

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.

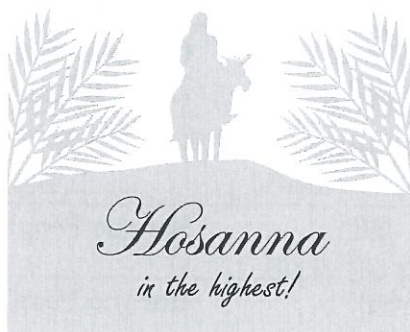
Email: olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

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 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday – Holy Week

Palm Sunday



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. Please pick up your booklet of Divine Mercy Explained by Father Michael Gaitley, which includes the Novena.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation class today after Mass.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

See insert in this bulletin for the Holy Week schedule with times, locations and liturgical schedule.

APRIL CALENDAR

Pick up April's Our Lady of Mercy calendar on the back tables.

APRIL'S FAYETTE COMMUNITY MEAL

Our Lady of Mercy is providing the Fayette Community Meal on April 15. We need of poke cakes for desserts. If you are interested in supplying a cake, please see Sherry Renner.

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

HOLY SATURDAY 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

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. 29 | 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | OLOM SP | Giovanni Stella For the People |
| Mon., Mar. 30 | | NO MASS | |
| Tues., Mar. 31 | 6:30 p.m. | SP | For the People |
| Wed., Apr. 1 | 7:10 a.m. | SP | For the People |
| Thurs., Apr. 2 Holy Thursday | 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. | NO MASS SP | For the People |
| Fri., Apr. 3 Good Friday | 12:15 p.m. 3:00 p.m. | SP OLOM | |
| Sat., Apr. 4 Easter Vigil | 8:30 p.m. | SP | For the People |
| Sun., Apr. 5 Easter Hallelujah! He is Risen! | 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | OLOM SP | Giovanni Stella 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

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 – April 5, 2026

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Greeters / Gifts | Mike Maginn family |
| Proclaimer | Angie Beuregard |
| Servers | Myla Burkholder / Will Maginn |
| Ushers | Phil & Tami Baker |
| Money Counters | Phil Baker/Barb Bruggeman/Barbara Roby |

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for March 22, 2026

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday Offertory (14 envelopes) | \$ 911.00 |
| Loose Offerings | \$ 175.00 |
| BUDGET | <u>\$ 1,747.00</u> |
| Over / (Under) | (\$ 661.00) |

OTHER COLLECTIONS

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Maintenance | \$ 100.00 |
| Postage Help | \$ 10.00 |
| Altar Rosary | \$ 20.00 |
| Flowers | \$ 20.00 |
| Easter Flowers | <u>\$ 330.00</u> |
| TOTAL COLLECTIONS | \$ 1,566.00 |
| (Sunday Offertory, & Other) | |

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026 – 7 p.m. – at St. Peter

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 – 12:15 p.m. - St. Peter
3 p.m. - Our Lady of Mercy

Easter Vigil, April 4, 2026 – 8:30 p.m. – St. Peter

Easter, April 5, 2026 – 8:30 a.m. – Our Lady of Mercy
10:30 a.m. – St. Peter

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026 (St. Peter)
Mary Bird

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 (Our Lady of Mercy)
Proclaimers - Pat Eisel / Deacon Larry
Servers – Will Maginn
Ushers – Ron & Pat Eisel



What we remember every day of **Holy Week**

Palm Sunday

Triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

Holy Tuesday

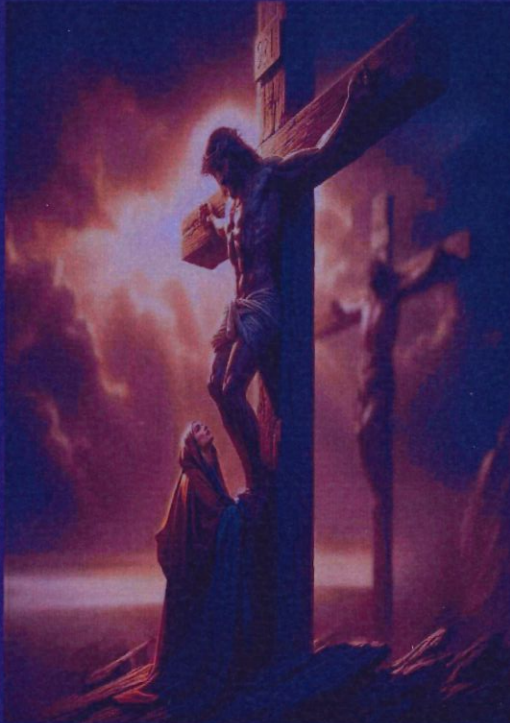
Jesus announces the betrayal of one of the 12 and Peter's denial.

