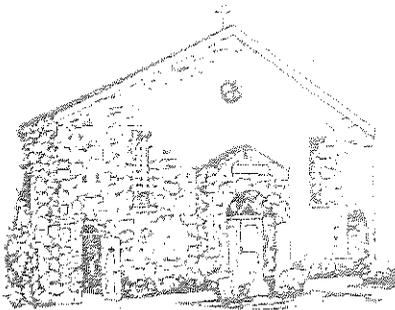


Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church



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

St. Peter Catholic Church



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.
Friday 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 3rd 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

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 with the exact verbiage requested. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals

December 21, 2025 – 4th Sunday of Advent

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 7:55 A.M.

CONFESSION

Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at St. Peter 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Our Lady of Mercy – Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.

St. Peter – Christmas Eve 4:30 p.m. & 9:00 pm.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. The office will be open Monday, December 22 & Tuesday, December 23, and Monday, December 29, 9 a.m. – noon and Tuesday, December 30 - 9 a.m - 3 p.m.

BFF'S

If your family would like to provide donuts and/or beverages for Feb. 8, Mar. 8, or May 3 please sign up on the form on the cry room door.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May you all have a very Blessed Merry Christmas.



*For today in the city of David a savior
has been born for you who is Messiah
and Lord. Luke 2:11*

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

CHRISTMAS MASS

December 24 – 4:30 p.m. & 9:00
p.m.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD VIGIL

December 31 – Rosary 4:00 p.m.
Mass 4:30 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

Jan. 8 – Fayette Opera House –
Bean Creek Coffee House – 7 p.m.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Dec. 21	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	For the People For the People
Mon., Dec. 22		NO MASS	
Tues., Dec. 23	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Dec. 24	4:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Christmas Eve	7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	OLOM SP	For the People For the People
Thurs., Dec. 25	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Christmas Day			
Fri., Dec. 26	9:00 a.m.	SP	
Comm. Svc.			
Sat., Dec. 27	4:30 p.m.	SP	John Grieser, Lenny, Andy & Cari Breidenbach
Sun., Dec. 28	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Jimmie Crowell, Giovanni Stella
	10:30 a.m.	SP	Cindy Eddy, Cathy Warner Carolyn Bigger, Dick & Susan Saaf

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

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

Shirley Taylor
Denise Miller
Joyce Bonin

Alleluia! Jesus is born

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 before noon on Tuesday.

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – DECEMBER 24, 25 & 28 2025

	December 24	December 25	December 28
Greeters / Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel	Beauregard family	Mary Bird/Shelly Gruman
Proclaimer	Pat Eisel	Angie Beuregard	Shelly Gruman
Servers	Kennedy K./Will M.	Myla Burkholder	Will Maginn
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel	Phil & Tami Baker	Angie B./Terry K.
Money Counters		Phil B./Barb B. Eli E.	Terry K./Michelle M. Barbara Roby

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for December 14, 2025

Sunday Offertory (14 envelopes)	\$ 1,246.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 215.00
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	(\$ 286.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC Jar & Votives	\$ 33.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 12.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 5.00
Maintenance	\$ 105.00
Retired Religious	\$ 10.00
Hall Rental	\$ 125.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 2.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 175.00
Christmas	\$ 186.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 2,114.00
(Sunday Offertory & Other)	

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of December 21 – December 27

St. Peter Canisius (1521–1597) was born in Holland to a wealthy family. He was sent to the University of Cologne and met St. Peter Faber who influenced him to join the Jesuits. St. Peter Canisius became famous for his preaching and writing, and was one of the most influential Catholics of his time. He was instrumental in defending Catholicism against the Protestant revolt in Germany and surrounding countries. He famously wrote a popular-level catechism to counter the spreading heresies. The restoration of the Church in Germany is largely attributed to his catechetical work. He was adamant in promoting charity and courtesy towards Protestants in a time of great hostility. After the Council of Trent, he was chosen by the Vatican to help smuggle the documents of the Council into the hands of European bishops, avoiding the outposts of Protestant aggression, which was a difficult task at the time. For his brilliance in teaching Catholic doctrine, St. Peter Canisius was named a Doctor of the Church. His feast day is December 21st.

St. Zeno of Nicomedia (d. 303 A.D.) was a Roman soldier and commander living in Nicomedia (modern-day Turkey) during the reign of Roman Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. During their fierce persecution of the Church they were condemning many Christians to death, including any soldiers who professed faith in Jesus Christ. In Nicomedia alone, as many as 20,000 Christians were burned alive as they gathered inside a cathedral on Christmas Day. Standing nearby when the Emperor was offering a sacrifice to a Roman deity, St. Zeno, a Christian, mocked his devotion to a soulless god. St. Zeno was immediately seized and put to death, giving him a martyr's crown. St. Zeno's feast day is December 22nd.

