

Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

St. Peter Catholic Church

Sunday
October 4, 2026
27th 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/Business Manager
OLOMBookkeeper@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@rtecexpress.net

Doug Williams
Bookkeeper

Deb Herring
CRE
debh.stpeterarchbold@gmail.com

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 on 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: olomfayette@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

October 4, 2026 – 27th Sunday Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 7:55 A.M.

OCIA (formerly RCIA) SESSIONS

The OCIA class will meet today in the basement after Mass. October dates for classes are October 11 & October 25 after Mass.

ALTAR ROSARY

There will be a quick Altar Rosary meeting back by the cry room today after Mass.

ROSARY

The Rosary will be prayed on Thursdays in the month of October starting October 8, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY MEAL

Our Lady of Mercy, Altar Rosary Society will be hosting the Fayette Community meal on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. If anyone would like to help serve or donate a 9"x13" dump or poke cake, please see Sherry Renner.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Finance and Pastoral will meet on Thursday, October 22, 2026
Finance 6:45 p.m. and Pastoral 6:15 p.m.

ST. CASPAR PARISH MISSION

Surge of the Heart

October 25-26 - 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

A live, two evening deep dive into the truth and beauty of Catholicism with renowned speaker and author Jon Leonetti. Experience powerful renewal in your life for Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. Surge of the Heart is a parish mission where you will laugh, grow, be inspired, and never forget!

EVENING ONE: WHO IS GOD AND WHY DOES THAT MATTER?

EVENING TWO: GOD'S DREAM FOR YOUR LIFE

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

October 7 & 21 – K – 12, Faith Formation, 6:30 p.m.

October 14 & 28 – K – 12, Faith Formation, (at home)

October 18, 2026 – Rosary Altar Society Fundraiser - Tamale Luncheon – *tickets will be sold after Mass October 3, 4, 10, 11 and 17.*

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

October 21 – Fayette Community Meal – Fayette Methodist Life Center – 5 p.m. – 6p.m. (Our Lady of Mercy, Altar Rosary hosting)

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Oct. 4	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Marcel Bonin Shirley Taylor
	10:30 a.m.	SP	Rosemary Pontious Gina Dammon
Mon., Oct. 5	NO MASS		
Tues., Oct. 6	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Oct. 7	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Oct. 8	9:00a.m.	OLOM	For the People
Fri., Oct. 9	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Oct. 10	4:30 p.m.	SP	Grace New, Cari, Lenny & Andrew Breidenbach
Sun., Oct. 11	8:30 a.m.	OLOM	Jeannette Tidwell
	10:30 a.m.	SP	Dick & Susan Saaf

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

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

Joyce Bonin

End to Abortion

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 – OCTOBER 11, 2026

Greeters / Gifts	Mary Bird / Marge Crowell
Proclaimer	Mary Bird
Servers	Myla Burkholder
Ushers	Ron Baker / Terry Kovar
Money Counters	Ron Baker / Barbara Roby / Eli Eberly

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for September 27, 2026

Sunday Offertory (10 envelopes)	\$ 496.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 215.25
BUDGET	\$ 1,747.00
Over / (Under)	(\$ 1,035.75)

OTHER COLLECTIONS

Maintenance	\$ 10.00
Feast Day Donation	\$ 75.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 45.00
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 841.25
(Sunday Offertory, & Other)	

MEDITATION (morningoffering.com – Today's Meditation (September 30, 2026) ;

"Chastity is the most unpopular of the Christian virtues. There is no getting away from it; the Christian rule is, 'Either marriage, with complete faithfulness to your partner, or else total abstinence.' Now this is so difficult and so contrary to our instincts, that obviously either Christianity is wrong or our sexual instinct, as it now is, has gone wrong. One or the other. Of course, being a Christian, I think it is the instinct which has gone wrong ... God knows our situation: He will not judge us as if we had no difficulties to overcome. What matters is the sincerity and perseverance of our will to overcome them. Before we can be cured we must want to be cured. Those who really wish for help will get it; but for many modern people even the wish is difficult ... We may, indeed, be sure that perfect chastity—like perfect charity—will not be attained by any merely human efforts. You must ask for God's help. Even when you have done so, it may seem to you for a long time that no help, or less help than you need, is being given. Never mind. After each failure, ask forgiveness, pick yourself up and try again. Very often what God first helps us towards is not the virtue itself but just this power of always trying again. For however important chastity (or courage, or truthfulness, or any other virtue) may be, this process trains us in habits of the soul which are more important still. It cures our illusions about ourselves and teaches us to depend on God. We learn, on the one hand, that we cannot trust ourselves even in our best moments, and, on the other, that we need not despair even in our worst, for our failures are forgiven. The only fatal thing is to sit down content with anything less than perfection."—C. S. Lewis, p. 95

YOU ARE BELOVED (franciscanmedia.org / Daily Meditations)

Maybe it's my brain chemistry. I have no idea. But one of the things I'm always trying to remember whether it's guilt, whether it's shame, whether it's regret, whether it's future tripping, whatever it may be, when I slip into these dark states, it goes back to Henri Nouwen for me: **You're the beloved.**

And because you're the beloved, your story is worth naming on a personal level and then maybe sharing to help and heal others. Like when I lost my mom suddenly a few years ago, remembering that I was the beloved did not solve anything. It did not explain how a perfectly healthy person's heart can stop in the middle of the night.

