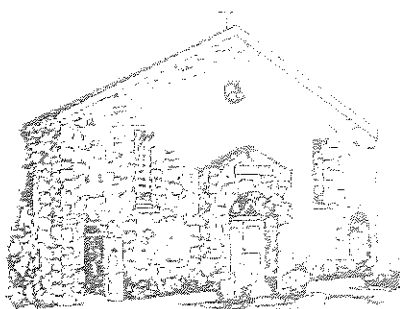


Catholic Communities

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

April 26, 2026 – 4th Sunday of Easter

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

CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

Come and celebrate Our Lady of Mercy's Confirmands, Katie, Kasen and Blake in the basement after Mass today for breakfast. All are invited.

LEADING THE FLOCK

Please pick up a copy of April's Leading the Flock from Bishop Thomas on the back tables.

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP BREAKFAST

Next Sunday May 3, 2026, St. Peter's youth group will be hosting a breakfast here at Our Lady of Mercy after Mass. The proceeds from this breakfast will help offset the cost of their Catholic Heart Workcamp mission trip.

OUR LADY OF MERCY FEAST DAY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

We will be meeting during the breakfast on May 3, 2026 after Mass for all who would like to join the committee for the Feast Day Celebration. This is to set up the committee.

MONTH OF MAY – MARY'S MONTH

The Rosary will be prayed every Thursday in the month of May at 7:00 p.m. here at Our Lady of Mercy

Diocese of Toledo Transitional Diaconate and Priesthood Ordinations

You are invited to attend two joyful celebrations in the Diocese of Toledo: On Saturday, May 16, 2026, at 10:00am at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas will ordain Evan Sekerak to the Transitional Diaconate. On Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 10:00am at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in Toledo, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas will ordain Deacon Andrew Messer to the Priesthood. The ordinations will also be live-streamed. If you cannot join us in person, watch at toledopriesthood.org. Please join us in praying for these men each day!

PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

The Diocese of Toledo remains committed to ensuring the protection of children and providing a safe environment for all young people. If you have any knowledge of abuse that has been committed by a cleric or by any personnel of the Catholic Church, you are urged to report the abuse to your local police department, Children Services, and the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (419)214-4880; or by mail at 1933 Spielbusch, Toledo, OH 43604.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

FAITH FORMATION CLOSING NIGHT

April 29, 2026, 6:30 p.m. Rosary, Mass & pizza (OLOM students are encouraged to attend)

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

May 20 – Fayette Community Meal – Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5 p.m. – 6p.m.

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Apr. 26	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	Eddie Tidwell For the People
Mon., Apr. 27		NO MASS	
Tues., Apr. 28	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Apr. 29	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Apr. 30 Comm. Svc	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., May 1 Comm. Svc.	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., May 2	4:30 p.m.	SP	Cari, Lenny & Andy Breidenbach
Sun., May 3	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	For the People Frank Grime Audrey Dominique Loman Radabaugh

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 before noon on Tuesday.

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – MAY 3, 2026

Greeters / Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Proclaimer	Shelly Gruman
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel
Money Counters	Barb Bruggeman/ Barbara Roby / Cindi Siegel

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for April 19, 2026

Sunday Offertory (15 envelopes)	\$ 721.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 150.00
BUDGET	<u>\$ 1,747.00</u>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 876.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Maintenance	\$ 5.00
CPC Jar & Votives	<u>\$ 3.00</u>
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 879.00
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of April 26 – May 2

St. Cletus (1st c.) and St. Marcellinus (3rd c.) were both Romans, popes, and martyrs who ruled the Holy See during the terrible persecution of Christians at the hands of the Roman Empire. St. Cletus was a convert and disciple of St. Peter the Apostle who became the third Bishop of Rome from 76 to 89 A.D., under the reigns of Roman Emperors Vespasian and Titus. His name appears in the Roman Canon of the Mass. St. Marcellinus was the twenty-ninth Bishop of Rome from 296 to 304 A.D. during the infamous persecution of the Roman Emperor Diocletian, on the eve of the legalization of Christianity across the Empire. Statues of these two popes of the early Church sit on opposite corners of the portico ceiling of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome. They share a feast day on April 26th.

