

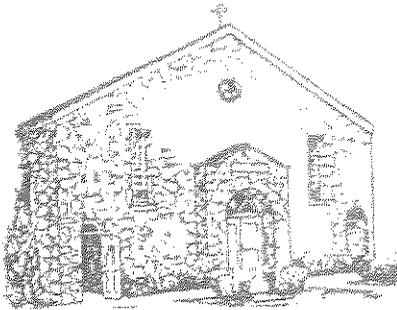
**Catholic Communities**  
Rev. William Pifer – Parish Pastor

**Our Lady of Mercy  
Catholic Church**

**St. Peter  
Catholic Church**

Sunday  
July 20, 2025

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time



409 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 429  
Fayette, OH 43521  
419-237-2441  
Office Hours – Tues. & Thurs.  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
(Reconciliation 30 minutes  
before Mass or by appointment)  
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

**PARISH OFFICE STAFF**

Sherry Renner  
Office Manager/Secretary  
OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Tami Baker  
Bookkeeper  
OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Mary Bird  
CRE  
OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com



614 N. Defiance St.  
Archbold, Ohio 43502  
Rectory – 419-446-9288  
Office hours – Tues. & Thurs.  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

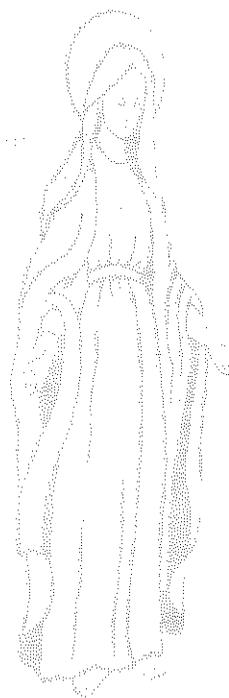
Saturday 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.  
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

**PARISH OFFICE STAFF**

Kim Garrow  
419-446-2150  
Office Manager/Secretary  
stpeter@rtceexpress.net

Doug Williams  
Bookkeeper

Deb Herring  
CRE



## PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel – President

Pat Eisel

Ray Hollstein

Mike Burkholder

Traci Maginn

Barbara Roby

## FINANCE COUNCIL

Terry Kovar

Barb Bruggeman

Joanna Marry

Council meetings are generally held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month

5:45 p.m. – Finance

6:15 p.m. – Pastoral



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. - 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information

## OUR LADY OF MERCY WEBSITE (bulletin online)

Stpeterarchbold.com/  
our-lady-of-mercy

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please note that the bulletin deadline is *Tuesday by noon*. Please either call, email or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following weeks bulletin.

## Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy

### 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.*

### 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.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be helpful.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Initial arrangements are to be made six months prior of your planned wedding date. The Diocesan policy is to allow sufficient time for the couple to make adequate preparation to receive the sacrament. Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements.

### Anointing of the sick

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for a visit.

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Having questions about the Catholic faith? Thinking of joining the Catholic Church? You can learn more by contacting the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 for the process.

### 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. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon or email to [olomfayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:olomfayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com) with the exact verbiage requested. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals

July 20, 2025 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 8 A.M.

#### ALTAR ROSARY

There will be an Altar Rosary meeting after Mass Today.

#### THE CHOSEN

Season 2 episode 6 “Unlawful” will be viewed on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 7 p.m.

#### EAGLE FEET COLLECTION

**THANK YOU!!** For your generous donations supporting the purchase of shoes for Fayette Local School students. Shoe giveaway is August 8, 2025.

#### THANK YOU

To everyone who helped clean on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. Our next day to clean will be July 26, 2025, at 9 a.m. We will concentrate on the basement as the Bull Thistle Breakfast will be held the following week. **Many hands make work light.** All are welcome.

#### BULL THISTLE FESTIVAL BREAKFAST

Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting our annual Bull Thistle breakfast on August 2, 2025 8 a.m. – 10 a.m., before the parade. Please join the Altar Rosary in serving our community the **FAMOUS** Bull Thistle Breakfast Bowl. Please contact any Altar Rosary member if you are interested in helping.

