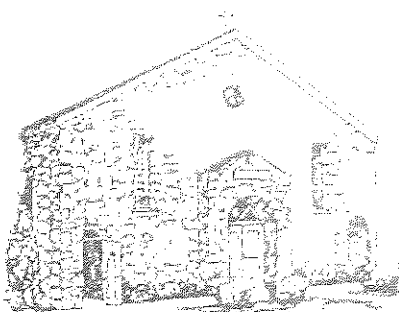


# Catholic Communities

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@rtexpress.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.

### 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](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



## ***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., Apr. 19	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Giovanni Stella Frank Grime Susie Saaf
	10:30 a.m.	SP	For the People
Mon., Apr. 20	NO MASS		
Tues., Apr. 21	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Apr. 22	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Apr. 23	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., Apr. 24	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Apr. 25	4:30 p.m.	SP	Grace New
Sun., Apr. 26	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Eddie Tidwell
	10:30 a.m.	SP	For the People

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

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

Shirley Taylor  
Denise Miller

Linda Tilley  
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](mailto:olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com) before noon on Tuesday.

## NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – April 26, 2026

<b>Greeters / Gifts</b>	Mary Bird / Marge Crowell
<b>Proclaimer</b>	Mary Bird
<b>Servers</b>	Myla Burkholder / Kennedy Kunkle
<b>Ushers</b>	Ron & Pat Eisel
<b>Money Counters</b>	Eli Eberly / Michelle Miron / Cindi Siegel

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for April 19, 2026

Sunday Offertory (15 envelopes)	\$ 1,016.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 255.81
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,747.00</u></b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 475.19)

### OTHER COLLECTIONS

Maintenance	\$ 100.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 5.00
Easter	\$ 50.00
CPC Jar & Votives	<u>\$ 29.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1455.81</b>
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

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

Week of April 19 – April 25

**St. Timon** (1st c.) is mentioned by name in the Acts of the Apostles. He belonged to the group of seventy disciples who followed Jesus during his earthly ministry. After Jesus' ascension into heaven, St. Timon was one of the original seven deacons, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, chosen by the Apostles to help with the work of ministering to the growing Christian community. Timon was later ordained a bishop by the Apostles. He baptized many Greeks and Jews into the Christian faith. He also had the supernatural ability to heal the sick and to cast out devils. St. Timon suffered martyrdom for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to tradition he was thrown into a furnace, but by the power of God he came out of it unharmed, and later died by crucifixion. His feast day is April 19.

**St. Agnes of Montepulciano** (1268–1317) was born into a noble family in Tuscany. Her birth was announced with strange lights surrounding her dwelling, considered a sign that she was a favored child. At nine years of age she requested to enter the local Franciscan monastery in Montepulciano. Although doing so at her young age was against Church law, she obtained special permission from the pope. She became a model nun, reached a high degree of contemplative prayer, and executed her duties so well that she was chosen to help found and lead a new monastery in Proceno when she was just 15 years old, again with special permission at her young age. She lived there for 20 years and became known as a great mystic and visionary while cultivating a special devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. She became locally famous for her miracles as well as for her austerities. She lived on bread and water, slept on the ground, and used a stone for a pillow. Eventually, Agnes returned to Montepulciano. By request she founded and led an even larger monastery, this time receiving a vision that it should be a convent of Dominican nuns dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Through her prayers she cured the sick, multiplied food, and raised to life a child who had drowned. Her feast day is April 20.

**St. Anselm** (1033–1109) was born into a noble family in the Lombardy region of Italy. The example of his pious mother led him to great faith, and he sought to enter the monastery at age 15. However, the abbot refused him due to Anselm's stern father. After his mother's death Anselm left home and settled in Normandy to study under the direction of a famed monk named Lanfranc. Upon the death of his father, Anselm became a Benedictine monk at the age of 27. Due to his brilliance, Anselm became a teacher at the abbey's school and prior of the monastery. He went on to become the most learned theologian, philosopher, and mystic of his generation, the greatest since St. Augustine of Hippo. Anselm's fame led to his appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury in England, succeeding Lanfranc in this office, where he went on to correct abuses against the Church at the hand of the English kings. Twice he was banished from the island while appealing to Rome for assistance, and twice he returned to Canterbury to carry on his duties until his death. His abilities as an extraordinary theologian, negotiator, and statesman greatly supported the cause of the Church. As archbishop he continued his monastic lifestyle and intellectual pursuits. He composed several philosophical and theological treatises, as well as a series of beautiful prayers and meditations, which led him to be proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Clement XI in 1720. His feast day is celebrated on April 21st.

