

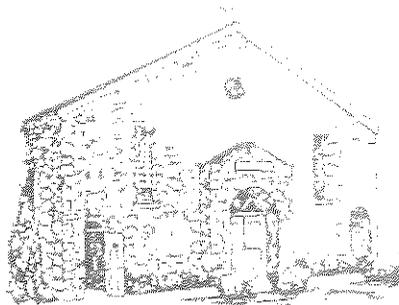
# Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

## Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

## St. Peter Catholic Church

Sunday  
March 1, 2026  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent



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.  
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 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

## March 1, 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

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

### **FAITH FORMATION**

Faith Formation class after Mass.

### **MARCH CALENDARS**

Please pick up an Our Lady of Mercy March calendar on the back tables.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be here at Our Lady of Mercy on Wednesday, March 4 and Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.

### **2026 ADULT LENTEN STUDY**

The second section of the adult Lenten study will be March 8 after Mass.

### **HELPING HANDS FOR FAYETTE**

Our Lady of Mercy parishioners are invited to join the Faith Formation students in collecting personal toiletry items for men, women, and children during the Lenten season this year. These items will be donated to Fayette Helping Hands. We will be collecting items until Easter, April 5. A tub is in the back of the church.

### **CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

Please keep this year's Confirmation candidates, Blake Kessler, Kasen Kunkle and Katie Maginn in your prayers today as they are attending a Confirmation Retreat at St. Patrick's, in Bryan, OH.

### **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.

### **WALK FOR LIFE**

We are in need of a volunteer to take over the Walk for Life event that happens on Good Friday. Please contact the office if you are interested.

### **AREA CONFESSIONS**

Wauseon, St. Caspar's Wednesday, March 25, 2026  
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

## **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

### **PENANCE SERVICE**

Wednesday, March 18, 2025  
6:30 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**

Mar. 8 – Fayette Legion Auxiliary  
Baked Potato Drive Thru –  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm – Free Will  
offering

Mar. 18 – Fayette Community Meal  
– Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5  
p.m. – 6p.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., Mar. 1	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b> SP	<b>Giovanni Stella</b> Frank Grime Mike Salinas
Mon., Mar. 2		<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tues., Mar. 3	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Mar. 4	7:10 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Mar. 5	9:00 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b>	<b>For the People</b>
Fri., Mar. 6	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Mar. 7	4:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Sun., Mar. 8	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	<b>OLOM</b> SP	<b>Marcel Bonin</b> Larry Miller

### **PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS**

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

Shirley Taylor  
Denise Miller

Issac Wiles (Marge Crowell's great grandson)  
The Soul of Father Jerry Schetter

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 – March 8, 2026

<b>Greeters / Gifts</b>	Mary Bird / Shelly Gruman
<b>Proclaimer</b>	Shelly Gruman
<b>Servers</b>	Myla Burkholder
<b>Ushers</b>	Ron & Pat Eisel
<b>Money Counters</b>	Joanna Marry/ Terry Kovar / Barbara Roby

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for February 22, 2026

Sunday Offertory (11 envelopes)	\$ 2,585.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 168.00
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,747.00</u></b>
Over / (Under)	\$ 1,006.00

### OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC Jar	\$ 20.00
Eastern Europe	\$ 25.00
Black/Native American	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 2,823.00</b>
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

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

Week of March 1 – March 7

**St. David of Wales** (6th c.), also called Dewi Sant by the Welsh, was a missionary priest, Celtic monk, archbishop, miracle-worker, and the founder of many monasteries in Wales and western England. He was descended from Welsh royalty, and in medieval times many believed he was the nephew of the famed King Arthur. His great leadership abilities gave him influence over many Church affairs. In the dozen monasteries he founded he established strict asceticism modeled after the early desert hermits. St. David is often depicted standing on a mound with a dove on his shoulder. According to legend, one day while preaching a dove rested on his shoulder, and the earth rose to lift him above the crowd so that all could hear him speak. During a battle with the Saxons, St. David advised the Welsh soldiers to wear leeks in their hats to distinguish themselves from their enemy; this is the origin of the leek as an emblem of Wales. St. David is one of the great saints of the 6th century whose work helped to establish Christianity in Europe. He is the patron saint of Wales, and his feast, "St. David's Day," is a popular cultural celebration. The Cathedral of St. David's in Pembrokeshire was built over his remains and became a pilgrimage destination for centuries. St. David of Wales' feast day is March 1st.

