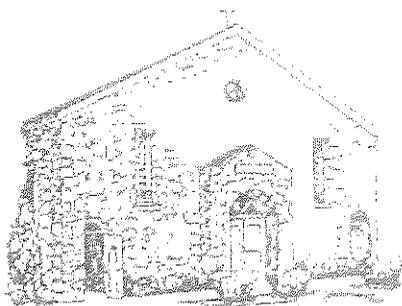


Catholic Communities

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

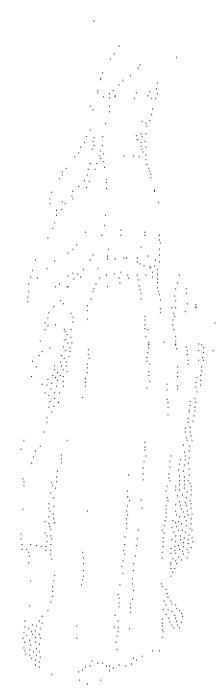
Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.

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 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.

Offering Envelopes

Please fill out a form on the back tables if you are not receiving offering envelopes.

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

March 22, 2026 – 5th Sunday of Lent

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

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday, April 3, 2026. Our Lady of Mercy has supplied Divine Mercy Explained booklets by Father Michael Gaitley. Please pick up a booklet on the back tables. This booklet explains the message of Divine Mercy and preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday (which is celebrated the Sunday after Easter). It also includes the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Divine Mercy Novena and St. Faustina's Litany of Divine Mercy.

2026 ADULT LENTEN STUDY

The third section of the adult Lenten study will be today after Mass.

AREA LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Wauseon, St. Caspar's Wednesday, March 25, 2026
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Councils will meet on Thursday, March 26, 2026.

Finance – 5:45 p.m.

Pastoral – 6:15 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation class March 29, 2026 ,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.

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

MORNING PRAYER

Deacon Larry Zachrich will be leading a morning prayer on Saturday, April 4, 2026 at 9 a.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. 22 – Fayette Opera House
Glasgow Reed Organ Concert –
12:30 p.m.

Apr. 11 – Camp Palmer Chicken
BBQ - \$15 pre-order by March 30.
See bulletin board for flyer with
additional information

Apr. 15 – Fayette Community Meal
– Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5
p.m. – 6p.m. (Our Lady of Mercy is
hosting this meal)

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Mar. 22	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	For the People Dick & Susie Saaf
Mon., Mar. 23		NO MASS	
Tues., Mar. 24	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Mar. 25	7:10 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Mar. 26	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., Mar. 27	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Mar. 28	4:30 p.m.	SP	Dick Roth
Sun., Mar. 29 Palm Sunday	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	Giovanni Stella For the People

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

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

Shirley Taylor

Denise Miller

World Peace

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 – March 29, 2026

Greeters / Gifts	Mike Maginn family
Proclaimer	Angie Beuregard/Deacon Larry
Servers	Myla Burkholder / Will Maginn
Ushers	Angie Beauregard / Terry Kovar
Money Counters	Phil Baker/Eli Eberly/Joanne Marry

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for March 15, 2026

Sunday Offertory (11 envelopes)	\$ 481.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 254.00
BUDGET	<u>\$ 1,747.00</u>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 1,012.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC Jar	\$ 20.00
Catholic Relief Svc.	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 805.00
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of March 22 – March 28