St. Victoria (d. 250 A.D.) was a Christian noblewoman from Rome. She, together with her sister, St. Anatolia, were forced into arranged marriages with two pagan noblemen. Both Victoria and Anatolia desired to devote themselves entirely to God rather than marry. Upon this refusal, their suitors denounced the sisters as Christians to the authorities under the persecution of Roman Emperor Decius. The sisters were seized and put under house arrest in order to break their faith and convince them to marry. Instead of weakening, their faith in Christ became more resolute. While under house arrest they sold all of their belongings, gave their money to the poor, and converted the servants and guards who attended them to Christianity. Both St. Victoria and her sister were eventually killed for their faith; first Anatolia, and later Victoria. St. Victoria was stabbed through the heart at the request of her rejected suitor, Eugenius. Her feast day is December 23rd.

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman created by God as recounted in the Old Testament book of Genesis, are the father and mother of all humanity. Through their willful disobedience to the command of God, sin came into the world. To redeem mankind which was thereby separated from the perfect communion with the Holy Trinity for which they were created, God became man, born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and died on a Cross. Jesus is the New Adam, and Mary is the New Eve. Christian tradition recognizes that Adam and Eve were rescued by Christ in virtue of His death, burial, and resurrection, and are with God and the saints in heaven. Their feast day is celebrated together on December 24th.

St. Anastasia (c. 281-314 A.D.) was a Roman citizen of the noble class, born to a wealthy pagan father and a Christian mother. She was secretly baptized due to her mother's desire to raise her as a Christian. Anastasia married a Roman pagan of her class, and, when he discovered that she was a practicing Christian, he became a cruel tyrant and inflicted much suffering upon her. After her husband's untimely death, Anastasia devoted her life to acts of charity and to consoling Christians who were imprisoned for their faith. When she was discovered to be a Christian during the persecutions of Diocletian, Anastasia was captured, tortured, and starved before being crucified, burned alive, and beheaded. The place of her martyrdom is Sirmium in what is today Serbia, and afterwards she was venerated as a healer and exorcist. St. Anastasia is one of the seven women, besides the Virgin Mary, commemorated in the Roman Canon of the Mass. Her feast day is December 25th.

St. Stephen (1st. c.) was one of the Church's first deacons in Jerusalem and an eloquent preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to Sacred Scripture he was "a man full of faith, and of the Holy Ghost" and "full of grace and fortitude." The account of his martyrdom is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. After boldly preaching against the Jewish leaders for their rejection of the promised Messiah, he was accused of blasphemy and stoned to death by an angry mob. The man who would later become St. Paul the Apostle, while he was persecuting the Church before his conversion, was among the mob as an approving witness. St. Stephen's name comes from the Greek word meaning 'crown,' fitting as he was the first Christian to earn the martyr's crown. St. Stephen's feast day is celebrated on December 26th.

St. John the Evangelist (1st c.) was one of the Twelve Apostles, and one of the three in Jesus' inner circle, along with his brother, James, and Simon Peter. St. John was the disciple who reclined on the breast of Jesus at the Last Supper, and the only one of the twelve to not forsake Christ during His crucifixion and death. John stood faithfully at the foot of the Cross alongside the other holy women, and therefore he was the disciple to whom Jesus entrusted the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In addition to being called "The Evangelist" he is also known as the "Beloved Disciple." After the death and resurrection of Jesus, St. John was an important leader of the Church in Jerusalem. He lived to a very old age and composed the fourth Gospel that bears his name, three epistles, and the book of Revelation. He is the only one of the Twelve Apostles who was not martyred, instead being exiled to the island of Patmos in the Aegean Sea under the persecution of Roman Emperor Domitian. St. John the Evangelist's feast day is December 27th.

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...to remind you that she wants to bring you closer to the heart of her Son, Jesus.”

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 4.

1275 My Secretary, write that I am more generous toward sinners than toward the just. It was for their sake that I came down from heaven; it was for their sake My Blood was spilled. Let them not fear to approach Me; they are most in need of My mercy.

MESSAGES OF MEDJUGORJE

*Up-to-date messages may be obtained at <http://www.medjugorje.org>
On the 25th of day of each month the Queen of Peace gives a message to the visionary, Marija Pavlovic, for the whole world.*

August 16 1984 – “Dear children! I beseech you, especially those from this parish, to live my messages and convey them to others, to whoever you meet. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

August 23, 1984 – “Dear children! Pray, pray!” Marija said that he also invited the people, and especially the young people, to keep order during Mass.

The Hidden Phase – June 30, 1981 – December 31, 1981

During this period, Our Lady appeared to the visionaries in hidden places, away from the police patrols that were trying to track them down.