#### FULTON COUNTY FAIR

Can you believe it is only 6 weeks until the fair!! We need volunteers to help at the Fulton Co. Catholic Fair Booth this year (a wonderful way to evangelize). See the signup sheet on the bulletin board at the entrance. Any questions please see Sherry Renner.

#### SILENT FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Silent Festival committee meeting on Sunday, August 3, 2025, after Mass. We will be finalizing the festival.

#### SAVE THE DATE

Our Lady of Mercy Silent Festival will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2025. More information will be in future bulletins.

#### APOLOGY (Last weeks Saints of the Day)

I apologize for having the incorrect saints and dates in last week's bulletin.

#### 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

---Saturdays until Sept. 17, 2025  
Fayette Farmers Market 9 am – Noon @ Opera House parking lot

---Bull Thistle Festival – August 2, 2025

---Don Glasgow is turning “100”!  
Celebration Open House will be August 3, 2025, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. @ Fayette Legion, 424 S. Fayette St. or mail him a card at

Don Glasgow  
610 W. Main St.  
Fayette, OH 43521

## *THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., July 20	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Eddie Tidwell Rosemary Pontius
	10:30 a.m.	SP	Frank O & Mary Smith Al Holland, Gina Dammon
Mon., July 21	NO MASS		
Tues., July 22	6:30 p.m.	SP	
Wed., July 23	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., July 24 Communion Svc	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., July 25	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., July 26	4:30 p.m.	SP	John Van Pelt John Grieser
Sun., July 27	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Rosemary Pontius Ron Lichtenwald
	10:30 a.m.	SP	For the People

### PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

Please keep the following person(s) / intention(s) in your prayers this week.

Shirley Taylor

Lost souls wanting to return to Jesus

If you have someone or an intention you would like the Parish to pray for, please contact the office at 419-237-2441 or email [olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com](mailto:olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com) before noon on Tuesday.

**NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – JULY 27, 2025**

<b>Greeters / Gifts</b>	Joyce Bonin / Marge Crowell
<b>Proclaimer</b>	Ron Baker
<b>Servers</b>	Kennedy Kunkle
<b>Ushers</b>	Phil & Tami Baker
<b>Minsters of the Eucharist</b>	Until further notice
<b>Money Counters</b>	Phil Baker / Joanna Marry / Barbara Roby

**SACRAFICIAL OFFERING REPORT**

Reported for July 13, 2025

Sunday Offertory (12 envelopes)	\$ 886.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 195.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 666.00)

**OTHER COLLECTIONS**

CPC Jar/Votives	\$ 25.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 50.00
Maintenance	\$ 150.00
Eagle Feet Collection	\$ 265.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,571.00</b>
(Sunday Offertory & Other)	

## SAINTS OF THE DAY ([www.morningoffering.com](http://www.morningoffering.com))

Week of July 20 – July 26

**St. Margaret** (289-304 A.D.) was born in Antioch, the daughter of a pagan priest. Her mother died when she was an infant, and she was raised by a Christian nurse who baptized her and gave her a Christian education. St. Margaret grew into a pious and virtuous young woman under her nurse's care, to the delight of her father. When she came of age, Margaret returned to live with her father. She quickly angered him, however, when she refused to take part in offering sacrifices to idols. Furious at her steadfast refusals, he drove her out of his home. Margaret then returned to live with her nurse as a household servant. One day a Roman prefect noticed Margaret's beauty and desired to have her for himself. Margaret declined, citing that she had consecrated her virginity to Jesus Christ, a reply for which she was severely persecuted. She was brought to trial for her Christian faith, scourged, tortured, and thrown into prison by her suitor. In her moment of weakness, the devil appeared to her in the form of a dragon to intimidate her and break her faith. Margaret trusted in God and made the Sign of the Cross, and the dragon fled defeated. At this triumph over her enemy, Margaret's cell was filled with light and her wounds were miraculously healed. Enraged to find her healed, her suitor had new tortures applied to her body, which did her no harm and caused many witnesses to convert to the Christian faith. She was finally killed by beheading. St. Margaret of Antioch was one of the saints who appeared to St. Joan of Arc. She is the patron saint against sterility, of the dying, and of pregnancy, labor, and childbirth. Her feast day is July 20th.

