

But to you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

LUKE 6:27–28

## A New World Order

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he American experiment of 1776 ushered in the dawn of a new world order, one that would redefine how nations functioned and interacted. The computer age brought about an upheaval in how we interact with one another personally—a new world order in human communication. Saint Paul wrote to the Corinthians about how Adam was the first being who ushered in human life, and how Jesus was the new Adam, who ushered in a new life-giving spirit. Jesus initiated a new world order, one that redefined what it meant to be human and contained a new spiritual dimension. “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you...give to everyone who asks of you...do to others as you would have them do to you.... Be merciful, just as [also] your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:27–36).

The fact that there are many who think this is not a practical or useful way to live—to say nothing of whether it is desirable or even possible—does not negate its power to transform human relationships as well as our very own spirits. None of us do it as well as we might hope, which only attests to the fact that we live with a foot in each of two worlds—the earthly one and the heavenly one. Empowered by God’s Spirit, we are still growing into the people God created us to be. ●

### Reflect

*Is there someone you are struggling to forgive? What is stopping you?*

# 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

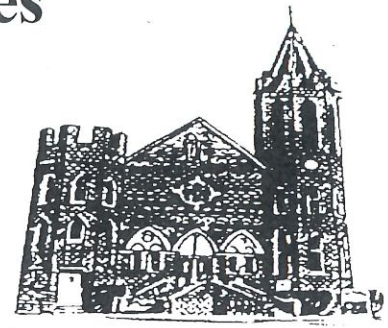
[OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

### CRE

Mary Bird

[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

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, 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, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

## 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

### BFF'S

There is a BFF after Mass today. Come and enjoy breakfast, friends and fellowship.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After Mass – Mar. 2 & Mar. 16

At Home – Feb. 23, Mar. 9, Mar. 23 & Mar. 30

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

Peace be with you Myla Burkholder for making your First Reconciliation, Jesus LOVES you.



### ADULT LENTEN STUDY

The Adult Lenten Study will be based on Bishop Robert Baron's program "The Mass"—part 2. Begins on March 9, shortly after Mass.

### MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

Saturday, March 1, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Our Lady of Mercy will be having a Mardi Gras Celebration. All parishioners 21 and over are invited for a night of Mardi Gras style food and games. See back for flyer & more information.

### YOUTH GROUP - CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP BREAKFAST

There will be a Youth Breakfast on March 9, 2025 after Mass at Our Lady of Mercy. Please come and support Our Lady of Mercy's Evan Beauregard, Angie Beauregard and St. Peter's Youth Group as they prepare for their CHWC trip to Nashville, TN, June 21 – 27, 2025.

### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go out to Barbara Roby, on the passing of her in laws, Kenneth & Betty Bauer.

### DAILY QUOTES FROM MOTHER ANGELICA PERPETUAL CALENDAR

"It is very necessary, if you want to grow, that you read Scripture and other spiritual books of lives of saints, lives of holy men and women who had the courage and the strength to follow the Gospel."

### DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 2

1023 + Today, I received some oranges. When the sister had left, I thought to myself, "Should I eat the oranges instead of doing penance and mortifying myself during Holy Lent? After all, I am feeling a bit better." Then I heard a voice in my soul: **My daughter, you please Me more by eating the oranges out of obedience and love of Me then by fasting and mortifying yourself of your own will. A soul that loves Me very much must, ought to live by My will. I know your heart, and I know that it will not be satisfied by anything but My love alone.**