Holy Thursday

Last Supper: Jesus institutes the Eucharist and the Priesthood.

Holy Saturday

Jesus descends into hell and triumphs over death. We celebrate the Easter Vigil.



Holy Monday

Judas rebukes Mary of Bethany for anointing Jesus' feet.

Holy Wednesday

Jesus confirms Judas' betrayal.

Good Friday

Passion and Death of Jesus.

Easter Sunday

He is truly risen.

HALLELUJAH!

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of March 29 – April 4

St. Berthold of Mt. Carmel (d. 1195), also known as Bartoldus of Calabria, was born in France, the son of a Count. He excelled at his studies and was ordained a priest. Berthold's brother, Aymeric, became the Latin patriarch of Antioch. The two joined together to participate in a Crusade to the Holy Land. While in the Holy Land, Berthold traveled to Mount Carmel and built a monastery and church dedicated to the Prophet Elijah. He gathered together a number of hermits scattered throughout Palestine to live together in imitation of the life of the great prophet as recorded in the Old Testament. Berthold became the group's superior and stayed with the community at Mount Carmel for 45 years until his death in 1195. It was the life and work of St. Berthold that laid the foundation for the Carmelite Order, whose rule was approved by Pope Honorius III in 1226. St. Berthold's feast day is March 29.

St. Fergus of Scotland (d. 730 A.D.), also known as St. Fergustian or Fergus the Pict, Bishop of the Gaels, was a bishop serving in the north of Scotland. Little is known of his life. He is believed to have been trained as a bishop in Ireland, ministering there for many years before traveling as a missionary to Scotland. He went throughout the Scottish countryside preaching the Gospel, setting up churches dedicated to St. Patrick of Ireland, and working to convert the pagan people to Christianity. He also traveled to St. Peter's Basilica to participate in the Council of Rome in 721 A.D. He died around the year 730 A.D. and is buried in Glamis, Angus, in Scotland. Nearby is St. Fergus' Well. The site is believed to be where St. Fergus presided over religious services before the first church of Glamis was built. His feast day is March 30th.

St. Benjamin (d. 424 A.D.) was a deacon martyred in Persia during a forty-year-long Christian persecution under two tyrannical Persian kings. He was imprisoned for a year due to his Christian faith and then released with the help of the Eastern Roman Emperor Theodosius II. As a condition of his release he was ordered to no longer publicly proclaim his faith. Benjamin declared that it was his duty to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and he refused to be silenced. He continued preaching Christ crucified, and, when word reached the king, he was arrested again. In response, Benjamin asked the king what opinion he would have of any of his subjects if they were to renounce their allegiance to the king and join in war against him; in the same way Benjamin could not renounce his allegiance to Christ. This comment enraged the king, and he ordered Benjamin to endure cruel tortures. Sharpened reeds were repeatedly jammed underneath his fingernails, toenails, and other tender parts of the body. He died when a knotted stake was jammed into his bowels. St. Benjamin's feast day is celebrated on March 31st.

Bl. Anacleto Gonzalez Flores (1888–1927) was the second of twelve children born to a poor family in Jalisco, Mexico. He was baptized the day after his birth. As he grew, a priest recognized his intelligence and recommended that he enter the seminary. Anacleto studied there for a time before discerning that he was not called to the priesthood. Instead he became an attorney, husband, and father, as well as an activist for his Catholic faith. He was a prolific writer and dedicated catechism teacher, and attended daily Mass. He joined the Catholic Association of Young Mexicans (ACJM) in addition to starting another Catholic lay organization committed to resisting the fierce persecution of the Catholic Church under the infamous Mexican dictator, Calles. Initially he participated only in the non-violent resistance against Calles, until four members of the ACJM were murdered in 1926. Their deaths spurred Anacleto to lend support to the armed resistance movement. Anacleto did not take up arms but instead gave speeches to encourage Catholics to support the Cristeros, the Catholic army fighting against Calles. Anacleto was captured during the Cristero War on April 1, 1927, and was brutally tortured before being martyred by firing squad. His feast day is April 1st.