**St. Victor of Marseilles** (d. 290 A.D.) was a Christian soldier serving in the Roman imperial army in Marseilles, France. Christianity was thriving there, until Emperor Maximian arrived with the intention of putting the Christians to death. This caused the Christians to fear, and St. Victor would go from house to house under the cover of night to admonish them to stand strong in their faith. This behavior drew attention, and during one of his nightly rounds he was arrested. The Roman prefects tried to dissuade him from following a "dead man" (Jesus), but St. Victor testified boldly for the truth of the Christian faith. Enraged, the prefects had him bound and dragged through the streets. Victor was undeterred and continued to denounce the Roman gods. His tortures were renewed until his torturers grew tired, after which he was thrown into a dungeon. That night he was visited by angels, and his three guards were converted and baptized that same night. The next morning the Emperor had the guards beheaded, while St. Victor was kept alive for fresh torments. After three days of abuse, the Emperor commanded Victor to burn incense to the gods. Instead, St. Victor walked up to the altar and kicked it over with his foot. In retaliation, his foot was cut off. Seeing that his efforts to cause Victor to apostatize were useless, the Emperor finally had him crushed to death on a grindstone. His body was thrown into the sea before being recovered and buried by Christians. His tomb became a place where many miracles occurred. St. Victor of Marseilles' feast day is July 21st.

**St. Mary Magdalen** (1st c.) was a friend and devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Formerly she had been a woman of ill repute out of whom Jesus exorcised seven demons. Mary Magdalene has a special place among the Lord's disciples and is mentioned several times in the Gospels.\* She stood at the foot of the Cross with St. John and the Blessed Mother, and went the next morning to Christ's tomb to anoint his body. As a reward for her great love and faithfulness, she is the first recorded witness of Jesus' Resurrection. It was Mary Magdalene who informed the twelve Apostles that Jesus rose from the dead—for this she is called "Apostle to the Apostles." After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, Mary Magdalene continued her mission as an evangelist, contemplative, and mystic in the heart of the Church. According to the Eastern tradition, she went to Ephesus with the Virgin Mary and died there. St. Mary Magdalene is the patron of women, repentant sinners, penitent women, reformed prostitutes, contemplatives, converts, pharmacists, perfumers, hairstylists, and against sexual temptation. Her feast day is July 22nd.

**St. Bridget** (1303-1373) was born into a devout and prestigious family in Sweden. Her father was a governor, judge, and one of the wealthiest landowners in the country. Bridget received an excellent religious education, and from a young age demonstrated a great capacity for holiness. She even experienced mystical visions in her childhood. At the age of thirteen she was given in marriage to a similarly devout young man named Ulf. Together the two had a happy marriage and raised eight children, one of whom was St. Catherine of Sweden. St. Bridget became famous for her sanctity, and she was well-acquainted with the Swedish king and many

**(St. Bridget of Sweden cont.)**

theologians who sought her counsel. When Bridget and Ulf were in their forties, they went on pilgrimage along the famous Way of St. James. Shortly afterwards Ulf died, and Bridget gave herself entirely to the religious life. Her visions became more frequent, and were written down in a famous work called the Revelations of St. Bridget of Sweden. She also founded a new religious order known as the Brigittines. To obtain approval for her Order she traveled to Rome with her daughter Catherine, where she lived until her death. St. Bridget of Sweden is one of the six patron saints of Europe. Her feast day is July 23rd.