### 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

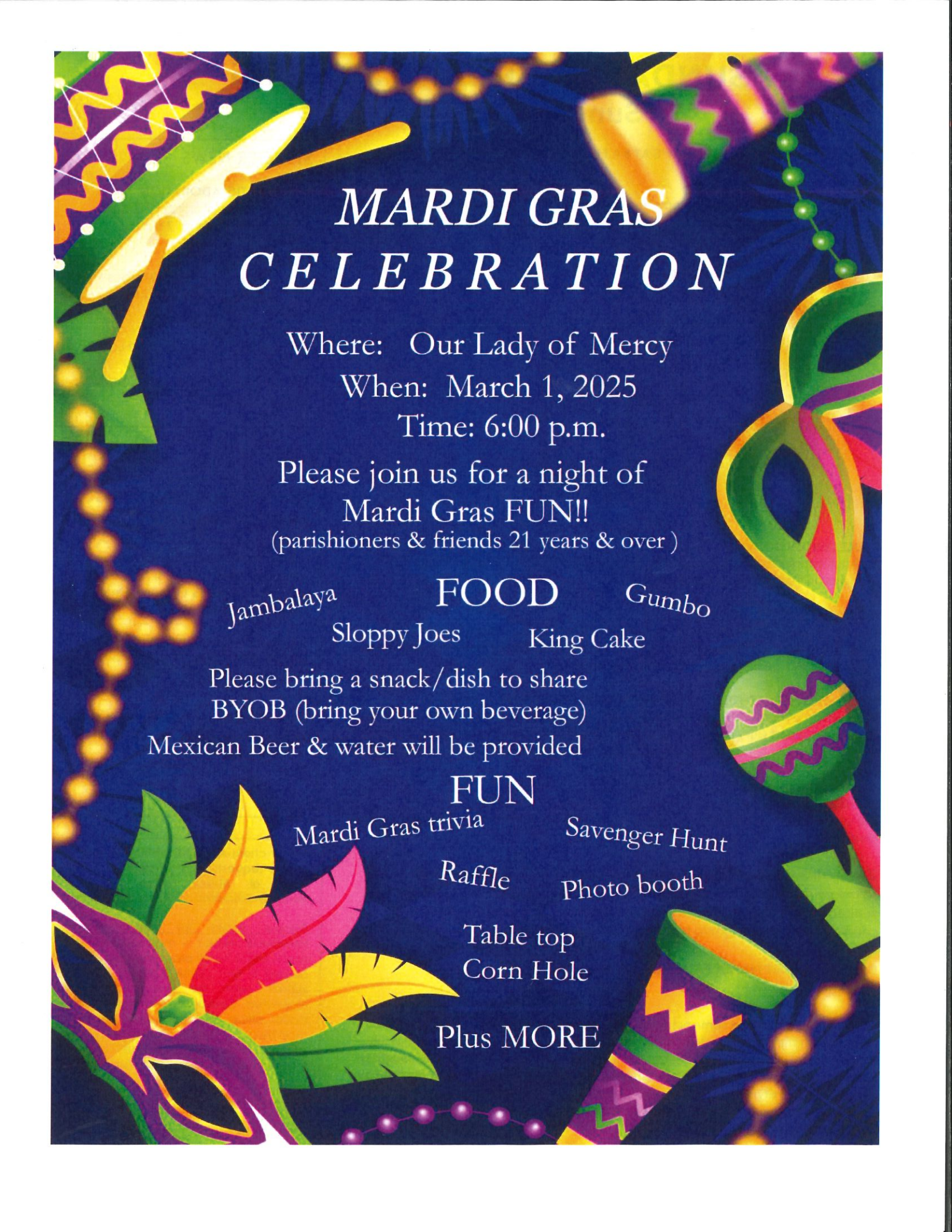
---Fayette Opera House March schedule: Mar. 6 Souper Supper 6 pm  
Mar. 23 – Dinner & Glasgow Reed Organ concert 12:30 pm

---Mar. 19 – Community Meal – Fayette Methodist Life Center 5-6 pm

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.



# MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

Where: Our Lady of Mercy

When: March 1, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for a night of  
Mardi Gras FUN!!  
(parishioners & friends 21 years & over )

Jambalaya      **FOOD**      Gumbo  
Sloppy Joes      King Cake

Please bring a snack/dish to share  
BYOB (bring your own beverage)

Mexican Beer & water will be provided

## FUN

Mardi Gras trivia      Savenger Hunt  
Raffle      Photo booth

Table top  
Corn Hole

Plus MORE

# Saints of the Day

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

Week of Feb. 23 – Mar. 1

**Sunday, Feb. 23 – St. Polycarp of Smyrna-** St. Polycarp of Smyrna (c. 69-155 A.D.) became a Christian in his youth, a disciple of St. John the Evangelist. St. John ordained him Bishop of Smyrna (in modern day Turkey) and from this position Polycarp became one of the most illustrious of the Apostolic Fathers. His closeness with the Apostles, and the long life that he lived, enabled him to protect the Church against heresy. The account of his martyrdom is well-preserved and is one of the earliest in the Church. Knowing the government was seeking his life, he received a vision while praying that he would be burned alive. After his capture he was encouraged to submit to Caesar in order to be released, but he refused. He was then taken to a public arena to be killed. He gave an outstanding testimony, declaring that he had served Christ for 86 years. Witnesses of his execution saw the flames surround his body without burning it, and that Polycarp began to glow and emit a sweet aroma. This amazed the crowds, and his executioners were then ordered to stab him to death. St. Polycarp is the patron saint against dysentery and earache. His feast day is February 23rd.

**Monday, Feb. 24– Blessed Thomas Maria Fusco** - Blessed Thomas Maria Fusco, also known as Tommaso, (1831-1891) was born to a noble and pious family in Italy, the seventh of eight children. He was orphaned at an early age and raised by his uncle, a priest, who oversaw his education. He had a deep love for the faith, especially to the Passion of Christ and Our Lady of Sorrows. He became a priest at the age of 24 and opened a school in his own home. He later became an itinerant missionary throughout southern Italy. After traveling for a number of years he opened another school, this time to train priests on how to be good confessors. He also founded the Priestly Society of the Catholic Apostolate to support the missions, which gained papal approval. During his work with the poor he discerned a call to start a new religious order of sisters, the Daughters of Charity of the Most Precious Blood, to minister to orphaned children. In addition to all of this, Fusco was also a parish priest, a confessor to a group of cloistered nuns, and a spiritual father to a lay group at the nearby Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He died of liver disease at the age of 59. He was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 2001. His feast day is February 24.

