

Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

St. Peter Catholic Church

Sunday
July 19, 2026
16th Sunday Ordinary Time



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

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

July 19, 2026 – 16th Sunday Ordinary Time

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

UPDATE - AUGUST OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

If you have received offertory envelopes for August you may have noticed the dates only run August 1 – 16. Kim Garrow did contact the company, and they informed her that we will receive the rest of August combined with September, and October later. The shipment after that will contain the rest of October combined through the end of the year. Thank you for patience.

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

The Altar Rosary will be meeting on today after Mass in the basement. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

BULL THISTLE BREAKFAST

On Saturday, August 1, 2026, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m., Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting the community breakfast to start the day off for the Bull Thistle Festival. If anyone would like to help please contact Sherry Renner for more details.

OCIA – ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Has the Holy Spirit been nudging you to become Catholic? Please pick up on the back tables the journey of becoming Catholic. Any questions please see Father Bill. (OCIA is formerly RCIA)

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

May 2 – Aug. 29, 2026 Fayette
Farmers Market – Opera House
parking lot – 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

July 15 – 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., July 19	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Eddie Tidwell Shirley Taylor
	10:30 a.m.	SP	For the People
Mon., July 20		NO MASS	For the People
Tues., July 21	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., July 22	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., July 23	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	For the people
Fri., July 24	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., July 25	4:30 p.m.	SP	John Grieser
Sun., July 26	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Frank Grime, Mike & Joyce Dwyer
	10:30 a.m.	SP	Arthur Godoy

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

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

Linda Tilley
Denise Miller

Barbara Roby and family
The Gallup family

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 – July 26, 2026

Greeters / Gifts	Mary Bird / Shelly Gruman
Proclaimer	Shelly Gruman
Servers	Will Maginn
Ushers	Phil & Tami Baker
Money Counters	Phil Baker / Terry Kovar / Barb Kunkle

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for July 12, 2026

Sunday Offertory (11 envelopes)	\$ 431.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 512.00
BUDGET	<u>\$ 1,747.00</u>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 804.00)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Votives & CPC Jar	<u>\$ 15.00</u>
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 958.00
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of July 19 – July 25

St. Macrina the Younger (d. 380 A.D.) was born in Cappadocia to a family of saints. Her mother was St. Emelia, and her father was St. Basil the Elder. Her grandmother was St. Macrina the Elder, after whom she was named. Her holy parents had ten children. Macrina was one of the oldest, and received an excellent religious education from her holy mother. Her parents betrothed her to a pious youth, but he died before the marriage took place. Macrina then consecrated her virginity to God and lived a life of great asceticism. She remained living with her parents, helping to raise her younger siblings, directing the household servants, and supporting the family with her domestic skills. Among her siblings were St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory of Nyssa (who both became Cappadocian Fathers and Doctors of the Church) St. Peter of Sebaste, and St. Theosevia. When their father died, Macrina became the main support for the family. It was Macrina who profoundly influenced the spiritual discipline of her younger brothers. When all her siblings were grown, Macrina convinced her mother to give up their family belongings, set their servants free, and convert their home into a monastery. Many of their servants joined them in this spiritual pursuit; they all lived together as a family, sharing all things in common. When her mother died, Macrina led the religious community. The biography of St. Macrina's life was written by her brother, St. Gregory. Her feast day is July 19th.

St. Margaret (289-304 A.D.) was born in Antioch, the daughter of a pagan priest. Her mother died when she was an infant, and she was raised by a Christian nurse who baptized her and gave her a Christian education. St. Margaret grew into a pious and virtuous young woman under her nurse's care, to the delight of her father. When she came of age, Margaret returned to live with her father. She quickly angered him, however, when she refused to take part in offering sacrifices to idols. Furious at her steadfast refusals, he drove her out of his home. Margaret then returned to live with her nurse as a household servant. One day a Roman prefect noticed Margaret's beauty and desired to have her for himself. Margaret declined, citing that she had consecrated her virginity to Jesus Christ, a reply for which she was severely persecuted. She was brought to trial for her Christian faith, scourged, tortured, and thrown into prison by her suitor. In her moment of weakness, the devil appeared to her in the form of a dragon to intimidate her and break her faith. Margaret trusted in God and made the Sign of the Cross, and the dragon fled defeated. At this triumph over her enemy, Margaret's cell was filled with light and her wounds were miraculously healed. Enraged to find her healed, her suitor had new tortures applied to her body, which did her no harm and caused many witnesses to convert to the Christian faith. She was finally killed by beheading. St. Margaret of Antioch was one of the saints who appeared to St. Joan of Arc. She is the patron saint against sterility, of the dying, and of pregnancy, labor, and childbirth. Her feast day is July 20th.