**Blessed Charles the Good** (1083–1127), also known as Charles I and the Count of Flanders, was born in Denmark, the only son of King Canute IV (St. Canute) and Adela of Flanders. He was five years old when his father was assassinated in the Odense Cathedral, after which he and his mother fled for their lives to Flanders. He grew up in the royal court in that country and accompanied his maternal grandfather, a Count, on a crusade to the Holy Land. After his grandfather's death, Blessed Charles became an advisor to the next Count, his uncle; after his uncle's death, Charles became Count. He was highly regarded by the people for his holiness and virtue. He was outspoken against the common practice of hoarding grain and selling it at inflated prices, and opposed the prominent Erembald family who gained their financial prosperity through this unjust practice. On March 2, 1127, while Charles was in church praying, he was slain by soldiers loyal to the Erembald family, in the same manner his father was killed. His death sparked a public outcry and uprising against the Erembald family, while Charles was immediately looked upon as a martyr and saint. His feast day is March 2nd.

**St. Katharine Drexel** (1858-1955) was a wealthy heiress from a prominent family in Philadelphia. From a young age she felt called to serve the spiritual and temporal needs of the underprivileged, particularly the African American and Native American communities. She learned the virtue of charity from her parents, who often opened their home to the poor. She began by donating money, but quickly realized this would not bring the lasting change these communities desperately needed. During an audience with Pope Leo XIII she requested that a religious order be sent to manage the institutions she was funding. In response, the Pope suggested that she herself enter the religious life for this purpose. St. Katharine then founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People. From the age of 33 until her death in 1955, Katharine invested her personal fortune of 20 million dollars in this cause. She helped build the first missions school for Native Americans in Santa Fe, and founded Xavier University in New Orleans. At the time of her death, more than 500 sisters of her order taught in over 60 schools which had been founded throughout the country. Katharine Drexel was canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in the year 2000, making her the second American-born saint. Her feast day is March 3rd.

**St. Casimir of Poland** (1458-1484) was the second son of King Casimir IV and Queen Elizabeth of Austria, one of thirteen children born to them in the royal palace at Cracow. Casimir committed his life to God from an early age, thanks in part to a brilliant and pious priest who served as the royal tutor. He turned away from the privileges of his station in life and instead exercised extreme asceticism and self-denial. He wore a hairshirt under his clothes, slept on the cold ground, and knelt in prayer for long hours outside of locked churches. At the age of thirteen the Hungarians requested Prince Casimir to rule their country as king, which he accepted in the hope of defending the Christian nation against the Turks. However, the plan did not come to fruition and he returned home to continue his life of prayer, penance, and generosity to the poor. He later ruled Poland for a few short years while his father attended royal business in Lithuania. Casimir took a vow of celibacy which he upheld despite immense political pressure to marry. He suffered from a chronic lung condition, which he succumbed to in 1484 at the age of 25. Many miracles were attributed to his intercession after his death. St. Casimir is the patron saint of Poland, Lithuania, and young people. His feast day is March 4th.

