



## MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Mailing Address: PO Box 2150**

**Physical Address (No Mail): 1614 Maplewood Rd.**

**Harrison, Arkansas 72602**

**Church Office & Rectory – 870-741-5234**

**Church Fax – 870-741-4234**

Emails & Prayer-Line Connection: [mmgchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:mmgchurch@yahoo.com)  
[www.harrisoncatholic.org](http://www.harrisoncatholic.org)

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Mondays As Scheduled

Tuesday & Wednesday – 5:30 PM

Thursday, Friday & Saturday – 8:30 AM

### HOLY DAY MASSES

As Announced

### CONFESSIONS

One-Half Hour Before All Masses

Or By Appointment w/Father Jim at 870-741-5234

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Mary Mother of God Catholic Church is to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ, as members of His living body, the Church, to bring the Kingdom of God into the world through evangelization, worship, Religious education, and service in our families, in our parish, and in our community.

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

We welcome new members to our Church through the process and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Please contact the church office.

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents and Godparents are required to participate in a preparation process before the Baptism of children. Registration is required. Please contact the church office.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements for wedding must be made at least six months in advance. Please contact the church office.

### COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Extraordinary Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are not able to attend Mass. Call the church office about anyone who would like to receive the Eucharist at home.

### SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact Father Jim.

### Pastor:

### Deacon:

Parish Manager:

**Rev. James M. Fanrak**

**Dc. Mark Scouten**

Robin Markham

Adult Scripture Study:

Buildings, Maintenance:

Catholic Christian Women:

Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM):

Cemetery Committee:

Custodian:

Eucharistic Adoration:

Finance Council:

Flocknote:

Knights of Columbus:

Knights of Columbus, 4<sup>th</sup> Degree:

Legion of Mary:

Libraries:

Liturgy, Sacraments, Devotions:

Music Ministry:

Pro-Life:

Religious Ed, Formation (PREP):

Sacristans:

Alternate Sacristans:

Safe Environment:

Social Justice/Charitable Outreach

Trail Life USA:

Tribunal:

Wedding Coordinator:

Welcome New Catholics (RCIA):

Tom Hoberock

Craig Bailey

Darlene Coffman

Terra Atkinson

Marlene Rowe

Doherty Family

Carmen Andrade

Joe Koenig

Robin Markham

Craig Bailey

Val Stechly

Ruth Haley

Jennifer Johnson

Dc. Mark Scouten

Julie Jasper

Sandra Guidry

Holly Coffman

Jones, Stephens, Sandri

Scouten, Bailey

Holly Coffman

Robin Markham

Wes Bradford

Dc. Mark Scouten

Bonnie Tauer

Wayne & Judy Keith

### NEW IN PARISH

To register in the parish, please fill out the form below.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish Moved From:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish City:** \_\_\_\_\_

( ) New In Parish ( ) Change of Address/Phone/Email

*We welcome all visitors to Mary Mother of God Catholic Church. We hope you enjoy your stay in this area and may God be with you on your trip home.*

## 2021 WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>January 23</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Grant Criger, BD (1-16)
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: +Lester Jehnke
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>January 24 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Steve Slavik
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>January 25 – NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>January 26</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: SI – The Taylor, Lochner & Caster Families
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>January 27</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Vincent Magdefrau
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>January 28</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Sandra Luckenbill, Health
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>January 29</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Ron Caster Family
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>January 30</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Johann Chua, In Thanksgiving
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: +Ron Schoborg
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>January 31 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – All Parishioners



**VIGIL CANDLES** - If you wish to light a 6-day vigil candle, a suggested \$3 donation is requested.

**ONLINE BULLETINS** for Mary Mother of God Church and St. Andrew's Church may be found at [harrisoncatholic.org](http://harrisoncatholic.org).

**CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE** *one-half hour before all Daily and Saturday/Sunday Masses or by appointment.*



**IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP FOR FLOCKNOTE YET, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UPDATES FROM OUR BISHOP AND FATHER JIM WILL CONTINUE FOR WEEKS TO COME.** Parish communications, such as prayer requests, updates, Mass cancellations, etc., arrives as a **Flocknote message**. Individuals and/or families are subscribed so they will either receive messages as emails or texts per their preference. If you do not receive prayer request emails and would like to, sign up now! Registration is easy. There are two ways to connect (pick one): Visit our parish at: [www.flocknote.com/marymotherofgodchurch](http://www.flocknote.com/marymotherofgodchurch) or text flockmmg to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates. Need help to set up your flocknote? Contact the church office.

## **EVERYONE MUST WEAR A MASK TO CHURCH!**

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**FAITH AT HOME** – Effective October 1, the dispensation of attending Mass has been lifted for persons who are in good health, not especially vulnerable, and not caring for someone who is especially vulnerable. Persons who are vulnerable with certain medical conditions identified by the CDC, including asthma and diabetes, are still dispensed from attending Sunday Mass. The Diocese of Little Rock continues to compile a list of online resources to help you stay connected and continue to practice your faith at home, including online Masses, readings, and prayers. This list at [dolr.org/covid](http://dolr.org/covid) is updated frequently as new information becomes available.

**Mary Mother of God Church is now livestreaming our Saturday 5 PM & Sunday 8:30 AM Masses. You may go online to the Mary Mother of God Catholic Church Facebook account or visit our church website at [harrisoncatholic.org](http://harrisoncatholic.org). Click Resources; then click livestream.**

**For daily Masses, check out the MMG Facebook account.**

**The church doors will be unlocked from 9 AM to 6 PM daily. For private prayer and reflection, you are most welcome to pray in the chapel or the church.**

**Until further notice, all committees, organizations, services, and meetings are suspended until further notice. If you have any questions, contact the individuals listed on the bulletin.**

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** – Military & Emergency Personnel, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19 & Terrorism, Vocations, Carl Bear, Donnie Billups, Joyceline Boudreaux, Ron Branaman, Gynola Bratton, Shari Broscovak, Ray Brysch, Betty Burge, Jenny Carder Family, Loretta Clements, Brian Coffman, Chad/Holly/Tiffany Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, David/Joelene Conner, Jim/Karen Conner, Barbara Crothers, Kathy Cuevas, Decker Family, Gia Dowell, Espinoza Family, Glen Feldman, Greg/Newt Foster, Kendall Fowler, Casey Gibbs, Edmund Griggs, Bill Haley, Lorita Henry, Dianne Hoberock, Tommy Hudson, Chris Jasper, Anthony Joel Jones, Mary Koenig, Dennis Kyler, Eleanor Lipsmeyer, Sandra Luckenbill, Jim Luyet, Melanie Martin, Ramon/Maria Teresa Mendez, Barbara Meyer, Paula Millet, Monte Family of STL, Al Moore, Dave/Lou Ann Neuroth, Mollie Norman, Deb O'Connor, Nikki Patten, Harlan Pollock, Michael Reding, Dc. Mark Scouten, Ed/Yvonne Servis, Phil Sides, +Bethany Stephens, Bob Stephens, Ray/Prudy Stone, Steve/Loretta Tarochione, Bishop Anthony Taylor, Pennie Veach Family. Our Nursing Home Residents: David Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Alan Lasecki, Bonnie Lundblad, Mary Ralston, Billie Signer, Liz Smalley, Patricia Smith. **Please contact the office to add/delete names.**

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY** our parish will take up the 136<sup>th</sup> Annual National Black & Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Our diocese also received \$37,000 in grant funding from this collection last year, benefiting Arkansas Council of Black Catholics, St. Peter's in Pine Bluff, St. Bartholomew, and St. Augustine.

**Veterans Day Salute DVDs** recorded by Wes Bradford are still available! To order your FREE DVD copy, please call the church office or call or text Holly Coffman at 416-9928.

**Give Until It Hurts** - One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



**9 DAYS FOR LIFE**  
JANUARY 21 - 29, 2021  
[9DAYSFORLIFE.COM](http://9DAYSFORLIFE.COM)

PRAY TO  
PROTECT  
HUMAN LIFE!