**St. Christina** (1150-1224) was born to a peasant family in Belgium. She was orphaned as a child and raised by her two older sisters. When she was 21 she had what was believed to be a severe seizure, and was pronounced dead. At her funeral she suddenly revived and levitated before the bewildered congregation. She said that during her coma she had been to heaven, hell, and purgatory and had been given the option to either die and enter heaven, or return to earth to suffer and pray for the holy souls in purgatory. Christina chose the greater act of charity. From then on she lived in extreme poverty: wearing rags, sleeping on rocks, and begging for her food. She is called "Astonishing" because she did the most bizarre things and suffered the pains of inhuman feats without being physically harmed by them. She would roll in fire and hide in hot ovens; she would stand in freezing water for hours in the dead of winter; she allowed herself to be dragged under water by a mill wheel; she spent much time in graveyards. She would also climb trees to escape the strong odor of sin in those she met. Many thought her to be possessed by demons or insane, but many devout people recognized and vouched for her sincerity, obedience, and sanctity. They believed that she was a living witness to the pains that souls experience in purgatory, willingly suffering with them and for them. Christina the Astonishing is the patron of those with mental illness and disorders, mental health workers, psychiatrists, and therapists. Her feast day is July 24th.

**St. James the Greater** (died 44 AD) is the brother of St. John the Apostle, and was one of Jesus's original 12 Apostles. The title "Greater" was added to distinguish him from St. James the Lesser, and is believed not to concern status or holiness, but physical height. Besides being the son of Zebedee, what is known of St. James's life comes after he and his brother were called to leave their father and their nets and follow after Jesus. James was one of the three apostles invited to witness the miraculous Transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor. As well, his righteous anger at seeing a Samaritan town reject Jesus inspired him to ask Jesus to call down fire on the town, which Jesus gently rebuked. Following Christ's Resurrection and Ascension, James preached the Gospel across the Roman empire before traveling to Spain, where he spread the Gospel for many years. The famous "Camino de Santiago" pilgrimage path in Spain is named in his honor (Santiago is Spanish for James). At the end of his life, James returned to Jerusalem, where he was the first apostle to be martyred. His feast day is July 25th.

**St. Anne and St. Joachim** (1st c. B.C.) are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the maternal grandparents of Jesus. Their names have been preserved in Church tradition since the second century, although little is known of their lives. It is believed that St. Joachim and St. Anne, although wealthy, lived a devout and simple life of voluntary poverty, chastity, and generosity to the poor. According to legend, after long years of suffering from infertility and praying for a child, Joachim and Anne were each separately visited by an angel in their old age, who announced that they would give birth to a very special child. Their moment of joy at this happy news is depicted with their embrace and kiss at the Golden Gate in Jerusalem. It was from their holy and chaste marriage that the Immaculate Conception was brought into the world. According to tradition, when the Child Mary was three years old, they dedicated her to God and presented her to live in the Jerusalem temple until the time of her betrothal to St. Joseph. St. Anne is the patroness of unmarried women, wives, expectant mothers, pregnancy, women in labor, grandmothers, childless couples, and against poverty and sterility. Women praying to meet their future spouse often turn to St. Anne. St. Joachim is the patron of fathers and grandfathers. Their feast day is July 26th.

**ASK HER – SIMPLE WORDS TO JUMPSTART  
YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MARY**

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her...to help you remember that extreme hurt often requires extreme forgiveness.”

**DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**  
Notebook 3

1203 Saint Joseph urged me to have a constant devotion to him. He himself told me to recite three prayers [the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be] and the Memorare<sup>204</sup> once every day. He looked at me with great kindness and gave me to know how much he is supporting this work [of mercy]. He has promised me his special help and protection. I recite the requested prayers every day and feel his special protection.

***DAILY READINGS WEBSITES / MATERIALS***

[www.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading](http://www.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading)

[www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings](http://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings)

Word Among Us – located on back table

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

---Wednesday’s continuing  
Season 2 – The Chosen at  
7 p.m. OLOM basement

---July 20 – Altar Rosary  
meeting after Mass

---Aug. 2 – Bull Thistle  
Breakfast hosted by OLOM 8  
a.m. – 10 a.m.

---Aug. 3 – Silent Festival  
Committee meeting

---Aug. 14 – Vigil The  
Assumption of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary – 6:30 p.m. Rosary  
7:00 p.m. Mass – Aug. 15 Mass  
9:00 a.m. St. Peter

---Fulton County Fair –  
Volunteers needed on Tuesday,  
Sept. 2, 2025, 11:30 am – 2 pm  
and all-day Thursday, Sept. 4,  
2025, starting at 10 am.

---Sept. 20 – Our Lady of Mercy  
Festival

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

**PRESENCE** – the state or fact of  
being present, as with others or in  
a place

The Lord said to her in reply, “Martha, Martha,  
you are anxious and worried about many things.  
There is a need of only one thing. Mary has chosen  
the better part and it will not be taken from her.”  
**Luke 10:41-42**

# The Kids' Bulletin

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 20th, 2025

Lord, do you not care  
that my sister has left me  
to serve alone? Tell her then  
to help me!



Martha, Martha!  
You are anxious  
and troubled about many things;  
one thing is needed.  
Mary has chosen  
the better part.

Luke 10:38-42



*Martha was so busy in the kitchen but her sister  
wasn't helping! What did Jesus say to her when  
she complained to Him?*

*Look in the mirror to find out!*

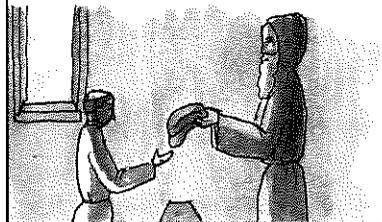
# SAINT LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI

## JULY 21

LAWRENCE WAS BORN IN ITALY IN 1559 AND WAS BAPTIZED WITH THE NAME JULIUS CAESAR. HIS PARENTS DIED WHEN HE WAS QUITE YOUNG.



HE BECAME A CAPUCHIN FRANCISCAN AT AGE 16, TAKING THE NAME LAWRENCE. HE WAS ORDAINED AT AGE 23.

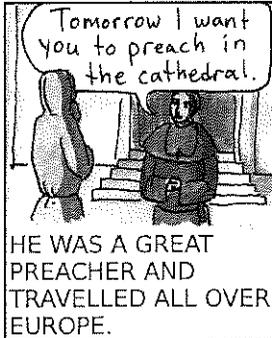


LAWRENCE LEARNED LANGUAGES VERY EASILY, SO HE COULD STUDY THE BIBLE JUST AS IT WAS WRITTEN.

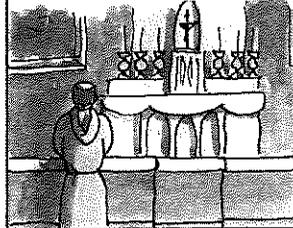


Tomorrow I want you to preach in the cathedral.

HE WAS A GREAT PREACHER AND TRAVELLED ALL OVER EUROPE.



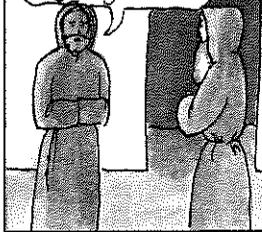
EVEN THOUGH HIS LIFE WAS VERY BUSY HE WOULD ALWAYS TAKE TIME TO PRAY.



HE BECAME CHAPLAIN OF AN ARMY AND LED A BATTLE WITH NO WEAPON BUT A CRUCIFIX- EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE OUTNUMBERED FOUR TO ONE!



Father, we need you to come. There's a big argument...

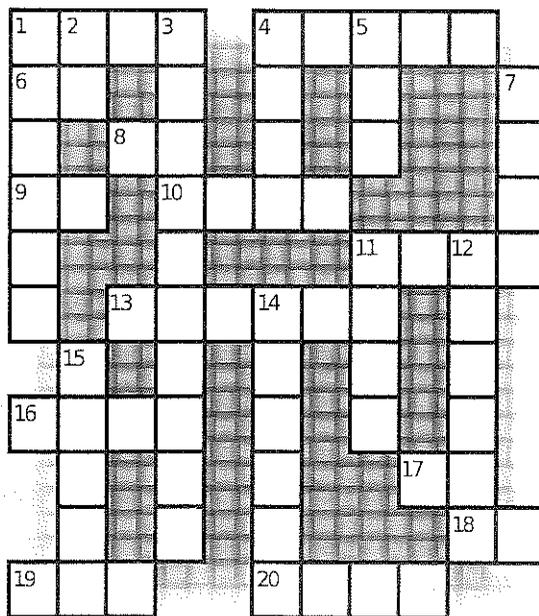


BECAUSE OF HIS HOLINESS, LAWRENCE WAS CHOSEN LEADER OF HIS ORDER. HE WAS SENT ALL OVER TO HELP THE BROTHERS AND MAKE PEACE. HE DIED AT AGE 60.

SOMETHING THAT SURPRISED PEOPLE ABOUT SAINT LAWRENCE WAS THAT HE WAS VERY KIND AND SENSITIVE TOWARDS PEOPLE'S NEEDS EVEN THOUGH HE WAS SO SMART AND IMPORTANT. NO MATTER HOW BUSY WE ARE, WE SHOULD TAKE TIME TO PRAY AND TO BE KIND AND THOUGHTFUL TO OTHERS.

# Martha and Mary

## cross word puzzle



### Across:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ came to Martha's house
4. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ the better part
6. Jesus was \_\_\_ Martha's house
8. "One thing \_\_\_ needed."
9. Jesus said \_\_\_ her, "Martha, Martha."
10. "Do you not care? \_\_\_\_\_ tell her to help me!"
11. Martha was concerned about \_\_\_\_\_ things.
13. Which sister was working in the kitchen?
16. Mary sat at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.
17. "Mary has chosen the better part, which shall not \_\_\_ taken..."
18. "\_\_\_ you not care?"
19. ...away from \_\_\_\_\_."
20. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to her, "Martha, Martha."

### Down:

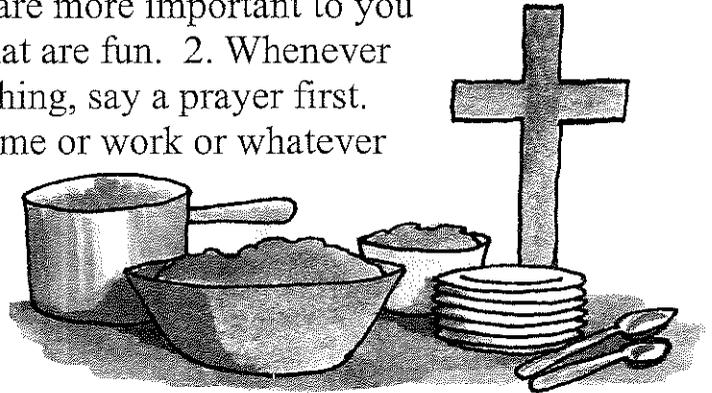
1. Mary just wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus speak.
2. She sat \_\_\_ the ground near Him.
3. Martha was \_\_\_\_\_ with much serving.
4. "Lord, do you not \_\_\_\_\_ that my sister has left me to serve?"
5. "\_\_\_ thing is needed..."
7. The better part would not be taken \_\_\_\_\_ from Mary.
11. Which sister was not in the kitchen?
12. "...one thing is \_\_\_\_\_..."
14. Martha was anxious about many \_\_\_\_\_.
15. "My sister has left me to \_\_\_\_\_ alone."

# Putting Jesus First

Jesus went to Martha and Mary's house for dinner one day and while Martha got the food ready her sister Mary just sat near Jesus to listen to Him. Martha was upset because she had so much work to do and Mary wasn't helping at all. It doesn't sound quite fair, does it?

But Jesus told Martha that there was only one thing that was important, and that Mary had chosen it. Mary had chosen to be with Him and listen to Him. Martha was concerned about all the details- making good food and setting things out nicely, but she wasn't thinking about Jesus.

Jesus was not saying that cooking or working in the house is bad. He was only showing Martha and Mary that we need to put God first in everything. Here are a couple of ways you can keep God first: 1. Always make sure that things like going to Mass and saying your prayers are more important to you than things that are fun. 2. Whenever you do something, say a prayer first. Offer your game or work or whatever you are doing for the glory of God.



Answers to Cross-Word: ACROSS: 1.Lord 4.chose 6.in 8.is 9.to 10.then 11.many  
13.Martha 16.feet 17.be 18.do 19.her 20.said DOWN: 1.listen 2.on 3.distracted  
4.care 5.one 7.away 11.Mary 12.needed 14.things 15.serve