St. Zita (d. 1271) was born into poverty in Tuscany, Italy. Her mother taught her to develop a strong prayer life, which, combined with her happy disposition, enabled her to seek God's will in all her life circumstances. At the age of twelve she became a servant for a noble Italian family. The family she served lived near a church, and Zita would rise early to attend daily Mass before beginning her duties. She saw her work as being in the service of God, which she executed with care and diligence. Because of her goodness she suffered harsh treatment and even physical abuse at the hands of both her employers and the other servants. From her patient endurance of such mistreatment, Zita's humility and virtue became evident to all. She was eventually respected and promoted to a leadership role of managing the entire household and its servants. Throughout her life she exemplified hard work, gentleness, and a life of prayer, despite being overworked. She died at the age of 60 serving the same family, and after her death many miracles occurred through her intercession. The family contributed to the cause for her canonization. St. Zita is an incorruptible, and her relics are kept in the Basilica of St. Frediano where she attended Mass. She is the patron saint of maids, domestic servants, butlers, waiters, rape victims, lost keys, and people ridiculed for their piety. St. Zita's feast day is April 27th.

St. Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort (1673 – 1716) was born in Brittany, France, to a large farming family. As a child he displayed an unusual spiritual maturity and spent much time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. At the age of 19 he went on foot to Paris to study theology at a prestigious school with the support of a benefactor; along the way he gave his possessions to the poor and made a lifelong vow to live in poverty supported entirely on alms. He was ordained a priest at the age of 27, and at 32 discovered his calling to be an itinerant preacher, receiving the title of "Apostolic Missionary" from the Pope after his bishop tried to silence him. For the next 17 years he preached missions in countless towns and villages throughout France with an emphasis on renewal and reform. His fiery devotion, oratory skill, and identification with the poor led many souls to conversion. He was persecuted by the Jansenists, who, in their spiritual pride, poisoned him, banished him from preaching in their dioceses, and made an assassination attempt on his life. He had a profound devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and taught on the power of the Holy Rosary. He also wrote a number of classic works on Marian devotion, the most famous being True Devotion to Mary. His feast day is April 28th.

St. Catherine of Siena (1347–1380) was born in Siena, Italy, the 24th of 25 children born to a wealthy wool dyer and his wife. Catherine began having profound mystical experiences at the age of six which encouraged her in a life of virtue, extreme penance, and total consecration to God through a private vow of virginity. She became a Dominican Tertiary at the age of 16 while continuing to live in the home of her parents. She had regular mystical visits from, and conversations with, Jesus, Mary, and many of the saints. Catherine had no formal education and was illiterate, yet her theological knowledge acquired through prayer astounded learned theologians. She was especially devoted to working for the unity and spiritual health of the Church. Among her most famous accomplishments was that she persuaded the Pope to return to Rome from Avignon in 1377. She also encouraged him to call for a Crusade to the Holy Land. She was an important political figure in her day, often entering into negotiations between warring rulers through personal visits and dictated letters. Her practical wisdom and profound spiritual insight was widely sought both inside and outside the Church. St. Catherine was a great mystic and was granted the stigmata which was made visible only after her death. She died in Rome at the age of 33, offering her life to God for the sanctification of the Church, and was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1970. St. Catherine of Siena is the patron saint of Italy and Europe. Her feast day is April 29th.