St. Victor of Marseilles (d. 290 A.D.) was a Christian soldier serving in the Roman imperial army in Marseilles, France. Christianity was thriving there, until Emperor Maximian arrived with the intention of putting the Christians to death. This caused the Christians to fear, and St. Victor would go from house to house under the cover of night to admonish them to stand strong in their faith. This behavior drew attention, and during one of his nightly rounds he was arrested. The Roman prefects tried to dissuade him from following a "dead man" (Jesus), but St. Victor testified boldly for the truth of the Christian faith. Enraged, the prefects had him bound and dragged through the streets. Victor was undeterred and continued to denounce the Roman gods. His tortures were renewed until his torturers grew tired, after which he was thrown into a dungeon. That night he was visited by angels, and his three guards were converted and baptized that same night. The next morning the Emperor had the guards beheaded, while St. Victor was kept alive for fresh torments. After three days of abuse, the Emperor commanded Victor to burn incense to the gods. Instead, St. Victor walked up to the altar and kicked it over with his foot. In retaliation, his foot was cut off. Seeing that his efforts to cause Victor to apostatize were useless, the Emperor finally had him crushed to death on a grindstone. His body was thrown into the sea before being recovered and buried by Christians. His tomb became a place where many miracles occurred. St. Victor of Marseilles' feast day is July 21st.

St. Mary Magdalen (1st c.) was a friend and devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Formerly she had been a woman of ill repute out of whom Jesus exorcised seven demons. Mary Magdalene has a special place among the Lord's disciples and is mentioned several times in the Gospels.* She stood at the foot of the Cross with St. John and the Blessed Mother, and went the next morning to Christ's tomb to anoint his body. As a reward for her great love and faithfulness, she is the first recorded witness of Jesus' Resurrection. It was Mary Magdalene who informed the twelve Apostles that Jesus rose from the dead—for this she is called "Apostle to the Apostles." After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, Mary Magdalene continued her mission as an evangelist, contemplative, and mystic in the heart of the Church. According to the Eastern tradition, she went to Ephesus with the Virgin Mary and died there. St. Mary Magdalene is the patron of women, repentant sinners, penitent women, reformed prostitutes, contemplatives, converts, pharmacists, perfumers, hairstylists, and against sexual temptation. Her feast day is July 22nd.

*The Morning Offering recognizes that there are varying views on the identity of St. Mary of Bethany and St. Mary Magdalene. You can read articles from the Vatican concerning this topic here: Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship on the celebration of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus, in the General Roman Calendar.

Mary Magdalene, Apostle of the Apostles.

St. Bridget (1303-1373) was born into a devout and prestigious family in Sweden. Her father was a governor, judge, and one of the wealthiest landowners in the country. Bridget received an excellent religious education, and from a young age demonstrated a great capacity for holiness. She even experienced mystical visions in her childhood. At the age of thirteen she was given in marriage to a similarly devout young man named Ulf. Together the two had a happy marriage and raised eight children, one of whom was St. Catherine of Sweden. St. Bridget became famous for her sanctity, and she was well-acquainted with the Swedish king and many theologians who sought her counsel. When Bridget and Ulf were in their forties, they went on pilgrimage along the famous Way of St. James. Shortly afterwards Ulf died, and Bridget gave herself entirely to the religious life. Her visions became more frequent, and were written down in a famous work called the Revelations of St. Bridget of Sweden. She also founded a new religious order known as the Brigittines. To obtain approval for her Order she traveled to Rome with her daughter Catherine, where she lived until her death. St. Bridget of Sweden is one of the six patron saints of Europe. Her feast day is July 23rd.