#### RETROUVAILLE ARKANSAS – HELP OUR MARRIAGE

- A Marriage program that helps couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship.
- A Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, where couples of all faiths or no faith background are encouraged to attend.
- Primarily a practical program to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect.
- Presenters are not trained marriage counselors, but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.
- A Virtual Weekend on ZOOM will be held **January 28-31**. To sign-up go to [helpourmarriage.org](http://helpourmarriage.org). For further information call 800-470-2230 or 501-834-1956.

**CALLING ALL MEN for the 11th Annual Arkansas Catholic Men's Conference!! – February 6 – "Are you man enough to be like Jesus?"** Make plans now to join hundreds of men from around the state at this year's VIRTUAL Conference. You WILL be blessed and fed by our incredible and insightful speakers Fr. Stephen Gadberry (a.k.a. Father Flex), Fr. Mauricio Carrasco, and Deacon Danny Hartnedy. with keen insights and the biblical foundation for becoming like Christ at home, in your marriage, at work, in your community and in our Church! Since this year's conference is virtual, there is NO Registration Fee. However, we are asking for donations to offset the cost of production and promotion of the event. Spread the news, invite a friend, plan a watch party on Super Bowl Saturday for the Arkansas Catholic Men's Conference! For more info on how to register, visit <http://www.arcatholicmen.com>.

The diocesan initiative One Church invests each year in a small mission church in our diocese that needs a leg up to become a thriving community. **The 2020-2021 partner is St. Bartholomew Church in Little Rock.** All funds donated to One Church for the next 12 months will help the parish build a new Parish Life Center, which they currently don't have. Please pray for this project and give today. To give or for more information visit: [dolr.org/one-church](http://dolr.org/one-church).



#### ADORE THE EUCHARIST!! – IT'S A DIVINE INVENTION!!

"May Christ's faithful have the occasion to worship the sacred mysteries of the Body and Blood of the Son of God in a worthy manner, and continually experience within themselves the fruits of the redemption." *Redemptionis Sacramentum*

**Contact Carmen at 305-815-1795 or the church office to sign up for a Holy Hour.**

**Sunday @ 7 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 1 PM & 2 PM**

**Monday @ 6 PM**

**Tuesday @ 2 PM & 6 PM**

**Thursday @ 11 AM, 4 PM & 6 PM**

**Saturday @ 11 AM, 2 PM, 3 PM & 4 PM**

**PLEASE NOTE: If the Harrison schools are closed due to inclement weather, then Adoration is closed for your safety.**



#### → Check out FORMED.org ←

**It's EASY and FREE to Register!** Visit FORMED.org with your favorite web browser. Click Sign Up. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization". Find your parish by name. Enter your email and that's all there is to it! There are movies about saints (both adult and children), numerous Bible studies, Catholic Answers, audio books, apologetics and much more! **Now you can deepen your faith life even more!** Sign up for FORMED Daily to receive a short clip by email from the platform's best content each day. Visit <https://FORMED.org/promo/daily-reflections-signup>

**2020 MMG CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS** have been mailed. If you do not receive your statement in the mail, please contact the church office. We appreciate your donation to the church. Luke 6:38 reminds us: **"Give and it shall be given to you. ...For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you."**

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Jan 24:	Jon 3:1-5, 10 / 1 Cor 7:29-31 / Mk 1:14-20
Jan 25:	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 / Mk 16:15-18
Jan 26:	2 Tim 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5 / Mk 3:31-35
Jan 27:	Heb 10:11-18 / Mk 4:1-20
Jan 28:	Heb 10:19-25 / Mk 4:21-25
Jan 29:	Heb 10:32-39 / Mk 4:26-34
Jan 30:	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 / Mk 4:35-41
Jan 31:	Dt 18:15-20 / 1 Cor 7:32-35 / Mk 1:21-28

John Michael Talbot's INNER ROOM School of Spirituality  
– Visit [www.inner-room-school.org](http://www.inner-room-school.org).





## Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

801 SOUTH PINE OFFICE (870) 365-3611  
PINE PLAZA, SUITE 7 FAX (870) 365-3623  
HARRISON, AR 72601 jfkcpa@windstream.net

**CATHOLICS  
VOTE  
PRO-LIFE**  
Courtesy of Newt Foster

**Skorich Lawn Care Company LLC.**  
Debris/Leaf Removal, Power Wash  
skorichlawncompany@gmail.com  
870-421-6752  
870-449-4488

**BUTLER CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC**  
811 RANCH HOUSE PLAZA  
P.O. BOX 1614  
HARRISON, ARKANSAS 72602  
PHONE: 870-741-4408 FAX: 870-741-4409  
DR. TOM BUTLER  
CHIROPRACTIC ORTHOPEDIST CERTIFIED IN ACUPUNCTURE  
SPORTS PHYSICIAN

**PATRICIA H. VIRNIG**  
Attorney At Law  
132 N. Willow  
Harrison, AR 72601  
Hours: 9 AM to 5 PM  
Fax: 870-741-0003



THANK  
A VETERAN  
TODAY!

Courtesy of Newt Foster



Owners: Todd & Lori Curry

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Serving Harrison & ALL  
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robinmunzner@yahoo.com



**ROBIN MUNZNER**  
870-743-0710  
870-715-9873

• Friday Lunch •  
11 AM—1:30 PM  
• Sunday Lunch •  
11:30 AM—2 PM



• DINNER •  
Monday thru  
Saturday  
5—9 PM  
870-741-8832

† **TROUT—STEAKS—ITALIAN**  
Located 4 miles North of Harrison  
500 yards East of Junction 412-62-65 Hwys. North



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HARRISON, AR 72601  
870-741-3481

Glenna Ragan † Justin Applegate

**Selling 726**  
REALTY

**Ryan Thompson, Realtor**  
ryan@selling726.com • 870.416.5123  
selling726.com  
128 N Willow St, Harrison, AR 72601



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
We are PRO-LIFE. Be a part of an  
organization that supports the  
protection of an unborn child.  
JOIN TODAY! Established 1882  
Contact Craig Bailey — 870-416-1112

**Mary Mother of God Catholic Church**  
**Catholic Christian Women (CCW)**  
107 Years of Serving Our Parish  
See Bulletin For Meeting  
Dates & Times



**VIKKI  
HUDSON**

"Hometown Service" †

©LPI

### 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time—January 24, 2021

It was a normal day by all accounts, but John just wasn't feeling himself. He was a little lightheaded and out of sorts. Later in the afternoon, he experienced a sharp pain in his chest and arm. Quick thinking and action brought John to the emergency department with a diagnosis of a significant heart attack. Surviving this ordeal, he found himself face to face with his cardiologist, having an honest conversation about things that needed to change. "I came close to death," John found himself thinking. Then came the remorse. He was a young man with a loving wife and children who were very close to facing life without him. John found himself with intense sorrow for living an unchecked and self-indulgent life that almost brought him to his demise. He wanted to change.

We all have our wake-up calls. We have experiences and encounters that force us to really think twice about choices we have made and directions we have taken. Often, we find ourselves looking at those we have hurt square in the eye and wallowing in our foolishness. We regrettably realize that we have allowed our needs to lure us into making some cruel mistakes. We impulsively say things and flip-pantly do things that reveal our unredeemed and unhealed self. It is a self we stumble over and try to tame but can't quite seem to master and control. Help!

We spin our wheels, naively thinking that we will somehow, perhaps through persistence, get ourselves unstuck. But, we don't. We just get out of the car, feeling very helpless, and ignorantly look at the mess we got ourselves into. Did we ever think to ask someone for help? Or, taken the advice of One who is wiser and avoid this route altogether? "Come after me," are words that Jesus says to all of us. In order to heed his invitation, we must leave our ego-self behind and follow.