**Tuesday, Feb. 25– St. Walburga** - St. Walburga (710-777 A.D.) was born near Devonshire, England, the daughter of St. Richard the Pilgrim (a Saxon king) and the sister of Sts. Willibald and Winebald. When she was eleven her father and brothers went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land, while her father placed her in a convent famous for its holiness. She was well educated according to her rank, became a nun, and lived there for twenty-six years. Her uncle, St. Boniface, then brought her to what is now Germany to help him evangelize that country and establish the Church there. In this missionary activity she joined her brothers who were also laboring for the faith in that country, one as an abbot, the other as a bishop. Because of her education she was able to document the travels of her brother in the Holy Land, and for this work she became the first female author of England and Germany. She was known as a miracle worker and healer both in her life and after her death. St. Walburga's relics have the miraculous property of exuding oil to which many cures have been ascribed through the centuries. St. Walburga is the patron saint of sailors, mariners, and farmers, and against hydrophobia, famine, coughs, rabies, plague, and storms. St. Walburga's feast day is February 25th.

**Wednesday, Feb. 26 – St. Porphyry** - St. Porphyry (Porphyrius) of Gaza (c. 347-420 A.D.) was born in Thessalonica in present-day Greece. Although a wealthy man, at the age of 25 he went to live in Egypt as a desert hermit. He later moved to Palestine near the Jordan River, then to Jerusalem itself. He did great penances and would often visit the holy places where Jesus lived and walked, despite his poor health. He then renounced all material goods and his inheritance and became a priest in Jerusalem at the age of 40. The relics of the True Cross in Jerusalem were entrusted to his care. Despite his protests he was ordained Bishop of Gaza, a pagan stronghold with an insignificant Christian community. Gaza's pagans were hostile, and St. Porphyry appealed to the emperor for protection and for the destruction of pagan temples, which he obtained. St. Porphyry built a Christian church on the site of the most important pagan temple dedicated to the chief god, so that he could say Mass in the place where the devil was previously most honored. St. Porphyry labored for his flock and won many converts through

**(St. Porphyry – cont.)**

his miracles, though pagan opposition continued throughout his life. He was successful in spreading the Christian faith across his diocese. His feast day is February 26.

**Thursday, Feb. 27 – St. Garbiel Possenti**– St. Gabriel Possenti (1838-1862), also known as St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, was one of thirteen children born to a well-to-do Italian family in Assisi. As a young man he enjoyed the society and the worldly life of a typical teenager. He was known as a fancy dresser and a good dancer, he possessed good horsemanship and marksmanship, he frequented parties, and twice was engaged to be married. After his graduation from school he shocked everyone by announcing that he was going to be a Passionist priest, having been inspired to his vocation by the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whom his family had a great devotion. His life was then marked with prayer, sacrifice, and devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows, taking the religious name Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother. He was stricken with tuberculosis about a year before he was to be ordained, and died at the age of 24. Many miracles were attributed to him after his death, including the healing of St. Gemma Galgani. St. Gabriel Possenti is the patron saint of Catholic youth, seminarians, clerics, students, and Catholic Action. His feast day is February 27th.

**Friday, Feb. 28– Pope St. Peter Hilary** - Pope Saint Hilary (5th c.) was Bishop of Rome from 461 to 468. Not much is known of his early life other than that he was from Sardinia. He rose to prominence in the Church when he became archdeacon under Pope St. Leo the Great, working closely with him as a trusted aid. St. Leo sent Hilary as one of the papal legates to the Council of Ephesus in 449. There St. Hilary fought bravely against the monophysite heresy, for which his life was threatened. He was forced into hiding and fled back to Rome for safety. He was so highly esteemed that after Pope Leo's death he was elected to the papacy. As pope, St. Hilary fought for the rights of the papacy in spiritual matters against the Roman Emperor, and increased organization and discipline between the bishops and the Holy See. He also did much work in building, remodeling, and decorating Roman churches and other public places. Pope St. Hilary's feast day is February 28.