However, it reminded me of a God that enters more deeply into my suffering without the need to explain it because we are the beloved.

—from Franciscan Media's **Franciscan Spirit**
with host Stephen Copeland, featuring Richard Patterson, PhD

WEEKLY ARTICLE / VIDEOS (Divine Mercy Plus)

"Who Do You Say I AM" – Episode 5

divinemercyplus.org/videos/episode-5-savior-born-holy-land-digital-pilgrimage

ST. ANTHONY MESSENGER (franciscanmedia.org)

Martin Pable, OFM Cap – December 2017, St. Anthony Messenger

HOW TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF PEACE (part 1)

"May God smile on you and be merciful to you. May God turn his regard toward you and give you peace." —**St. Francis of Assisi**

I will never forget the first time I saw a photograph of Earth taken from a space camera and heard a commentary from one of the early astronauts: "The first thing you notice is that there are no lines dividing one nation from another" (as on our drawn maps). He continued, "You know, it looks so beautiful, you just want to put your arms around it!"

The astronaut was reawakening the vision, the dream that God held up to us at the beginning of Creation. It was man and woman living in loving harmony with each other, with the animal kingdom, with the natural environment and with the Creator (Genesis 2:18-25). When the dream was shattered by the forces of greed, lust and violence, God sent his Son (Galatians 4:4); Jesus the Savior came to restore the harmony, to reunite us, "to gather into one the dispersed children of God" (John 11:52).

More than any other person, perhaps **Saint Francis of Assisi** caught that vision and gave it new life. He once summed up the mission of the community he founded. "Brothers," he said, "we have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way." The prayer attributed to him begins with the words, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

Francis was only echoing the passionate desire of Jesus his Lord—"Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be called children of God." What if we took this dream seriously? What if we made it our central project for the new millennium? What if we sought inspiration from the great peacemakers of the 20th century: **Mohandas Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King, Dorothy Day** and the woman known as "Peace Pilgrim"? Going beyond the way of nonviolence, could we devote ourselves, commit ourselves to the way of healing and reconciling?

What would it look like behaviorally? Not all of us want to march or demonstrate for peace. Few of us have the skill or eloquence to go on radio or TV talk shows to speak about healing relationships. Yet I am convinced that all of us have the capacity to develop some simple, ordinary ways of carrying a spirit of unity, peace and reconciliation into all our relationships.

SAINT OF THE DAY (RESOURCES morningoffering.com / franciscanmedia.org)

Week of October 4 – October 10

Sunday, October 4 – St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, October 5 – St. Maria Faustina Kowalska

Tuesday, October 6 – St. Bruno

Wednesday, October 7 – St. Justina of Padua / Our Lady of the Rosary

Thursday, October 8 – Blessed Ambrose of Siena / St. John Leonardi

Friday, October 9 – St. John Henry Newman / St. Denis and Companions

Saturday, October 10 – St. Francis Borgia

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

By Jane Tufant Harvey

"Ask Her...to rebuke the lie that God is far away. He has never been closer to you!"

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.*

September 25, 2026 Message to Marija - "Dear children! May this time be a time of prayer for peace. I am calling you to renew in your families the prayer of the Rosary for my intentions, so that I may be able to multiply your prayers and intercede for you before the Most High, [for Him] to heed your prayers and to give you peace. I am with you and like never before I pray for you and with you, my little children. Thank you for having responded to my call." (With Ecclesiastical approval)

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

"Purity does not begin in the body but in the will. From there it flows outward, cleansing thought, imagination, and finally, the body. Bodily purity is a repercussion or echo of the will. Life is impure only when the will is impure."

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

(from Divine Mercy Daily)

How very much I desire the salvation of souls! My dearest secretary, write that I want to pour out My divine life into human souls and sanctify them, if only they were willing to accept My grace. The greatest sinners would achieve great sanctity, if only they would trust in My mercy. The very inner depths of My being are filled to overflowing with mercy, and it is being poured out upon all I have created. My delight is to act in a human soul and to fill with My mercy (133) and to justify it. My kingdom on earth is My life in the human soul. Write, My secretary, that I Myself am the spiritual guide of souls – and I guide them indirectly through priest, and lead each one to sanctity by a road known to Me alone. (Diary, 1767). **The words of Jesus appear in boldface type.*

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Rosary prayed on Thursdays of October starting October 8th at 7 p.m.

---October 4 – OCIA after Mass in the basement

---October 4 – Altar Rosary Society meeting after Mass back by cry room

---October 11 – OCIA after Mass in the basement

---October 18 – follow up meeting Feast Day Committee

---October 21 – Fayette Community Meal – Our Lady of Mercy Altar Rosary is hosting

---October 22 – Council meetings Finance 5:45 pm – Pastoral 6:15 pm

---October 22 – Adoration and Rosary 7:00 p.m.

---October 25 – OCIA after Mass in the basement

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

PRODUCE – to bring forth, bear, or yield, as young or natural products, to give forth, to furnish; to supply

I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord,
to go and bear fruit that will remain.
John 15:16