July 24, 1981 – (Vicka’s diary – 30th apparition, 6:30 p.m.) Today, also, we went to the place of the apparitions about 6:20 pm, and while praying and singing, we waited for the Blessed Virgin. At exactly 6:30 pm we saw the light which slowly approached. Then we saw the Blessed Virgin and heard her customary greeting. To our questions, relative to the majority of the sick, the Gospa answered quickly: “Without faith, nothing is possible. All those who will believe firmly will be cured.”

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Faith Formation after Mass
Jan. 4 & Jan. 18

---December 16 – 25 Our Lady
of Mercy Christmas Novena

---December 24 – Christmas
Eve Mass 7:00 p.m.

---December 25 – Christmas
Day Mass 9:00 a.m.

---January 1, 2026 –
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of
God – Rosary 8:30 a.m.
Mass 9:00 a.m.

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

ANTICIPATION – realization in
advance; foretaste; expectation; hope

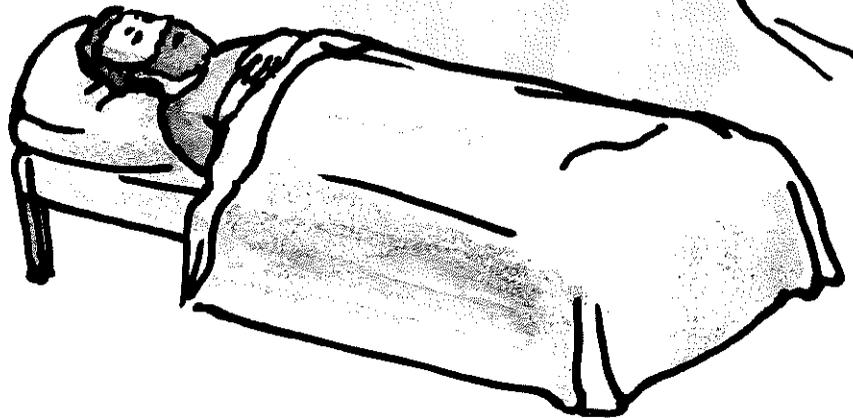
Therefore, the Lord himself will give you this sign:
the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall
name him Emmanuel. **Isiah 7:14**

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21st, 2025

Joseph, son of David,
do not fear to take
Mary as your wife,
for that which is
conceived in her is
of the Holy Spirit.
She will bear a son,
and you shall call
his name Jesus.



An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him what God wanted him to do. What did the angel say? Look in a mirror to find out!

Saint John of Kanty

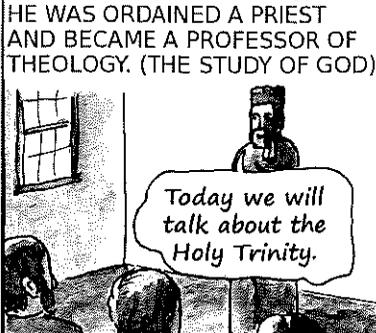
December 23

SAINT JOHN OF KANTY WAS A POLISH COUNTRY BOY, BORN AROUND THE YEAR 1390. HE WENT TO THE CITY OF KRAKOW WHERE HE DID VERY WELL IN HIS STUDIES.



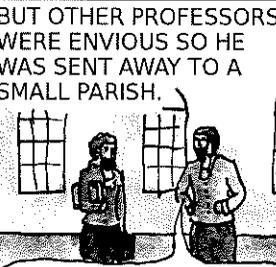
Well, well!
Off to the big city!

HE WAS ORDAINED A PRIEST AND BECAME A PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY. (THE STUDY OF GOD)



Today we will talk about the Holy Trinity.

BUT OTHER PROFESSORS WERE ENVIUS SO HE WAS SENT AWAY TO A SMALL PARISH.



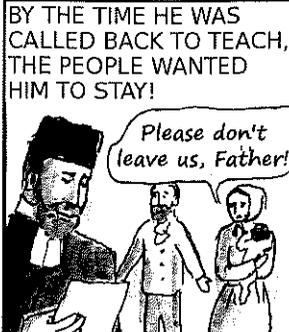
Who is this Fr. John?
Let's get him fired.



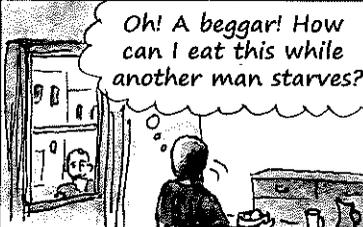
He's probably no good.

FR. JOHN WAS NERVOUS AND THE PEOPLE DIDN'T LIKE HIM, BUT HE WAS KIND TO THEM ANYWAY.