St. Nicholas Owen (d.1606) was born in England, the son of an Oxford carpenter. He became a carpenter himself, and joined the Jesuits as a lay brother during the era when Catholicism was outlawed in England. After serving jail time for defending the martyred St. Edmund Campion, Nicholas began working for and traveling with the Jesuits, staying in Catholic houses where he made repairs during the day and secretly constructed well-disguised 'priest-holes', or hiding places for hunted priests, during the night. He was so skilled at his craft that his priest holes saved hundreds of lives over his 20 years of work. While on a trip to London with a Jesuit priest they were betrayed by a household servant, captured, and tortured. After Nicholas' release he masterminded the priest's escape from the Tower of London. Years later, after the Gunpowder Plot of 1605, Nicholas was again a wanted man. He hid along with a priest in one of his priest holes, and although 100 men searched for them diligently, they were not discovered. After eight days of hiding without food, Nicholas left the hole disguised as a priest in order to protect the real priest who was still concealed. He was captured and tortured on the rack in the Tower of London. Day after day he refused to give up any information about the underground Catholic Church in England. He died a martyr after his entrails burst open. St. Nicholas Owen is one of the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales. Father John Gerard wrote of him: "I verily think no man can be said to have done more good of all those who laboured in the English vineyard. He was the immediate occasion of saving the lives of many hundreds of persons, both ecclesiastical and secular." His feast day is March 22.

St. Rafqa / Rafka (Arabic for Rebecca) (1832–1914) was born in Himlaya, a Maronite village in the Lebanese mountains. She was an only child, and her mother died when she was seven. After her father's remarriage there was much family discord as to whom Rafqa should marry. Not wanting to wed any of the men in question, she turned to God and entered religious life at the age of 21. She had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary which she learned from her mother. She studied and served as a teacher for many years, but, after witnessing and surviving a massacre of Christians, she decided at the age of 39 to become a cloistered contemplative nun living under a strict rule in a monastery. Here, Rafqa prayed earnestly that she might share in the sufferings of Christ. Her prayers were heard almost immediately. She became blind and paralyzed, and over the course of 30 years she struggled with deteriorating health and incredible pain. All of her sufferings she united to the sufferings of Christ without complaint. Under obedience to her superior she worked on an autobiography near the end of her life. She died at the age of 82, and her grave is credited with many miracles. St. Rafqa is a Catholic Maronite saint canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2001. She is the patron of sick people, bodily ills, and loss of parents. Her feast day is March 23rd.

St. Catherine of Sweden (1331-1381) was the fourth of eight children born to St. Bridget of Sweden and her husband, Ulfo. As a child she was sent by her parents to be educated in a convent, and was later given in marriage to a German nobleman. Catherine was able to persuade her husband, a virtuous young man, to live together in a mutual vow of perpetual chastity. They lived happily together in complete devotion to God. After the death of her father, and with her husband's consent, Catherine accompanied her mother to Rome. While there, Catherine's husband died. She continued to be a companion to her mother and rejected further offers of marriage. Her mother worked to establish a new religious order, called the Order of the Holy Savior, or the Bridgettines. After her mother's death, Catherine took her body back to Sweden for burial while continuing the work of establishing the Bridgettines. She later traveled back to Rome to advocate for her mother's canonization and for Pope Urban VI to ratify her Order. While in Rome she became great friends with St. Catherine of Siena. St. Catherine of Sweden finally returned to Sweden and became abbess of the newly founded Bridgettines, living the rest of her days as a model of prayer and penance. St. Catherine of Sweden is the patron saint against abortions and miscarriages. Her feast day is March 24th.

St. Dismas (1st c.) is the name Church tradition has given to the "Good Thief," one of the two criminals who were crucified alongside Jesus Christ on Good Friday. All we know about St. Dismas is what is mentioned of him in the Gospels: "Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.' The other [St. Dismas] however, rebuking him, said in reply, 'Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal.'" Then St. Dismas, as an expression of his faith in Christ as the Messiah, said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied to St. Dismas, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:39-42). The feast day of St. Dismas is March 25.