St. Christina (1150-1224) was born to a peasant family in Belgium. She was orphaned as a child and raised by her two older sisters. When she was 21 she had what was believed to be a severe seizure, and was pronounced dead. At her funeral she suddenly revived and levitated before the bewildered congregation. She said that during her coma she had been to heaven, hell, and purgatory and had been given the option to either die and enter heaven, or return to earth to suffer and pray for the holy souls in purgatory. Christina chose the greater act of charity. From then on she lived in extreme poverty: wearing rags, sleeping on rocks, and begging for her food. She is called “Astonishing” because she did the most bizarre things and suffered the pains of inhuman feats without being physically harmed by them. She would roll in fire and hide in hot ovens; she would stand in freezing water for hours in the dead of winter; she allowed herself to be dragged under water by a mill wheel; she spent much time in graveyards. She would also climb trees to escape the strong odor of sin in those she met. Many thought her to be possessed by demons or insane, but many devout people recognized and vouched for her sincerity, obedience, and sanctity. They believed that she was a living witness to the pains that souls experience in purgatory, willingly suffering with them and for them. Christina the Astonishing is the patron of those with mental illness and disorders, mental health workers, psychiatrists, and therapists. Her feast day is July 24th.

St. James the Greater (died 44 AD) is the brother of St. John the Apostle, and was one of Jesus’s original 12 Apostles. The title “Greater” was added to distinguish him from St. James the Lesser, and is believed not to concern status or holiness, but physical height. Besides being the son of Zebedee, what is known of St. James’s life comes after he and his brother were called to leave their father and their nets and follow after Jesus. James was one of the three apostles invited to witness the miraculous Transfiguration of Christ on Mount Tabor. As well, his righteous anger at seeing a Samaritan town reject Jesus inspired him to ask Jesus to call down fire on the town, which Jesus gently rebuked. Following Christ’s Resurrection and Ascension, James preached the Gospel across the Roman empire before traveling to Spain, where he spread the Gospel for many years. The famous “Camino de Santiago” pilgrimage path in Spain is named in his honor (Santiago is Spanish for James). At the end of his life, James returned to Jerusalem, where he was the first apostle to be martyred. His feast day is July 25th.

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

"Ask Her...when you're feeling unsettled, to remind you there is an order to things: First, God. Second, your spouse. Third, your children. Make sure these things are not out of order."

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.

February 14, 1985 - "Dear children! Today is the day when I give you a message for the parish, but the whole parish is not accepting the messages and is not living them. I am saddened and I want you, dear children, to listen to me and to live my messages. Every family must pray family prayer and read the Bible! Thank you for having responded to my call."

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

"It is easy to find truth, though it is hard to face it, and harder still to follow it."

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

(from Divine Mercy Daily)

[St. Faustina was tempted repeatedly by Satan against her vocation of proclaiming God's mercy and praying for mercy for souls, especially sinners(see Diary, 1496 – 1499):]

At that moment, I saw Jesus, who said, **I am pleased with what you are doing. And you can continue to be at peace if always do the best you can in respect to this work of mercy. Be absolutely as frank as possible with your confessor. Satan gained nothing by tempting you, because you did not enter into conversation with him. Continue to act in this way. You gave Me great glory today by fighting so faithfully. (Diary, 1490). *The words of Jesus appear in boldface type.**

**WEEKLY ARTICLE/VIDEOS FROM THE DIVINE
MERCY/DIVINE MERCY PLUS WEBSITE**

divinemercyplus.org/videos/overcoming-distractions-prayer

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---July 19 – Altar Rosary
meeting after Mass

---Sept. 19 – Save the Date –
Our Lady of Mercy Feast Day
Celebration

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

WEAKNESS – a weak point, as in
a person's character; slight fault or
defect

"The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do
not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit
himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.."

Romans 8:26