BY THE TIME HE WAS CALLED BACK TO TEACH, THE PEOPLE WANTED HIM TO STAY!

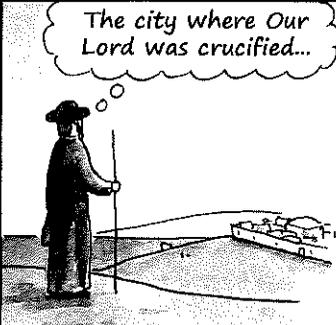


Please don't leave us, Father!



Oh! A beggar! How can I eat this while another man starves?

SAINT JOHN WAS SO GENEROUS THAT HE HARDLY HAD ENOUGH TO EAT OR TO WEAR. HE EVEN SLEPT ON THE FLOOR.



The city where Our Lord was crucified...

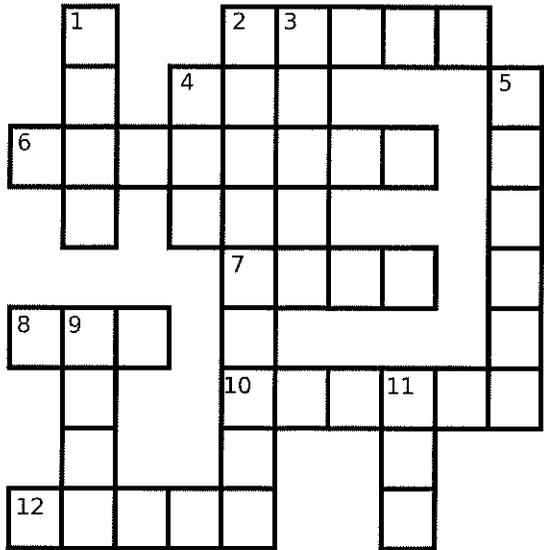
SEVERAL TIMES HE WENT TO JERUSALEM, HOPING THAT HE WOULD BE MARTYRED BY THE TURKS. HE DIED WHEN HE WAS AN OLD MAN, IN HIS 80'S.

SAINT JOHN TOLD PEOPLE TO FIGHT AGAINST ERROR WITH LOVE. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS LIFE THAT WE SHOULD BE GENEROUS AND KIND TO DRAW PEOPLE TO JESUS. SOMETIMES THE PEOPLE WON'T LISTEN RIGHT AWAY, BUT IF WE PERSEVERE IN BEING KIND TO THEM, THEY WILL EVENTUALLY CHANGE.

Isaiah 7 Cross-Word

Find the words that fit into the spaces in today's first reading, and then fit them into the puzzle. A=Across and D=Down.

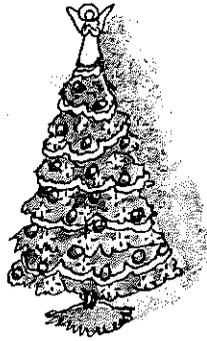
HOUSE
 VIRGIN
 HIGH
 SHEOL
 CHILD
 THE
 DAVID
 HEAVEN
 NAME
 DEEP
 IMMANUEL
 GOD
 MAN



_____ 8A LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask a sign of the
 LORD your _____ 11D; let it be _____ 7A as
 _____ 2A or _____ 9D as _____ 5D." But
 Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the
 LORD to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O
 _____ 3D of _____ 7D! Is it too little for you
 to weary _____ 4D, that you weary my God
 also? Therefore the Lord himself will
 give you this sign: the _____ 10A
 shall be with _____ 12A, and bear a
 son, and shall _____ 1D him
 _____ 6A.

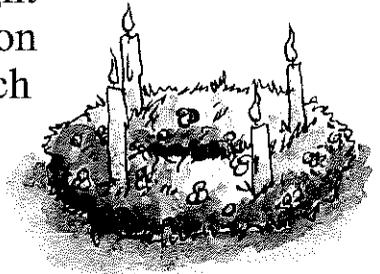


Jesus' Birthday is almost here!



Now there is less than a week left until Christmas!

In today's Gospel reading God gave St. Joseph a special job. He told him to take care of Mary and the baby Jesus. St. Joseph thought he was just an ordinary person and didn't expect to have such an important responsibility, but he did what God asked.



God has given us a responsibility too. We have to love Jesus as much as we can. How can you love and honour Jesus at Christmas time? If your family has a nativity scene you can pray to Jesus while you look at it. Right now you have a few days left to get ready for Jesus' birthday. Ask St. Joseph to help you prepare for Jesus' coming.



Answers to Cross-Word: Across: 2. Sheep 6. Immanuel
7. deep 8. the 10. virgin 12. child. Down: 1. name 3. house
4. man 5. Heaven 7. David 9. high 11. God