**St. John-Joseph of the Cross** (1654-1739) was born on the island of Ischia, near Naples. He joined the Franciscan Order of the Strict Observance (the reform of St. Peter of Alcantara) at age sixteen. His influence was great despite his young age, and after three years he was sent to help found a new order of friars in Piedmont, where he was ordained to the priesthood. He codified a set of guidelines for spiritual and daily life that were approved by the Holy See and became a lasting model for religious communities. In 1702 he was appointed Vicar Provincial of the Alcantarine Reform in Italy. During his time as Vicar he implemented a rule that no beggar would be turned away without assistance, and in times of extreme scarcity he would offer his own portion to the poor. He was known as a deeply holy man who served Christ and the monastic community through daily acts of mortification and humility. Despite his high ranking position, he continued to lead a life of service and took on menial tasks whenever possible, from working in the kitchen to chopping firewood. He was said to have performed numerous miracles as well as the gift of prophecy. St. John-Joseph of the Cross is the patron saint of Ischia and his feast day is March 5th.

**St. Colette** (1381-1447) was born in Picardy, France, the daughter of a poor carpenter who served the local Benedictine abbey. Her parents conceived her in their old age after praying to St. Nicholas for a child, naming Colette after him. She became well known for her faith and spiritual wisdom from a young age. After the death of her parents she joined the Third Order of St. Francis and became a hermit. She led a life of asceticism and solitude until a dream revealed that God willed her to reform the Poor Clares. She obeyed and joined the Poor Clares in 1406. Her mission of reformation was sanctioned by Benedict XIII of Avignon (the anti-pope) who appointed her superior of each of the convents she reformed. Despite resistance from within the Poor Clares, she successfully reformed several existing convents and founded 17 new ones dedicated to a stricter observance of the Poor Clares, known as the Colettines. She experienced visions and ecstasies of Christ's Passion, and even prophesied her own death. Through her life's work, St. Colette's reformation breathed new life into the Poor Clares and created a lasting model of spirituality. St. Colette's feast day is March 6th.

**St. Perpetua and St. Felicity** (d. 203 A.D.) were friends who lived in Carthage, North Africa. They were both catechumens preparing to receive the Church's sacraments: Perpetua was a married noblewoman nursing her first child, and Felicity was a pregnant Christian slave who worked as a household servant. Because Christianity was forbidden, they were seized along with two companions, one of them being their catechist. Perpetua's baptism was hastened after her arrest, and God told her to pray for strength to withstand her coming trials. While in prison she kept a detailed diary of her sufferings and mystical visions, one of the oldest and most treasured of early Christian writings. Her father, a pagan, pleaded with her to deny her faith, even bringing her infant, for whom she was anxious, to the prison in order to persuade her to apostatize. She refused. Felicity also remained steadfast in her faith, giving birth to a daughter while in prison a few days before her execution. Perpetua, Felicity, and their companions were condemned to be torn by wild animals in the arena. Perpetua understood that their contest was not with animals, but with the devil. She walked into the arena and met her fate with a joy and bravery that astonished many onlookers. Perpetua, Felicity, and their companions were mauled and then beheaded on March 7, 203. St. Perpetua and St. Felicity share a feast day on March 7th.



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

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her...if she'd encourage you to reach out to someone who is struggling and ask how you can help.”

**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.*

November 1, 1984 – “Dear children! Today I call you to the renewal of prayer in your homes. The work in the fields is over. Now devote yourselves to prayer. Let prayer take the first place in your families. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

**February 25, 2026 – MESSAGE TO MARIJA**

“Dear children, In this time of grace, anew, I am calling you to offer your lives to God that He may lead you towards the resurrection through your personal conversion. Little children, God is near to you and heeds your prayers, but you are lulled to sleep, and that is why He sent me to you to awaken you, and that you may shine holiness like a spring flower. Thank you for having responded to my call.” (With ecclesiastical approval)

**The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen - with an introduction by  
Matthew Kelly**

“The lover of God never knows the words “too much.” Those who accuse others of loving God or religion too much really do not love God at all, nor do they know the meaning of love.”

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

---Faith Formation after Mass  
Mar. 1, Mar. 15, Mar. 29

---Adult Lenten series Mar. 8 &  
Mar. 22 after Mass

---Stations of the Cross –  
Mar. 4 & Mar. 26 7 p.m.

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

**TRANSFIGURE** – to change in  
outward form or appearance;  
transform change, or alter

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone  
like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

**Matthew 17:2**