

# 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@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 Pipher 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 Pipher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements.

### Anointing of the sick

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

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

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 Pipher 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

## January 11, 2026 – The Baptism of the Lord

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

#### BFF'S

Thank you, Corey & Suzanne Clark, for today's donuts and beverages. Come enjoy after Mass in the basement.

Dates available if your family would like to provide donuts and beverages are Feb. 8, Mar. 8, or May 3 please sign up on the form on the cry room door.

#### FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING

There will be a Finance Council meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 5:45 p.m.

#### FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation classes will be January 18, 2026 after Mass.

#### CPC BABY BOTTLES

Please turn all baby bottles in (empty or full). Please put into the green tub at the back of the church. Thank you all for your support to the Community Pregnancy Center. Total to date collected \$170.00.

#### THANK YOU

Thank you to all for the prayers, cards, and calls during my recent surgeries. Everything is greatly appreciated.  
Joyce Bonin

#### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences and prayers go out to:

Ray Hollstein & family for the loss of Ray's father George Hollstein

Mike Burkholder & family for the loss of Lindsey's grandmother Barbara Beaverson

Grant Reinking & family for the loss of Grant's grandfather Lawrence Towers

### ST. PETER NEWS

#### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

Jan. 24 – Fayette Opera House –  
Cat Canyon – 7 p.m.

## ***THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE***

<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Time</b></i>	<i><b>Church</b></i>	<i><b>Intention</b></i>
Sun., Jan. 11	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b> SP	<b>Marcel Bonin</b> Al Holland
Mon., Jan. 12	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Tues., Jan. 13	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Jan. 14	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Jan. 15	9:00 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b>	<b>For the People</b>
Fri., Jan. 16	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Jan. 17	4:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Sun., Jan. 18	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b> SP	<b>Jeannette Tidwell</b> <b>Giovanni Stella</b> Dick & Susan Saaf

### **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](mailto:olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com) before noon on Tuesday.

**NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – January 18, 2026**

<b>Greeters / Gifts</b>	Mary Bird / Marge Crowell
<b>Proclaimer</b>	Angie Beauregard
<b>Servers</b>	Myla Burkholder
<b>Ushers</b>	Angie Beauregard/Terry Kovar
<b>Money Counters</b>	Eli Eberly/Terry Kovar/Michelle Miron

**SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT**

Reported for January 4, 2026

Sunday Offertory (14 envelopes)	\$ 1,006.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 294.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 1,747.00</b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 447.00)

**OTHER COLLECTIONS**

CPC Jar & Votives	\$ 3.00
Maintenance	\$ 5.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 5.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 40.00
Initial Offering	\$ 65.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,418.00</b>
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

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

Week of January 11 – January 17

**Pope St. Hyginus** (d. 142 A.D.) was born in Athens, Greece, and became the ninth successor to the Chair of St. Peter. He reigned as pope for four years from about 138-142 A.D. Many of the details of his life have not been preserved, although various actions are credited to him: defending the Catholic faith against the Gnostic heresy which spread in Rome; beginning the practice of including godparents at infant baptisms to help the newborn child receive a Christian upbringing; and decreeing that all churches must be consecrated. Pope St. Hyginus is buried near the tomb of St. Peter on Vatican Hill. It is uncertain whether he became a martyr under the persecutions of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. His feast day is January 11.

**St. Marguerite Bourgeoys** (1620-1700) was born in France to a large middle-class Christian family. After having a deep religious experience at the age of 20, Marguerite dedicated her life to God through the Virgin Mary. She then joined an apostolate which served God by educating underprivileged children. When she was 32 the governor of Fort Ville-Marie (now Montreal, Canada), visited Marguerite's town and invited her to be a missionary in the New World as a lay teacher, instructing the children of the colonists and the Native Americans. Marguerite agreed and made the long ocean journey. Realizing the importance of the family in establishing New France, Marguerite mentored young ladies and prepared them for marriage and family life as pioneer women. She signed as a witness on the marriage certificates of many early settlers. As a result of these activities she was affectionately called the "Mother of the Colony." She also worked to build the first church and the first school. She also founded the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal, which is an active religious order to this day. For her great apostolic and missionary activity she is considered the co-foundress of Montreal. She is also the first woman saint of the Catholic Church in Canada. Her feast day is January 12.

**St. Hilary of Poitiers** (300–368 A.D.) was born in France to noble pagan parents. He was well instructed in philosophy and converted to Christianity after studying the Old and New Testaments. He was baptized into the Church along with his wife and daughter. He was widely respected by the people of Poitiers, so much so that they elected him their bishop. Hilary worked hard to defend the Catholic Church against the entrenched heresy of Arianism which resulted in his four-year exile to Phrygia, and his popular title, "Hammer of the Arians." Although he was a gentle and courteous man, he was labeled a 'disturber of the peace' for defending Jesus' sacred humanity and divinity against the Arian heretics, the only orthodox bishop in his region doing so. He was renowned for his great learning and sanctity, and for defending the Church valiantly in word and by pen. While in exile he wrote numerous and important theological works resulting in his title as a Doctor of the Church. St. Hilary's feast day is January 13.

