource in Wauseon last week. They were so very grateful for our donations. Thank you CCD students & parents, and OLOM parishioners for your donations! The mothers and babies Thank You!



### 2024 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Please pick up your 2024 Our Lady of Mercy contribution statement on the table in the back.

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

“Disorder in society is the result of disorder in the family.” – St. Angela Merici

### DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 2

895 January 23, [1937]. I did not feel like writing today. The I heard a voice in my soul: **My daughter, you do not live for yourself but for souls; write for their benefit. You know that My will as to your writing has been (261) confirmed many times by your confessors. You know what is pleasing o Me, and if you have any doubts about what I am saying, you also know whom you are to ask. I grant him light to pronounce judgment on my case. My eye watches over him. My daughter, you are to be like a child towards him, full of simplicity and candor. Put his judgement above all My demands. He will guide you according to My will. If he doesn't allow you to carry out My demands, be at peace; I will not judge you, but the matter will remain between Me and him. You are to be obedient.**

### 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

Feb. 6 – Coffee House 7 p.m.

Feb. 22 – Stand Up Comedy – The Real John King, 7 p.m.

---Feb. 19 – 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.

# DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

(from USCCB.ORG)

JANUARY 22, 2025

*A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer.*

*Pope Saint John Paul II  
Evangelium vitae*

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives, and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion.

On June 24, 2022, the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision overturned *Roe v. Wade*, and we praise God for the great opportunity state and federal legislators now have to protect pre-born children. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, right now state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to pre-born children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed.

## A PRAYER FOR LIFE

to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, you came that we might have *life*—and have it in abundance. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity.

As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage. Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable.

For you are God, forever and ever.

— AMEN.



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Visit [store.respectlife.org](https://store.respectlife.org) to order this prayer card and other Respect Life materials.

# Saints of the Day

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

Week of Jan. 19 – Jan. 25

**Sunday, Jan. 19 – St. Canute IV of Denmark** - St. Canute IV of Denmark (1042 – 1086 A.D.), also known as Canute the Holy, was one of thirteen sons born to the king of Denmark. Canute later succeeded his brother to the throne and reigned as king from 1080 to 1086. He was a devout Catholic, a zealous propagator of the faith, and a brave warrior, in addition to being a man of prayer, penance, austerity, and charity towards the poor and weak among his people. The happiness of his people and the interests of the Church were his motivation, often putting him in opposition to the aristocracy. He fought against the barbarian nations and worked to strengthen the power of the monarchy, but some of his laws were unpopular and caused unrest among the people. Canute sought to expand Denmark's territory and believed he had a claim to the English throne. In 1085 he gathered his fleet and planned an invasion of England to overthrow William the Conqueror, a plan which was never realized. Instead, a revolt broke out against Canute, causing him to take refuge inside St. Alban's Priory in Odense. Canute, his brother, and seventeen of his men were pursued and killed by rebels in front of the altar. He was named a martyr for the faith, and many miracles were reported at his tomb. He was canonized in the year 1101, the first Danish saint. St. Canute is the patron saint of Denmark. His feast day is January 19.

**Monday, Jan. 20 – St. Sebastian** - St. Sebastian (d. c. 288 A.D.) was born in Gaul, present-day France, to wealthy Italian parents. According to tradition he went to Rome to serve and encourage the Christians who were being persecuted under the Roman Emperor Diocletian. To do so effectively and without suspicion, he enrolled in the Roman army as an officer. In this position he did much to encourage the faith of the Christians in the face of brutal martyrdom, and in the process made many new converts through his gift of healing. Once he was discovered to be a Christian, he was seized by Roman officers, tied to a tree, and shot through with arrows. He survived this, and was healed by St. Irene of Rome. Being fully recovered, he returned to preach to Diocletian himself. Diocletian then had him beaten to death with clubs. St. Sebastian is the patron of many causes, most notably of archers, athletes, police officers, soldiers, and against plague victims and enemies of religion. St. Sebastian's feast day is January 20th.

