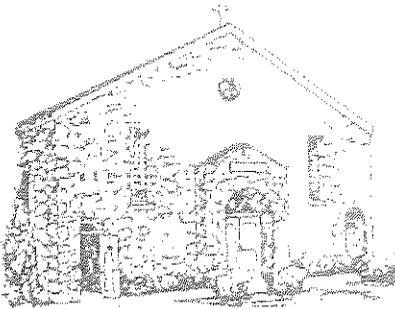


Catholic Communities
Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

**Our Lady of Mercy
Catholic Church**

**St. Peter
Catholic Church**

Sunday
February 1, 2026
4th 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.

614 N. Defiance St.
Archbold, Ohio 43502
Rectory – 419-446-9288
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.

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

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

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

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

Tami Baker
Bookkeeper

OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Doug Williams
Bookkeeper

Mary Bird
CRE

OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

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

February 1, 2026 – 4th Sunday Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAY'S AT 7:55 A.M.

WELCOME

Welcome Father Daniel Ring to Our Lady of Mercy Church. Thank you for celebrating the 4th Sunday of Ordinary time with us today.

BFF'S

There will donuts and beverages after Mass on February 8, 2026.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation class after Mass today.

HELP WANTED

St. Vincent de Paul is in need of a few volunteers. Please see Marie Crowell or call her 419-237-2362 if you are interested.

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

If are not receiving contribution envelopes and you want to please fill out form on the table in the back and either put in collection basket or turn into the office.

2026 LENTEN STUDY

This year's Adult Lenten Study will be Ascension Press's **Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother** narrated by Edward Sri. There is a flyer with dates, time and a registration form in this week's bulletin. The registration form needs to be returned by **Thursday, February 12, 2026**. Please prayerfully consider participating in this year's program.

LEADING THE FLOCK

Please pick up Bishop Thomas' current Leading the Flock on the back table.

THE RELIC OF THE HEART OF SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Msgr. Anthony Figueiredo, promoter of the saint's cause is traveling from Assisi in Italy with the relic and will offer reflections on the life, holiness, and spiritual legacy of Saint Carlo Acutis. February 7 – 9, 2026, at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral. Please see flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

1st SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 7, 2026

Rosary – 8:30 a.m.

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

FISH FRIDAYS

Archbold Knights of Columbus Fish Fry's begin January 9, 2026 thru April 3, 2026, 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. 419-446-7495 for carry out orders, at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Archbold

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

Feb. 12 –Fayette Opera House -
Bean Creek Coffee House 7 p.m.

Feb. 18 – Fayette Community Meal
– Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5
p.m. – 6p.m.

Feb. 28 -Fayette Opera House –
John & Jenn – 7 p.m.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Feb. 1	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	Giovanni Stella Al Holland Frank Grime
Mon., Feb. 2	NO MASS		
Tues., Feb. 3	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Feb. 4	NO MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE		
Thurs., Feb. 5	NO MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE		
Fri., Feb. 6 Comm. Service	9:00 a.m.	SP	
Sat., Feb. 7 1 st Saturday	Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
	4:30 p.m.	SP	Tom Young
Sun., Feb. 8	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	Marcel Bonin Frank Grime For the People

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

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

Shirley Taylor
Denise Miller

For the legal protection of the unborn children

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 – February 8, 2026

Greeters / Gifts	Mike Maginn family
Proclaimer	Pat Eisel
Servers	Myla Burkholder / Will Maginn
Ushers	Phil & Tami Baker
Money Counters	Eli Eberly/Barb Bruggeman/Barbara Roby

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for January 25, 2026

Sunday Offertory (3 envelopes)	\$ 225.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 20.00
BUDGET	<u>\$ 1,747.00</u>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 1,502.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Votives & CPC Jar	\$ 25.56
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	<u>\$ 271.56</u>
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of February 1 – February 7