**St. Felix of Nola** (d. 250 A.D.) was born in Italy near Naples, the son of a Syrian soldier. After his father's death, Felix gave his goods to the poor and entered the priesthood. He was ordained by his bishop, St. Maximus of Nola, and served as his assistant. When persecution against Christians increased under Roman Emperor Decius, St. Maximus hid in the desert while St. Felix was captured, tortured, and thrown into prison. While in prison an angel appeared to Felix and freed him from his chains, bidding him to go to the aid of his bishop, St. Maximus, who was at the point of starving to death. After assisting the bishop, Felix fled from his captors by hiding in a hole. Miraculously, a spider quickly spun a web over the hole and prevented St. Felix from being caught by his pursuers. Felix continued hiding in a dry well for six months until the persecution abated. Afterwards he declined an offer to become the bishop of Nola following the death of St. Maximus. Felix's property was confiscated in the persecutions, so he lived his remaining years farming a few acres of rented land for his own sustenance as well as alms for the poor. His feast day is January 14.

**St. Arnold Janssen** (1837–1909) was born in Germany to a large Catholic family. He was a man of simple faith who studied theology, entered the priesthood, and served as a school teacher. He had a profound devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which awakened in him an increasing desire for missionary work. This led him to found *The Little Messenger of the Sacred Heart*, a monthly magazine sharing news of the Church's missionary activities and encouraging German Catholics to do more to help the missions. This was during a time of anti-Catholic persecution in Germany, and many priests were expelled from the country. Arnold suggested that these expelled priests serve in the missions, and for this purpose he founded the Society of the Divine Word, known as the Divine Word Missionaries, a religious congregation of missionary priests and lay brothers. He also founded two Orders of religious sisters associated with this missionary activity. Today more than 6,000 Divine Word Missionaries are active in 63 countries. St. Arnold was canonized in 2003 by Pope St. John Paul II. His feast day is celebrated on January 15.

**St. Priscilla of Rome** (1st c.) was a Christian noblewoman who served as a benefactor to the Christian community in Rome. She supported St. Peter the Apostle, the first Bishop of Rome, and her home near the catacombs served as his headquarters. She was the wife of Manius Acilius Glabrio, a Roman politician, who was executed by the Emperor Domitian for atheism, that is, his refusal to worship the Roman gods because he was Christian. Priscilla buried him in what was once a quarry and donated the property to the Church so that others could also be laid to rest there. Her catacombs, known since the earliest days of Christianity as the "Catacombs of Priscilla" are also referred to as the "Queen of the Catacombs" because such a large number of martyrs and popes were buried there. It also holds a significant collection of early Christian iconography including the earliest known depiction of the Madonna and Child. St. Priscilla was also martyred for her Christian faith and buried there. Her feast day is January 16.

**St. Anthony of the Desert** (251–356 A.D.), also known as St. Anthony the Great (or St. Antony the Great) and also St. Anthony of Egypt, was a leading figure among the Desert Fathers, the early Christian monks who lived in the Egyptian desert in the 3rd and 4th centuries. The story of his life was written by St. Athanasius of Alexandria. St. Anthony's parents were wealthy, and after their death Anthony desired to conform himself to the manner of life of the Apostles and early Christians. On hearing these words from the Gospel of Matthew in church, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me," St. Anthony left everything behind to live a life of prayer, fasting, self-denial, and labor. Whenever he heard of other holy people living in this manner, he would visit them to learn from their virtues in order to imitate them. He eventually removed himself from all society and became the first Christian to live a life of consecrated solitude. He occasionally left his hermitage for pressing matters, once to encourage persecuted Christians, and another time to support Pope Athanasius against the heresy of Arius. St. Anthony died at the age of one hundred and five. His feast day is January 17th.



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

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her...to help you remember that constant prayer is to be in constant union with the grace of God.”

**MESSAGES OF MEDJUGORJE**

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

September 20, 1984 – “Dear children! Today I call on you to begin fasting with the heart. There are many people who are fasting, but only because everyone else is fasting. It has become a custom which no one wants to stop. I ask the parish to fast out of gratitude because God has allowed me to stay this long in this parish. Dear children, fast and pray with the heart. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

*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 30, 1981 – We did not go the hill (Vicka’s diary contains no more observations until Aug. 25).

Sometime in July 1981 – “Carry out well your responsibilities and what the Church asks of you to do.”

**The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen**

“Once you have surrendered yourself, you make yourself receptive. In receiving from God, you are perfected and completed.”

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

---Faith Formation after Mass  
Jan. 18, Feb. 1 & Feb. 15

---January 11, 2026 – BFF  
Donuts & beverages after Mass

---January 15, 2026 – Finance  
Council Meeting 5:45 p.m.

---January 25, 2026 – Big BFF  
after Mass

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

**BAPTISM** – a ceremonial immersion  
in water, or application of water as a  
initiatory rite or sacrament of the  
Christian church

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be  
baptized by John. **Matthew 3:13**