**Tuesday, Jan. 21– St. Agnes**- St. Agnes (c. 291–304 A.D.) was born to a noble Roman family. She was a beautiful young woman of twelve or thirteen years of age when many suitors desired her hand in marriage. Instead of marrying, St. Agnes committed herself to a life of consecrated virginity as a spouse of Christ. She was then denounced to the authorities as a Christian during the persecutions of Roman Emperor Diocletian. She was condemned to be dragged naked through the streets into a brothel to be sexually abused. She miraculously escaped from this predicament with her virginity preserved, and was then condemned to be burned at the stake. Again, by a miracle, her persecutors were unable to carry out her sentence. Finally, they put her to death by beheading. Of all the virgin martyrs, St. Agnes is held in the first place by the Church. She is one of the seven women, besides the Virgin Mary, commemorated by name in the Roman Canon of the Mass. St. Agnes' name means 'chaste' and she is the patroness of girls, chastity, engaged couples, virgins, rape victims, and the Girl Scouts. Her feast day is January 21st.

**Wednesday, Jan. 22 – St. Anastasius the Persian** - St. Anastasius the Persian (7th c.) was the son of a Persian sorcerer. He became a Zoroastrian soldier in the army of Khosrau II, the Persian monarch who absconded the True Cross of Christ from Jerusalem and took it to Persia in 614. St. Anastasius inquired about the mysterious Cross and the Christian religion and as a result soon converted to the true Faith, left the army, received baptism, and became a monk at a monastery in Jerusalem. He lived there seven years until he was called by God to martyrdom among his people. He went to Caesarea to preach, which was then under Persian rule. He was captured and subject to cruel tortures. He was promised freedom and a high position in the kingdom if he would simply denounce his faith, which he refused. St. Anastasius was strangled and beheaded. His feast day is January 22.

**Thursday, Jan. 23 – St. Marianne Cope**– St. Marianne Cope (1838–1918), also known as St. Marianne of Molokai, was a German-born American immigrant. She worked in a New York factory before entering the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in Syracuse. She spent her early years serving as a leader in health care and education. When the Hawaiian government was searching for a religious order to run a station for victims of leprosy, the Syracuse sisters volunteered immediately. Mother Marianne and six other sisters left for Hawaii in 1883. She devoted 35 years to caring for those afflicted with Hansen’s disease (leprosy) in Molokai, Hawaii. She also opened a hospital and a school for girls on the island of Maui, and took charge of the home St. Damien of Molokai established for men and boys. Mother Marianne changed life on Molokai by introducing cleanliness, dignity, and fun into the colony. Despite her direct contact with leprosy patients over many years, she was not afflicted by the disease, which some consider miraculous. She was canonized in 2012 and her feast day is January 23.

**Friday, Jan. 24– St. Francis de Sales** - St. Francis de Sales (1567–1622) was born to a noble family in France. He enjoyed a privileged upbringing and education, earning a doctorate in law and theology. He was a well-liked and intelligent man, yet quiet and reserved. When struggling with thoughts of his possibly being predestined to eternal damnation, Francis went into a deep two-year depression. God healed him of this fear, and afterwards Francis consecrated himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He later became a priest, rejecting the lucrative career and advantageous marriage his father had prepared for him. As a priest, St. Francis became a prolific writer and preacher, and at the age of 35 was made bishop of the Calvinist stronghold in Geneva, Switzerland, at the height of the Protestant revolt against the Church. Through his gentleness, preaching skill, zeal for the faith, and his clear explanations of Catholic doctrine, he returned thousands of obstinate heretics to the true Faith. He also used sign language to convert the deaf. St. Francis de Sales is a Doctor of the Church, known especially for his writings on practical spiritual direction for lay people. He is the patron of teachers, the deaf, the Catholic press, confessors, educators, and authors. His feast day is January 24th.

**Saturday, Jan. 25– St. Dwynwen** - St. Dwynwen (5th c.) was a princess from Anglesey in Wales, the beautiful and virtuous daughter of King Brychan Brycheiniog. According to legend she fell in love with a young man, yet refused to marry him due to her piety and desire for the religious life. She prayed that her desire for marriage would be removed, and that God would give happiness to all lovers. Dwynwen became consecrated to God as a nun and set up a convent on Llanddwyn Island, and her church and its 'holy well' became a pilgrimage shrine from the Middle Ages down to today, especially for lovers. St. Dwynwen is the patron saint of lovers, and in Wales her feast is the equivalent of St. Valentine’s Day. Dwynwen translated means 'she who leads a blessed life', and her feast day is January 25.