**Saturday, Mar. 1 – St. David of Wales** - St. David of Wales (6th c.), also called Dewi Sant by the Welsh, was a missionary priest, Celtic monk, archbishop, miracle-worker, and the founder of many monasteries in Wales and western England. He was descended from Welsh royalty, and in medieval times many believed he was the nephew of the famed King Arthur. His great leadership abilities gave him influence over many Church affairs. In the dozen monasteries he founded he established strict asceticism modeled after the early desert hermits. St. David is often depicted standing on a mound with a dove on his shoulder. According to legend, one day while preaching a dove rested on his shoulder, and the earth rose to lift him above the crowd so that all could hear him speak. During a battle with the Saxons, St. David advised the Welsh soldiers to wear leeks in their hats to distinguish themselves from their enemy; this is the origin of the leek as an emblem of Wales. St. David is one of the great saints of the 6th century whose work helped to establish Christianity in Europe. He is the patron saint of Wales, and his feast, "St. David's Day," is a popular cultural celebration. The Cathedral of St. David's in Pembrokeshire was built over his remains and became a pilgrimage destination for centuries. St. David of Wales' feast day is March 1st.



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish



FEBRUARY 23, 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. Feb. 23	8:30a.m.	OLM	Living & Deceased Sarnac family Rosemay Pontius
	10:30a.m	SP	Alexander Bodowski, Virgil Frey Larry Miller
Tues. Feb. 25	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed. Feb. 26	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs. Feb. 27	9:00 a.m.	OLM	For the People
Fri. Feb. 28	9:00 a.m.	SP	Mike Salinas
Sat. Mar. 1	4:30 pm	SP	For the People
Sun. Mar. 2	8:30a.m.	OLM	For the People
	10:30a.m	SP	Frank O & Mary Smith

## UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

- Religious Ed. Dates
- Feb. 23, Mar. 9, & Mar. 23 – at home
- Mar. 2, Mar. 16 & Mar. 30 – after Mass
- Feb. 23 – Myla Burkholder, 1<sup>st</sup> Penance
- Feb. 23 – BFF after Mass
- Mar. 1 – Our Lady of Mercy Mardi Gras Celebration – 6 p.m.
- Mar. 5 – Ash Wednesday – 7 am - SP  
9 am – OLOM  
6:30 pm - SP
- Mar. 9 – CHWC Youth Breakfast after Mass
- Mar. 9 – 1st Adult Lenten Study

## SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for February 16, 2025

SUNDAY OFFERTORY (5 envelopes)	\$ 235.00
LOOSE OFFERINGS	\$ 254.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 1,258.00)

### OTHER COLLECTION

CPC Jar	\$ 10.00
Silent Festival	\$ 200.00

<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS (Sunday &amp; Other)</b>	<b>\$ 699.00</b>
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## NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS

	March 2, 2025
<b>Greeters/Gifts</b>	Mary Bird Marge Crowell
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Bird
<b>Servers</b>	Kennedy Kunkle
<b>Ushers</b>	Phil & Tami Baker
<b>Ministers of the Eucharist</b>	Until further notice
<b>Money Counters</b>	Phil Baker Terry Kovar Joanna Marry

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

MERCY – compassionate or kindly forbearance shown toward an offender, an enemy or other person in one's power; compassion, pity or benevolence

Do to others as you would have them do to you.  
**Luke 6:31**

# Dear Padre,

*My ex broke up with me. I find myself hoping he gets subjected to the same emotional pain as I have. I hate feeling this way, so how do I ask God to take away this pain and help me forgive my ex?*

What you are sharing is your hurt and confusion. Although your boyfriend was ready to end the relationship, you were not. It seems you are still not ready to move on. That is OK. Everyone has his or her own manner of dealing with disappointment, and there is no perfect timeframe.

More than your boyfriend's suffering, you desire freedom for yourself and a return to a healthy sense of your own personhood. You perceive him as happy and perhaps wonder how that's possible while you are still struggling. This is all very normal, and it's part of the process we all experience when an important relationship changes.



VALENTINA SHUKINA / SHUTTERSTOCK

You will work through this. You will love again. You will no longer be triggered by strong feelings when you encounter him in the future. But you are going to have to do the hard work of growing, maturing, and learning to let go. Begin by praying for his well-being. And if you can't do that, ask God for the grace to want to pray for his well-being. Certainly, the Lord will help you, but he won't magically take away your pain. There are no shortcuts. ●

*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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 24	February 25	February 26	February 27	February 28	March 1	March 2
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	<i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Sir 1:1-10	Sir 2:1-11	Sir 4:11-19	Sir 5:1-8	Sir 6:5-17	Sir 17:1-15	Sir 27:4-7
Mk 9:14-29	Mk 9:30-37	Mk 9:38-40	Mk 9:41-50	Mk 10:1-12	Mk 10:13-16	1 Cor 15:54-58 Lk 6:39-45



FIZKES / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Turning the other cheek is not the withdrawal of the loser, but the action of one who has a greater inner strength. [It] means defeating evil with goodness, which opens up a breach in the heart of the enemy, unmasking the absurdity of his hatred. And this attitude...is dictated not by calculation or by hatred, but by love.*

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 20, 2022