St. Francis of Paola (1416-1507) was born in Calabria, Italy, to a husband and wife known for their holiness. After suffering childlessness for many years, his parents had recourse to prayer, especially the intercession of St. Francis of Assisi. They eventually had three children, and the eldest, Francis, was named after St. Francis in thanksgiving for his birth. Francis of Paola grew in sanctity, and after having a vision of St. Francis he spent a year in a Franciscan convent to fulfill a vow his parents had made to the saint. After his time there, he returned to his parents and accompanied them on a pilgrimage to Assisi. Upon returning home, Francis retired to a private spot on his parents' estate to live as a hermit. He later moved his dwelling to a lonely cave by the seashore, living there in prayer, solitude, and mortification for six years. Disciples gradually came to him to imitate his manner of life, so many that St. Francis of Paola, with the permission of his bishop, built a monastery and church to accommodate them. He later obtained permission from the Holy See to found a new religious order called the Minims, or "The Least," as they were to live hidden lives of poverty, abstinence, and humility. St. Francis of Paola became famous and was sought out by others for his prophecies and miracles. He spent the last three months of his life in solitude in preparation for his death. On Good Friday, after receiving Last Rites, he died while the Passion of Christ was read to him aloud. His feast day is April 2.

St. Richard of Chichester (1197-1253), also known as St. Richard de Wyche, was born in Worcestershire, England to a land-owning squire. His father died when he was young, causing the family to suffer hardship for many years. The situation became dire enough for Richard to suspend his studies to take over the family estates and make them profitable again. He went on to Oxford to study for the priesthood, and was so poor that he and two companions shared a set of clothes which they took turns wearing to class. He obtained degrees at the universities in Paris and Bologna before being appointed as the Chancellor of Oxford University. Richard became well-known for his learning and sanctity. As a result he next became Chancellor for the Archbishop of Canterbury, St. Edmund Rich, to whom he was a faithful companion and advisor. Years later St. Richard was ordained the Bishop of Chichester. In this position he entered into power struggles with King Henry III, who withheld his diocesan revenues and blocked his access to the cathedral. St. Richard had many accomplishments as bishop, including establishing greater order and reverence to the liturgy, vigorously defending the rights of the Church, assisting the poor and the oppressed, and preaching a crusade against the Saracens at the request of the Pope. He died of fever surrounded by his closest friends at about 56 years of age. He was buried in the Chichester Cathedral and his shrine became a popular place of pilgrimage before being destroyed by King Henry VIII. St. Richard's feast day is April 3rd.

St. Isidore of Seville (560 – 636 A.D.) was born in Carthage, Spain, to noble and pious parents. After the example of their parents, he, as well as his two brothers and sister, all became saints. Isidore received his early education at the cathedral school in Seville where a group of learned men taught classical education, among them was his brother Leander, the Archbishop of Seville. The cathedral school was the first of its kind in the country and Isidore excelled in his studies there. He became a man of great learning, zeal, piety, and apostolic endeavor, assisting his brother in converting the Visigoths from the Arian heresy. He followed his brother in becoming next Archbishop of Seville, leading his diocese for nearly 40 years. Isidore was an important saint for his time. He was one of the most learned men of the 6th century and is considered the last of the early Church Fathers. He was a prolific writer on the sciences and the classics which in effect helped preserve western civilization during the early middle ages following the barbarian invasions. He composed history books, a dictionary with a structure akin to a database, and an encyclopedia which was used for nine centuries. St. Isidore reunited Spain after the barbarian onslaught, making it a center of culture and learning. He required seminaries to be built in every diocese, wrote a rule for religious orders, and founded schools that taught every branch of learning. Spain then became a model for similar renewal in other European countries. For his great learning and written works he was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XIV. St. Isidore of Seville is the patron of computers, schoolchildren, and the internet. His feast day is April 4th.

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...to remember you that your life is not measured by the words you speak, but rather by the deeds that glorify God.”

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 29, 1984 – “Dear children! No, you don’t know how to love and you don’t know how to listen with love to the words I am saying to you. Be conscious, my beloved, that I am your Mother and I have come on earth to teach you to listen out of love, to pray out of love and not compelled by the fact that you are carrying a cross. By means of the cross God is glorified through every person. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

March 25, 2026 – MESSAGE TO MARIJA

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

“Deferred joys purchased by sacrifice are always sweetest and most enduring.”

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

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

---Adult Lenten series Apr. 19
after Mass

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

EXALT – to elevate in rank, honor,
power, character, quality

Because of this, God exalted him
Philippians 2:9