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish



JANUARY 19, 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. 19	8:30a.m.	OLM	Jeannette Tidwell
	10:30a.m.	SP	For the People
Tues. Jan. 21	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Jan. 22	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Jan. 23	9:00 a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Jan. 24	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat. Jan. 25	4:30 pm	SP	For the People
Sun. Jan. 26	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m.	SP	For the People

## UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Religious Ed. Dates

--- Jan. 19, Feb. 2 & Feb. 16 – after Mass

--- Jan. 26, Feb. 9 & Feb. 23 – at home

## SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for January 12, 2025

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (18 envelopes)	\$ 3,462.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 34.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over / (Under)	\$ 1,749.00
<b>OTHER COLLECTION</b>	
Maintenance	\$ 255.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 260.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday &amp; Other)</b>	<b>\$ 4,011.00</b>

## NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

January 26, 2025

Greeters/Gifts	Mary Bird Shelly Gruman
Reader	Shelly Gruman
Servers	Will Maginn
Ushers	Phil & Tami Baker
Ministers of the Eucharist	Until further notice
Money Counters	Barbara Roby Barb Bruggeman Eli Eberly

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

GIFT– the power or right of giving

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.

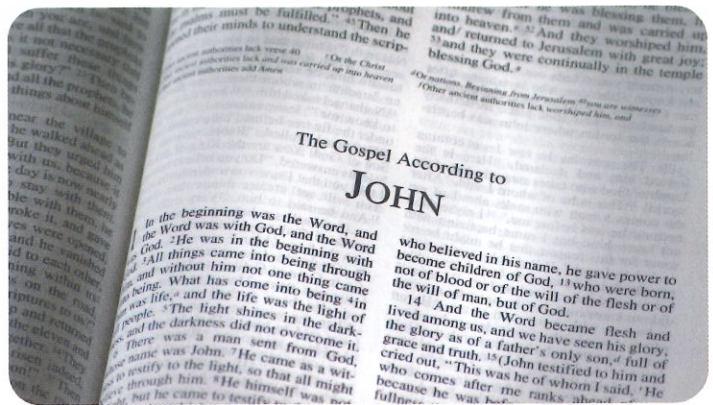
1Corinthians 12:4-6

# Dear Padre,

*Is there a year of John? I know we're now in the year of Luke, next year will be the year of Matthew, and the following year will be the year of Mark. Then the cycle starts over with Luke. Why doesn't John have a year?*

Matthew, Mark, and Luke, collectively known as the synoptic gospels, are narrative gospels. Together, they tell the story of Jesus of Nazareth. Although in some ways they might be understood synoptically, "the same," each narrative is unique in its emphasis. The Church desires that we hear these narratives and be nourished through the proclamation of the early memories of the Christian community.

John's Gospel, on the other hand, is not primarily a narrative, but is best understood as theological. As such, it is highly dependent on the use of symbolic representations to make the point it intends. For example, "I am the light of the world.



VIBE IMAGES / SHUTTERSTOCK

Whoever follows me...will have the light of life" (John 8:12). The interplay between light and darkness illustrates the point. John's Gospel is intended to be experienced and engaged in as "bigger than life," proposing and celebrating Christian themes that are life-giving and inviting. Therefore, we hear John's Gospel when the Church celebrates the mystery of the saving life and resurrection of Jesus. For this reason, the Gospel of John is proclaimed on Good Friday, during the Easter season, and on other major feasts.

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / 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*.

### Monday

January 20  
Weekday  
Heb 5:1-10  
Mk 2:18-22

### Tuesday

January 21  
St. Agnes, Virgin  
and Martyr  
Heb 6:10-20  
Mk 2:23-28

### Wednesday

January 22  
Day of Prayer  
for the Legal  
Protection of  
Unborn Children  
Heb 7:1-3,  
15-17  
Mk 3:1-6

### Thursday

January 23  
Weekday  
Heb 7:25-8:6  
Mk 3:7-12

### Friday

January 24  
St. Francis de  
Sales, Bishop  
and Doctor of  
the Church  
Heb 8:6-13  
Mk 3:13-19

### Saturday

January 25  
The Conversion  
of St. Paul  
the Apostle  
Acts 22:3-16 or  
Acts 9:1-22  
Mk 16:15-18

### Sunday

January 26  
Third Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Neh 8:2-4a,  
5-6, 8-10  
1 Cor 12:12-30  
or 12:12-14, 27  
Lk 1:1-4;  
4:14-21

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*I suggest an exercise.... Let us think about that difficult moment in which God let me experience his love.... And let us ask ourselves: with which discrete and loving signs did he let me feel his tenderness? When did I feel the Lord nearer? When did I feel his tenderness and his compassion?*

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 16, 2022



LOVE YOU STOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK