

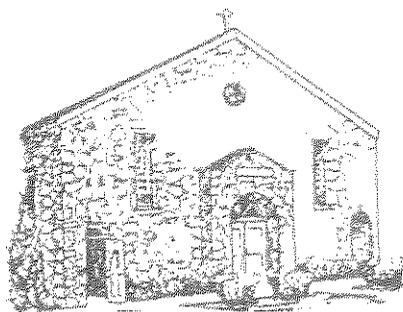
**Catholic Communities**  
Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

**Our Lady of Mercy  
Catholic Church**

**St. Peter  
Catholic Church**

Sunday  
August 24, 2025

21<sup>st</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@rtexpress.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

August 24, 2025 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 8 A.M.

**BAPTISM**

Please welcome Tobias Leon Eberly to Our Lady of Mercy as he and his parents celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism today during Mass.

**CLEANING**

Thank you to all who cleaned on Saturday.

**CONDOLENCES**

Our condolences go out to the Frank Grime family and the Lenny Breidenbaugh family, as they both went to be with Jesus last week. May all of you feel God's mighty arms around you in this time of need.

**FULTON COUNTY FAIR**

We are in need of volunteers to help at the Fulton Co. Catholic Fair Booth this year (a wonderful way to evangelize AND get all the yummy fair food). See the signup sheet on the bulletin board at the entrance. Any questions please see Sherry Renner.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Our Lady of Mercy Feast Day celebration will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2025. More information will be in in the mail.

**MARCH FOR LIFE**

March for Life, Washington, D.C. will be on January 22 – 24, 2026. Registration is now open at [toledodiocese.org/marchforlife](http://toledodiocese.org/marchforlife) and for more information.

**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

---Aug. 29 – Sept. 4 – Fulton  
County Fair

---Sept. 17 – Fayette Community  
Meal – 5 – 6 p.m. Fayette Methodist  
Community Center

## *THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Aug. 24	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Rosemary Pontious Sean Ricko
	10:30 a.m.	SP	For the People
Mon., Aug. 25	NO MASS		
Tues., Aug. 26	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Aug. 27	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Aug. 28	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., Aug. 29	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Aug. 30	4:30 p.m.	SP	Loman Radabaugh
	7:00 p.m.	FAIR	Rosary
	7:30 p.m.	FAIR	Mass
Sun., Aug. 31	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Rosemary Pontious Sean Ricko, Giovanni Stella
	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  
Marge Crowell & family  
Denise Miller

Frank Grime family  
Lenny Breidenbach family

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 – AUGUST 31, 2025

<b>Greeters / Gifts</b>	Ron & Pat Eisel
<b>Proclaimer</b>	Mary Bird
<b>Servers</b>	Will Maginn
<b>Ushers</b>	Ron & Pat Eisel
<b>Minsters of the Eucharist</b>	Until further notice
<b>Money Counters</b>	Ron Baker/Michelle Miron/Barb Bruggeman

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for August 17, 2025

Sunday Offertory (13 envelopes)	\$ 696.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 51.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,747.00</u></b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 1,000.00)

### OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC Jar & Votives	\$ 7.71
Maintenance	\$ 20.00
Postage Help	\$ 15.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 10.00
Assumption of Mary	<u>\$ 35.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 834.71</b>
(Sunday Offertory & Other)	

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

Week of August 24 – August 30

**St. Bartholomew** (1st c.) is one of Jesus' Twelve Apostles who, together with his friend and fellow Apostle Philip, came from Cana in Galilee. All we know of St. Bartholomew (also called Nathaniel) is what is mentioned of him in the synoptic Gospels and the book of Acts. Philip told Bartholomew that he had found the Messiah, and, despite Bartholomew's incredulity, the two went together to see Jesus. When Jesus saw Bartholomew he exclaimed, "Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him!", indicating that Bartholomew possessed great purity of heart. Bartholomew then asked Jesus how he knew him, and Jesus explained that he saw Bartholomew sitting under the fig tree. This secret between Jesus and Bartholomew caused Bartholomew to immediately exclaim that Jesus was the Messiah and the Son of God. According to the Roman Martyrology, Bartholomew became a missionary in the East, preaching and evangelizing in Asia Minor, Ethiopia, India, and finally Armenia, where he was flayed alive and beheaded by King Astyages. St. Bartholomew is the patron saint of nervous and neurological diseases, butchers, leather workers, tanners, cobblers, trappers, and shoemakers. His feast day is August 24th.

**St. Genesius of Rome** (d. 303 AD) was a renowned actor and playwright, the leader of a popular acting troupe during the reign of Emperor Diocletian. When the Emperor was killing Christians, Genesius wrote plays to mock them and expose their secret rites to ridicule. To research for a play mocking baptism, he went to a priest pretending to desire the sacraments and was fully instructed as a catechumen. Genesius prepared his play and instructed the other actors in their parts. On performance day the Emperor was present. Genesius played the lead character seeking baptism, and the rite was performed in such a ludicrous manner that all present laughed. As the water was poured over Genesius' head by an actor playing the priest's part, Genesius saw a vision of the heavens opened and the hand of God touching him. He also saw an angel who showed him that his many sins had been washed away through the valid baptism he had just received. At that moment Genesius' heart was changed by the Holy Spirit and he believed in the truth of Christianity. At the conclusion of the play Genesius boldly declared his new faith, recounting how he had been a scoffer until that moment. He implored the audience, including the Emperor, to follow Christ. The crowd thought this was part of the performance, but once they understood it was real, Genesius was seized. The Emperor, furious, subjected him to cruel tortures daily to make him renounce his faith in Christ. Genesius staunchly refused and was beheaded. The Christians collected his body and buried him with the other martyrs. St. Genesius is the patron saint of comedians, dancers, actors, musicians, printers, and torture victims. His feast day is August 25th.

**St. Orontius of Lecce** (1st c.) was the son of the Roman imperial treasurer in Lecce, Italy. Upon his father's death he inherited the position. Orontius was converted to the Christian faith along with his nephew, Fortunatus, by Justus, a disciple of St. Paul the Apostle. Orontius was later denounced to the authorities as a Christian and was ordered to sacrifice to the pagan gods. He refused and was arrested, removed from his office, tortured, and exiled to Corinth together with Fortunatus. In Corinth the pair met St. Paul the Apostle, who consecrated Orontius as the first bishop of Lecce. When Orontius and Fortunatus returned to Lecce they were persecuted and imprisoned again, but were released and ordered to stop preaching. They continued to preach in the surrounding cities, and were arrested a third time and executed. St. Orontius' feast day is August 26th.

**St. Monica** (322-387 A.D.) was raised in a Christian home in Tagaste, North Africa. Early in life she struggled with alcoholism, sneaking draughts of wine from the family cellar, before being caught and overcoming the habit. She was later given in marriage to an ill-tempered and adulterous pagan Roman official. She suffered greatly on account of her husband, and that of her unkind mother-in-law with whom she lived, and she fervently prayed for their conversion over the course of many years. Her patience and kindness became a source of encouragement to other unhappy housewives with whom she came in contact. Monica gave birth to three children, and she was grieved that her husband would not allow them to be baptized. Her eldest son, Augustine, was a wayward child and caused her the most pain, and she prayed fervently for decades for him to become a Christian. Through her persistence in prayer and good example, her husband was converted shortly before his death. When Augustine became entrenched in heretical sects and moved to Milan, St. Monica followed him. Monica befriended the Bishop of Milan, St. Ambrose, who consoled her by saying, "The child of those tears,

**(St. Monica – cont.)**

shall never perish." Augustine was eventually brought into the Church by St. Ambrose. Everything we know of St. Monica's heroic virtue is from the writings of her son, who became the great St. Augustine of Hippo, one of the most influential saints in Church history. St. Monica is patron of housewives, difficult marriages, alcoholism, mothers, widows, abuse victims, victims of adultery, and disappointing children. Her feast day is August 27th.

**St. Augustine of Hippo** (354–430 A.D.) was born in North Africa to a pagan father and a Christian mother, St. Monica. His mother did her best to raise him in the Christian faith, but Augustine, a brilliant and promising young student, was carried away into worldly attractions, lust for women, and pagan philosophies. This put his faith and morals into a state of crisis for many years. His waywardness gave his holy mother great pain and anxiety as she watched her son pursue materialistic ambitions and keep company with heretical sects. Through her constant prayers and the holy preaching of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, St. Augustine came to recognize the truth of Christianity; but only after several spiritually tumultuous years of seeking God through his philosophical studies. He underwent a profound conversion and was baptized, after which he lived a holy life of purity, prayer, and penance. His life is one of the greatest sinner-to-saint stories in the history of the Church. St. Augustine eventually became a priest, bishop, theologian, writer, and the founder of a religious order of priests. He was declared a Doctor of the Church and is considered one of the most influential saints and theologians to have ever lived, one whose writings are widely read to this very day. His feast day is celebrated on August 28.

**St. Sabina** (d. 126 A.D.) was a wealthy Roman noblewoman, a widow and the daughter of Herod Metallarius. She was converted to Christianity by her virtuous female slave, St. Serapia, a devout Christian from Antioch who entered into voluntary slavery with Sabina after forsaking marriage and consecrating herself to Christ. Following her conversion, St. Sabina's home became a secret meeting place for Christians where the sacraments were celebrated. St. Serapia was discovered to be a Christian and was burned alive and beheaded. St. Sabina recovered Serapia's body and buried it in a tomb. Within the same year St. Sabina was also killed for her faith and buried alongside Serapia. After Christianity was legalized in the 5th century, a basilica was built over St. Sabina's home on Aventine Hill. Originally dedicated to both saints, it is known today as Santa Sabina, one of Rome's most ancient churches. St. Sabina's feast day is August 29th.

**St. Fiacre** (d. 670 A.D.) was born in Ireland and was raised from childhood in an Irish monastery. There he grew in knowledge as well as holiness, and became a priest. He retired to a hermitage to live in prayer and solitude, but men began to flock to him to imitate his way of life and become his disciples. To escape them, Fiacre left Ireland to establish a new hermitage in France. He went to the bishop and asked for land to plant a garden to grow food as well as herbs for medicinal healing, a science which he studied in the monastery. The bishop agreed to give Fiacre as much land as he could entrench. Fiacre picked a plot of land and walked around its perimeter, dragging his shovel behind him. Wherever his spade touched the ground, the land was miraculously cleared and the soil became entrenched. St. Fiacre lived a life of great mortification in prayer, fasting, vigils, and manual labor in his garden. Disciples gathered around him again, and soon formed a monastery. St. Fiacre then built an oratory in honor of the Virgin Mary, a hospice in which he received strangers, and a cell for his own dwelling. His fame for performing miracles became widespread, and his garden became a place of pilgrimage for centuries for those seeking healing. St. Fiacre is best known as the patron of gardeners, florists, and cab drivers. His feast day is August 30th.

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

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her...to help you prayerfully examine whether you would be able to live up to the high standards you set for others.”

**DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**

Notebook 3

1214 Today, bring to Me the pagans and those who do not yet know Me. I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

**MESSAGES OF MEDJUGORJE**

*On the 25<sup>th</sup> of day of each month the Queen of Peace gives a message to the visionary, Marija Pavlovic, for the whole world.*

*Up-to-date messages may be obtained at <http://www.medjugorje.org>*

March 22, 1984 – “Dear children! In a special way this evening I am calling you during Lent to honor the wounds of my Son, which He received from the sins of this parish. Unite yourselves with my prayers for the parish so that His sufferings may be bearable. Thank you for having responded to my call. Try to come in ever greater numbers.”

**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**

---Aug. 30 – Fulton Co. Fair Mass

7 pm Rosary

7:30 pm Mass

---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)

**DISCIPLINE** – instruction and  
exercise designed to train to  
proper conduct or action

Endure your trials as “discipline”; God treats you as sons. For what “son” is there whom his father does not discipline? At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it.

**Hebrews 12:7 & 11**



# Saint Junipero Serra

## August 28

JUNIPERO SERRA WAS BORN ON A SPANISH ISLAND IN 1713. HIS PARENTS WERE FARMERS. HE WAS BAPTIZED THE DAY HE WAS BORN.

An illustration showing a man in a vest and shirt holding a baby, surrounded by a woman and other people in a simple outdoor setting.

JUNIPERO BEGAN HIS STUDIES FOR THE PRIESTHOOD WHEN HE WAS 15.

An illustration of a young boy in a library, talking to a man in clerical attire. A speech bubble from the man says, "Yes, I think he's ready."

Yes, I think he's ready.

HE STUDIED FOR MANY YEARS AND THEN BECAME A PROFESSOR.

An illustration of a man sitting at a desk, writing with a quill pen.

Goodbye, home! I hope I can do good things in America...

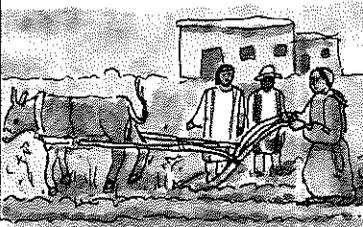
An illustration of a man on a ship, looking out at the sea.

WHEN HE WAS 35 HE SET SAIL FOR THE AMERICAS TO BE A MISSIONARY.

IN MEXICO JUNIPERO LEARNED THE LOCAL LANGUAGE AND TAUGHT THE FAITH.

An illustration of a man in clerical attire teaching a group of people, some of whom are kneeling in prayer.

HE TAUGHT FARMING AND WORKED WITH THE PEOPLE. LATER HE STARTED MANY MISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA.

An illustration of a man in clerical attire teaching a group of people, some of whom are working with a plow and a cow.

It doesn't matter what the king says. This land is the natives'.

An illustration of a man in clerical attire standing on a platform, speaking to a group of people.

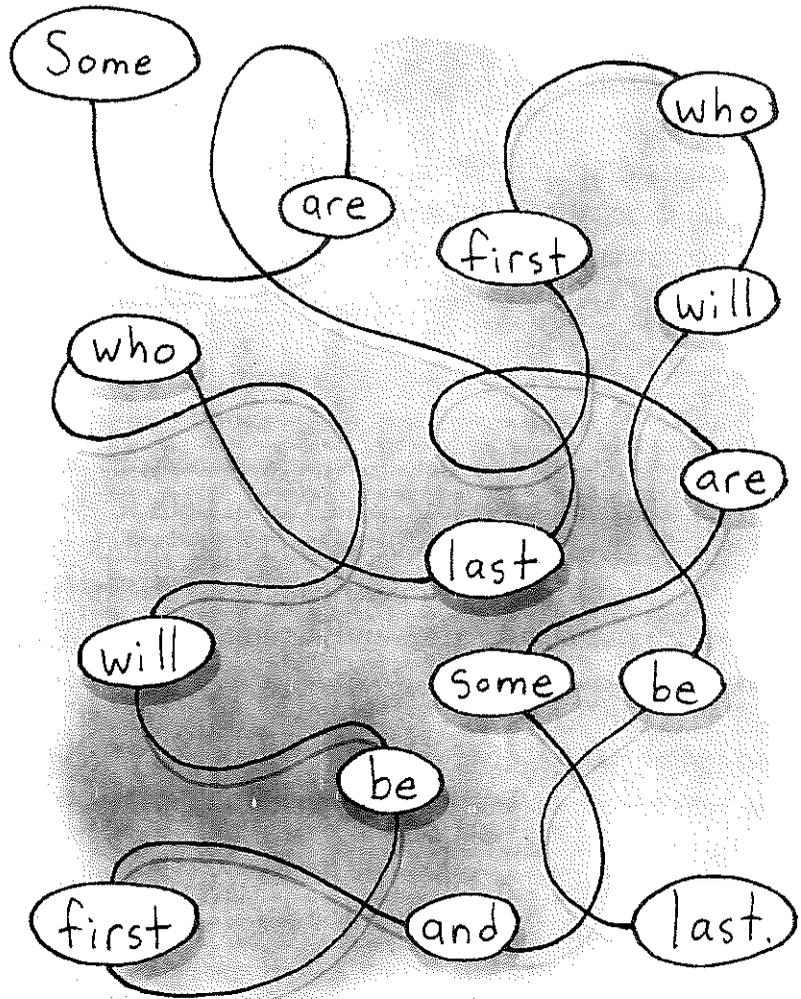
FR. JUNIPERO SUFFERED FROM LEG PROBLEMS FOR MANY YEARS, BUT HE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO HELP AND PROTECT THE NATIVES. HE DIED AT AGE 70.

SAINT JUNIPERO KNEW THAT GOD CARES FOR ALL PEOPLE - FOR THEIR SOULS AND THEIR BODIES. THAT'S WHY HE TAUGHT THE NATIVES NOT ONLY THE FAITH BUT ALSO FARMING AND OTHER SKILLS THAT WOULD HELP THEM HAVE BETTER LIVES. HOW CAN YOU SHARE YOUR SKILLS TO HELP OTHERS?

# All in the Right Order

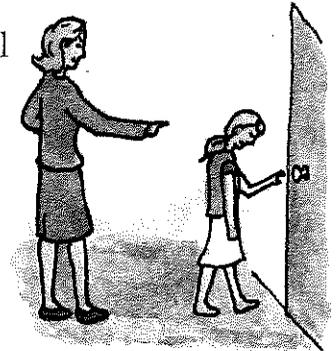
*What was one of the things Jesus said in today's Gospel reading about the people in the Kingdom of Heaven?*

*Follow the squiggly line to sort out the words.  
Start with "Some" in the top left corner.*



# Being Punished...

In today's second reading, Saint Paul wrote to the Hebrews about being disciplined by God. When we are young God wants our parents to make sure we behave well. When we don't behave He wants them to discipline us so that we will learn to be good.



Our parents don't punish us just because they are angry at us; they do it because they really love us and want us to learn to be better. Saint Paul says that the Lord disciplines the people that He loves.



Being punished is a painful thing, but we will be happy once we have learned our lesson and become a better person. Saint Paul says, "make a straight path for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed." He means that when you are punished, you should stop doing the wrong thing so that you won't be hurt worse from the punishment, but will get better instead. So the next time you are disciplined or punished, remember that God is allowing it to help you become a better person. If you can, even thank God for giving you the chance to make up for your sin and learn a good lesson!



Inside: Some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last.  
Picture on front: the narrow door