St. Brigid of Ireland (451–525 A.D.), also known as St. Brigit of Kildare, was born to a pagan Irish chieftain and a Christian slave mother. Being the daughter of a slave woman, she also was a slave, and worked as a dairy maid. She became known for her virtuous life and her charity to the poor. Recognizing her great piety and special graces, a Christian king convinced her father to grant Brigid her freedom. Once free to follow her own course in life, St. Brigid refused marriage, consecrated herself to Christ, and became Ireland's first nun. She also formed Ireland's first convent at Kildare and became its abbess. She went on to found many other religious communities, as well as a School of Art famous for its metal working and illuminated manuscripts. St. Brigid was known for her extraordinary spirituality, even converting her father to the faith after he witnessed her fashioning the sign of the cross from strands of rushes. She was also a contemporary and friend of St. Patrick. When she died, her sisters kept a fire burning in an enclosure at her Kildare convent. This fire burned for centuries, tended by the sisters and not burning out until the 13th century. It was later re-lit and burned for 400 more years until the Protestant revolt. St. Brigid is the patroness of Ireland and many other causes, most notably of dairy and milk maids, chicken farmers, travelers, and sailors. Her feast day is February 1st.

St. Lawrence of Canterbury (d. 619 A.D.) was among the original band of missionaries sent from Rome to evangelize England with St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury. As a fruit of their labor the region's most powerful ruler, the King of Kent, became a baptized Christian along with many of his countrymen. When Augustine died, Lawrence became Canterbury's second Archbishop. He was a zealous leader and urged the Celtic bishops to keep peace and unity with Rome. When the King of Kent died, his pagan son caused great damage to the faith of the people and the mission work which had been done among them; because of this, some of the missionaries fled to Gaul. Lawrence was so upset by the abandonment of Christianity among his flock that he considered abandoning his bishopric as well. In response, St. Peter the Apostle appeared to him in a vision, rebuked him, and scourged him so badly that Lawrence had physical marks on his body from the encounter. St. Lawrence then relayed his vision to the king and showed him his wounds, causing the king to convert to the Christian faith as his father did. St. Lawrence's feast day is February 2nd.

St. Blaise (d. 316 A.D.) was born into a wealthy Christian family in Armenia. He was trained as a physician before becoming a priest, and was finally ordained a bishop. When a wave of Christian persecution began, God instructed St. Blaise to hide in a desert cave. While he was in hiding, birds miraculously brought him food and sick men came to him to be healed. The king's hunters eventually discovered his cave and found it surrounded by a myriad of wild animals who came to the saint to be blessed, with Blaise able to walk freely among them. Recognizing him as the local bishop, the hunters took Blaise into custody. As he went with them he continued to preach and perform miracles along the way: he healed a boy choking to death on a bone, and commanded a wolf to release a captured pig belonging to a poor woman. When Blaise was sentenced to be starved to death, the woman killed her pig to feed St. Blaise in prison. He was eventually martyred under the reign of Licinius, his body torn with wool combs before being beheaded. Blaise is known as the patron saint of throat ailments, physicians, woolcombers, and wild animals. His feast is commemorated with the Blessing of the Throats, and is celebrated on February 3rd.

St. Jane of Valois (1464-1505) was born to French King Louis XI and Charlotte of Savoy. Much of her life was marked by neglect and emotional abuse. Her father resented her because she was a sickly and deformed female child. He sent her away to a remote country home where she was carelessly raised before being married off at the age of nine to her cousin, the Duke of Orléans. Her husband likewise despised and publicly humiliated her, and their marriage was never consummated. Jane had a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary from a young age, especially in the mystery of the Incarnation. One day Our Lady appeared to Jane and told her that in the future she would found a religious community. Through her veneration of the Blessed Mother, Jane found the strength to be a loyal and devoted wife during her painful twenty-two year marriage. When her husband became king, he had their marriage annulled. This left Jane free to found the Order of the Annunciation dedicated to imitating Mary's virtues, as Our Lady foretold. She also gave her Order the duty of constant prayer for the souls of her father and husband who both mistreated her. St. Jane of Valois' feast day is February 4th.