St. Margaret Clitherow (1556-1586), also called Margaret of York, lived in York, England, the daughter of a candlemaker and wife of a wealthy Protestant butcher. She was raised Anglican just after the time that King Henry VIII severed the Church of England from communion with the Roman Catholic Church. A few years after her marriage, at the age of 18, she converted to the Catholic Church due to the work of covert missionary Catholic priests. While her husband remained Protestant, she aided persecuted Catholics by sheltering priests (which included her brother-in-law) and having Mass and Confessions said in her home, which became a safe house and hiding place for priests. Margaret witnessed the torturous death of many of the priests she aided, and she would publicly pray on the spot of their martyrdom. Undaunted in her work, she was imprisoned numerous times. On her final arrest she was charged for harboring Catholic priests and was condemned to a public execution by being crushed to death, a martyrdom of which she considered herself unworthy. All three of her children entered the religious life, two priests and a nun. St. Margaret Clitherow, the "Pearl of York," is the patron saint of martyrs, businesswomen, and converts. Her feast day is March 26th.

St. John of Egypt (4th c.), also known as John the Hermit or John the Anchorite, worked alongside his father, a carpenter, until he was twenty-five years old. He then discerned a call from God to go out into the desert and become a hermit. He spent sixteen years in spiritual training under the care of a religious superior who commanded him to perform difficult and unreasonable tasks, which John obeyed with childlike simplicity. After this time of spiritual training he withdrew into greater solitude in a small cell at the top of a cliff, praying incessantly and avoiding contact with people for the last fifty years of his life. He had the gift of prophecy and could perform miracles, and foretold to Emperor Theodosius his future victories as well as the time of his death. People traveled from afar for his counsel or blessings, and to hear him preach. He would receive visitors two days a week from a tiny window in his cell. He became so famous for his holiness that St. Augustine wrote of him, making reference to the devils who came to tempt John continually. St. John of Egypt's feast day is March 27th.

St. Conon of Naso (1139–1236) was a wealthy nobleman, the son of a Count, from Naso, Italy. He was a devout young man, and at the age of 15 become a monk. He lived as a hermit until being called to serve the local monastery as its abbot. Upon the death of his parents he distributed his inheritance to the poor. While on pilgrimage to Jerusalem he had a vision of a priest he knew being choked by a snake. Conon raced to the priest to warn him of the danger. The priest's heart was convicted by the truth of the vision and confessed that he was hoarding money and neglecting the poor. Under Conon's direction the priest gave his excessive savings to the poor and recommitted his life to serving others. After his death, Conon was hailed as a miracle worker. The city of Naso experienced a series of terrible storms which destroyed crops and disrupted the shipping trade, and the city ran out of grain and other food supplies. When the famine became severe, St. Conon appeared in a vision to a ship captain who was preparing to transport a load of grain. Conon told the captain to change course and take the grain to Naso. The captain obeyed the vision and arrived in Naso with food to relieve the famine. St. Conon's feast day is March 28th.

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...to help you shower love and appreciation on those who have been given the responsibility to lead and guide you in your faith.”

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.

November 22, 1984 – “Dear children! These days live all the main messages and keep rooting them in your hearts till Thursday. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

The Apparitions in the Chapel (Opposite the Sacristy)

(Jan. – Feb. 1982 To Apr. 11, 1985)

The apparitions since July 1981, often taking place in the church where they occurred spontaneously toward the end of the Rosary, are transferred to the room serving as a storeroom. It is opposite the sacristy, and provided privacy for the curiosity of the pilgrims, and every provocation on part of the police. This room was cleaned and decorated. Subsequently, it has since been called, chapel of the apparitions. Before the end of February this transfer was a definitive, except for rare occasions.

January 14, 1982 – “After the prayers, the songs and the questions, Our Lady reprimanded two visionaries because of their behavior, and recommended to them not to behave in this manner again. In case of observation, the other visionaries did not understand what Our Lady told those she reprimanded, and observed only her expression and guessed what it was all about. Those whom she reprimanded say that at that moment, she was gentle and attentive in respect for them.”

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

“Truth never appeals to us unless it is personal.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Faith Formation after Mass
Mar. 29, Apr. 12, & Apr. 26
(last class)

---Adult Lenten series Mar. 22
after Mass

---Council meetings Mar. 26
Finance – 5:45 p.m.
Pastoral – 6:15 p.m.

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

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

BELIEVE – to have confidence;
trust; rely through faith

Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

John 11:25-26