**Pope St. Soter** (c. 174-175 A.D.) was born in Fondi, Italy. Nothing is known of his early life. He served as the 12th bishop of Rome from c. 167 to 175 A.D. He was praised for his fatherly tenderness in comforting, both with words and generous alms, those who suffered for their Catholic faith, especially remote Christian churches living in poverty. He is said to have written an encyclical against Montanism – a heresy which maintained that a Christian who sinned gravely could never be redeemed. Pope St. Soter also declared that marriage was only a valid sacrament when blessed by a priest. The manner of Pope St. Soter's death is uncertain; one tradition holds that he was martyred on April 22, 175 A.D., under the Christian persecution of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. He was buried in Rome on the Appian Way in the catacombs of St. Callixtus. His feast day is April 22nd.

**St. George** (d. 303 A.D.) was born in Palestine to noble Christian parents. Like his father, he enlisted as a soldier in the Roman army serving under Emperor Diocletian. He was renowned for his bravery and outstanding military prowess, and was a favorite of the Emperor. Many fantastical legends are ascribed to him, however, none are known to be true with any certainty. The most famous legend is St. George and the Dragon, where St. George, after making the Sign of the Cross, saved a king's daughter from being devoured by a man-eating dragon. St. George killed the elusive dragon, and by this feat persuaded many souls to accept baptism. He also admonished the king, in gratitude for his princess being saved by Christ's power, to support the cause of the Church. What is known with certainty is that St. George, after confessing and refusing to renounce his faith in Christ, was martyred in Palestine during the Christian persecution of Diocletian. He became a highly venerated saint in antiquity, and many early churches were dedicated in his honor. St. George is the patron of many causes and countries, including soldiers, knights, chivalry, horsemen, farmers, Canada, England, and Germany, to name a few. His feast day is April 23.

**St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen** (1577-1622) was born with the name Mark Rey in what is today Germany. He studied and taught law and became known for his charity, austerities, and great devotion to God. He gained a reputation for being "the poor man's lawyer" because of his concern for the helpless. He eventually left his profession to become a Capuchin Franciscan friar and priest, taking the religious name "Fidelis," meaning "faithful." His work as a friar was fraught with danger. He lived during the Counter-Reformation, a time of great religious, cultural, and political upheaval in Western Europe. He zealously defended the teaching of the Catholic Church against the Protestant heretics. He wrote many pamphlets against Calvinism and Zwinglianism, and even traveled to Switzerland to preach against the Calvinists both in the pulpits and the public square. His untiring efforts to bring souls back to the Church was so successful that he became a threat to the heretic preachers. One day his preaching provoked a mob that confronted him and demanded he renounce his Catholic faith upon pain of death. He replied, "I came to extirpate heresy, not to embrace it," after which he was bludgeoned to death. Many miracles led to his canonization in the following century. St. Fidelis' feast day is April 24.

**St. Mark the Evangelist** (1st c.) was born to Jewish parents living in Libya in North Africa, later settling in Cana of Galilee not far from Jerusalem. Mark became one of the 70 disciples of Jesus and the author of the Gospel that bears his name. According to tradition, St. Peter the Apostle was married to a relative of St. Mark's father, and after Mark's father died, Peter looked after him like his own son. Being a close disciple of St. Peter, the first Bishop of Rome, Mark's Gospel is addressed to Gentile converts to the Christian faith living in Rome. Most of what we know about his life and missionary activity is recorded in the New Testament. He traveled to Egypt and founded the Church there, and was martyred c. 68 A.D. by being dragged through the streets of Alexandria until his body was torn to pieces. St. Mark is the patron of lawyers and prisoners. His feast day is April 25.

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

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her...to keep you on the path to salvation.”

**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.*

December 13, 1984 – “Dear children! You know that the season of joy is getting closer, but without love you will achieve nothing. So first of all, begin to love your own family, everyone in the parish, and then you'll be able to love and accept all who are coming over here. Now let these seven days be a week when you need to learn to love. 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 20, 1982 – “Must the children from Lzbicno meet us tomorrow? They say that you told them that you told them of this meeting. “It is not necessary for you to meet them. They want to transfer Fr. Tomislav from here. What must he do? “If it is in God's design, that he depart, as has been the case with Fr. Jozo, have him abandon himself to the will of God. He must think very much, and you must pray for him..”

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

“As the desire for the world and things increases in us, God makes less and less appeal. We hold back, our fists closed about a few pennies, and thus lose the fortune He holds out to us. That is why the initial step of coming to God is so hard. We cling to our nursery toys and lose the pearl of great price.”

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

---Adult Lenten series Apr. 19  
after Mass

---Faith Formation after Mass  
Apr. 26 (last class)

---Confirmation – April 25,  
2026 at Cathedral 10:00 a.m.

---Confirmands breakfast after  
Mass April 26

---Catholic Heart Workcamp  
breakfast May 3, 2026 after  
Mass – come support St. Peters  
youth group for their mission  
trip

---May 3, 2026 Our Lady of  
Mercy Festival organization of  
committee meeting during  
breakfast after Mass

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

**LIFE** – a corresponding state,  
existence, or principle of existence  
conceived as belonging to the soul

You will show me the path to life, abounding joy  
in your presence, the delights at your right hand.  
**Psalm 16:11**