St. Agatha (231-251 A.D.) was born in Sicily into an affluent family. At a young age she made the decision to devote herself to Christ, resisting every offer of marriage. Struck by her beauty and wealth, a magistrate named Quintian desired to marry her. He plotted to use his political power to force her hand, and threatened to prosecute her for the crime of Christianity unless she accepted his sexual advances. When she refused, he forced her into a brothel. Even there, she refused to relinquish her chastity. Furious, Quintian imprisoned and tortured Agatha, ordering her breasts to be cut off. Upon this barbaric treatment, God sent St. Peter the Apostle to Agatha in a vision, and he healed her wounds. St. Agatha's torture continued until an earthquake caused her captors to flee, and she died shortly after. St. Agatha is the patroness of rape victims, torture victims, martyrs, nurses, and against breast cancer. She is one of the seven women, besides the Virgin Mary, mentioned by name in the Roman Canon of the Mass. Her feast day is February 5th.

St. Paul Miki (1562–1597) and his twenty-five companions, known as the Martyrs of Nagasaki, were crucified for the faith in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1597. A Japanese layman of great nobility and wealth, Paul was converted to Christianity by St. Francis Xavier. Although the Christian missionaries did not meet with opposition initially, the Japanese rulers eventually launched a brutal campaign to wipe out its progress. The twenty-six men were forced to march 600 miles to meet their death in Nagasaki. The group included Franciscan and Jesuit missionaries and Japanese converts. They were repeatedly offered freedom if they would renounce Christianity; they all declined. When the march ended the martyrs were tied to crosses. They prayed and sang while Paul Miki preached the Gospel in a loud voice. The martyrs were then stabbed to death while they hung on their crosses. The crowd who witnessed the testimony of Paul Miki and his companions would immortalize his words and use them to further spread Christianity in Japan. Their collective feast day is February 6th.

St. Richard the King (c. 720 A.D.), also known as Richard the Pilgrim, was a Saxon king born in Wessex, England, who was related by blood to the royal house of Kent. His brother-in-law was St. Boniface, and three of his children are numbered among the saints: St. Willibald, St. Winnebald, and St. Walburga. When Willibald was gravely ill as a child, Richard's prayers for his son are said to have saved his life. He wrapped his child in a blanket and took him to the foot of a large crucifix erected near their village, and the child recovered. When Willibald was grown, he convinced his father and brother to accompany him on a missionary pilgrimage to Rome and the Holy Land. St. Richard agreed, renounced his royal estate, and embarked on the journey with his two sons, while his daughter entered a convent. In Italy he became sick and died, and was buried in Tuscany at the Church of San Frediano. Numerous miracles are reported to have occurred at his tomb. Some of his relics were transported to Eichstatt, Germany, where his son Winnebald would become Bishop. His feast day is celebrated on February 7th.



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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...to reassure you that the best way to approach anything is with great joy and humility.”

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.*

October 8, 1984 (Monday) – (Jakov was sick and received this message at home.) “Dear children, Let all prayers you say in your homes in the evening be for the conversion of sinners because the world is in great sin. Every evening pray the rosary.”

*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.*

August 6, 1981 – “I am the Queen of Peace.”

August 7, 1981 – On Mt. Krizevac, at 2:00a.m. in the morning: “That one do penance for sins>”

August 8, 1981 – “Do penance! Strengthen your faith through prayer and the sacraments.”

The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen - with an introduction by Matthew Kelly
“In all other religions, one has to be good to come to God – in Christianity might be described as a “come as you are” party. It bids us stop worrying about ourselves, stop concentrating on our faults and our failings, and thrust them upon the Saviour with a firm resolve to amendment.”

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Faith Formation after Mass
Feb. 1 & Feb. 15

---Ash Wed. Masses
7 a.m. – St. Peter
9 a.m. – OLOM
6:30 p.m. – St. Peter

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

HUMBLE – low in station, grade
of importance, lowly

Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth,
who have observed his law;
seek justice, seek humility;
perhaps you may be sheltered
on the day of the Lord's anger.

Zephaniah 2:3