Pope St. Pius V (1504–1572) was born as Antonio Ghislieri to a poor yet noble family in Bosco, Italy. He worked as a shepherd until the age of 14, after which he joined the Dominican Order and was ordained a priest at the age of 24. He taught theology and philosophy, spent long hours in prayer, and fasted regularly. Due to his great intelligence and reputation for holiness he rose to a number of prominent positions in the Church, including Inquisitor and Bishop. In 1565 he was elected Pope and took the name Pope Pius V. As Supreme Pontiff he was a great reformer and worked to implement the decisions of the Council of Trent following the Protestant revolt. He reformed the clergy, supported the foreign missions, published a catechism, revised the breviary and missal, and named St. Thomas Aquinas a Doctor of the Church. In his alliance with Venice and Spain, and with the aid of a rosary crusade among the faithful, he defeated the Ottoman Turks in the famous and decisive Battle of Lepanto in the Mediterranean sea on October 7, 1571. This miraculous victory saved Europe from being ruled by the Ottoman Empire. The Holy Father afterwards instituted the feast of Our Lady of Victory (now Our Lady of the Rosary) in thanksgiving to Our Lady for leading the Christian forces to victory, and to encourage a greater devotion to the Holy Rosary throughout the universal Church. For this he is known as the "Pope of the Rosary." His feast day is April 30th.

St. Joseph (1st c.) was born in Bethlehem in Judea and later settled in Nazareth. By Divine command he became the husband of the Virgin Mary and adoptive father to God Incarnate. We know from Scripture and Tradition that St. Joseph was a virtuous man and a carpenter by trade. It was he who was entrusted with the great mission to guard, protect, and provide for the temporal needs of God's most precious gifts, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus, in the role of husband and father within the Holy Family. St. Joseph's mission continues from heaven as the patron saint of the Catholic Church. He is also the patron of many causes including fathers, laborers, and families. His feast days are: St. Joseph the Husband of Mary on March 19th, and St. Joseph the Worker on May 1st. Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph the Worker in 1955 to emphasize the dignity, meaning, and value of human work in the eyes of God, and to give all laborers a model of virtue as well as a heavenly intercessor and protector.

St. Athanasius (296-373 A.D.) was born in Alexandria, Egypt, to noble Christian parents. He received an excellent education in theology, philosophy, rhetoric, and law, which he directed to the service of God. He made great progress in both wisdom and virtue, and made a spiritual retreat in the Egyptian desert with St. Anthony the Great. St. Athanasius became the Bishop of Alexandria and served in that role for 46 years. He tirelessly and courageously devoted most of his life to defeating the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. When the majority of his fellow bishops were Arian heretics, which threatened the integrity of the whole Church, Athanasius stood firmly and almost single-handedly against their error using his philosophical knowledge, theological wisdom, rhetorical skill, and strength of spirit. Despite having the support of several popes, he suffered great trials, scandals, and persecutions at the hands of his doctrinal enemies, and spent much of his life in exile. He was a participant in the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. and did much of the theological work which supported the condemnation of the Arian heresy and the formulation of the Nicene Creed. St. Athanasius is known as one of the greatest champions of Catholic doctrine to have ever lived, earning the title, "Father of Orthodoxy." St. Athanasius was later declared a Doctor of the Church. His feast day is celebrated on May 2nd.

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...to release her unshakable peace in you and protect you from all that chaos seeks to destroy.”

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.

December 20, 1984 – “Dear children! Today I am inviting you to do something concrete for Jesus Christ. As a sign of dedication to Jesus I want each family of the parish to bring a single flower before that day. I want every member of the family to have a single flower by the crib so Jesus can come and see your dedication to Him! 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 22, 1982 – “Is the apparition at Lzvicno coming from God or from the devil? “It is coming from God”.”

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

“Physical idleness deteriorates the mind; spiritual idleness deteriorates the heart.”

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

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

---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

---All Thursdays in May the
Rosary will be prayed @
7:00 p.m. here at Our Lady of
Mercy

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

---May 14 Council meetings
5:45 p.m. – Finance
6:15 p.m. – Pastoral

---May 17 – Altar Rosary
Society meeting after Mass

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

GATE – any narrow means of
access or entrance

I am the gate.
John 10:9