When we really see and understand the freedom, peace, justice, and love he offers, we find ourselves with such sorrow in our hearts for how foolish and silly we have been. All the misguided choices and sinful actions come full view and we see how risky our random impassioned behaviors really have been. Repentance is beautiful. When done with a sincere and contrite heart, it directs us to the glory that can be ours, ignites us with the challenge of living a life in service of others and reminds us that all is well.

# God Heal America!

Courtesy of Newt Foster

**MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**HARRISON, ARKANSAS**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>December 27</b> <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>December 28</b>   <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>December 29</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>December 30</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ <b>NO PREP CLASSES</b> <b>Classes Resume on January 6, 2021</b>	<b>December 31</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ <b>5:30 PM Vigil Mass</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b> <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> <i>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i>  <b>8 AM Rosary</b> <b>8:30 AM Mass</b> ++ <b>11 AM Mass in Yvl</b>	<b>January 2</b> <i>First Saturday</i>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>January 3</b> <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Maintenance Fund	<b>January 4</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Meeting	<b>January 5</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>January 6</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6-8 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class	<b>January 7</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 8</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 9</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>January 10</b> <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 11</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>January 12</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>January 13</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes <b>NO Confirmation Class</b> <b>NO HS Class</b>	<b>January 14</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 15</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 16</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>January 17</b> <i>2nd Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 18</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>January 19</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>January 20</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6-7:30 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class	<b>January 21</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 22</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 23</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>January 24</b> <i>3rd Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>January 25</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>January 26</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>January 27</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes <b>NO Confirmation Class</b> <b>NO HS Class</b>	<b>January 28</b>	<b>January 29</b>	<b>January 30</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>January 31</b> <i>4th Sunday in Ordinary</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Black & Indian Missions	<b>February 1, 2021</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Meeting	<b>February 2</b> <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>February 3</b> <i>Feast of St. Blaise</i>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6-7:30 PM Confirmation 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class	<b>February 4</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>February 5</b> <i>First Friday</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>February 6</b> <i>First Saturday</i>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass

## JANUARY 2021 MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

5 PM Saturday Mass

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Jan 3	Deborah Martin	Jan 11	Steve DeVito	Jan 20	Donna Rodery
Jan 3	Judith Penquite	Jan 11	Roger Lizarda	Jan 21	Samuel Luyet
Jan 4	Cynthia Durand	Jan 11	Frances Thomas	Jan 22	Jeffery DeWitt
Jan 4	Liam Lampe	Jan 12	Ken Heuschmidt	Jan 23	Rita Paul
Jan 4	Seychelle Mahoney	Jan 13	Red Millis	Jan 25	Ana van Leeuwen
Jan 5	Larry Benner	Jan 14	Johnny Nichols	Jan 26	Rickey Amerson
Jan 5	Melba Bruton	Jan 14	Weston Rogers	Jan 26	Stacie Klott
Jan 5	Joe Faria	Jan 16	Amy Aldrete	Jan 26	Dolly Leach
Jan 5	Joan Lipsmeyer	Jan 17	Jordan Reeves	Jan 26	Jorge Ramirez
Jan 6	Cris Teague	Jan 18	Madelynne Barnard	Jan 27	Joy Lizarda
Jan 9	Kristi Morrison Hugues	Jan 18	Rita Ward	Jan 28	John Mastrobuono
Jan 9	Pennie Veach	Jan 19	George Espinoza	Jan 29	Patti Mole
Jan 10	Wes Bradford	Jan 19	Madyson Ray	Jan 29	Parker Nabors
Jan 10	George Stimson	Jan 20	Tina Bohannon	Jan 31	John Hargett

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Jan 1	Wes & Carol Bradford	Jan 13	Mike & Jaque Radisch
Jan 2	Ed & Mary Griggs	Jan 24	Tim & Robin Reeves
Jan 5	Steve & Rachel Gutting	Jan 27	David & Eva Krueger
Jan 9	Richard & Mary Crosley	Jan 29	Chuck & Terry Draper





## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

November 19, 2020

To all doctors, nurses, administrators, support staff and other co-workers in Catholic health care:

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday during a time of pandemic, I thank God for many things—for God's loving presence, for the gift of faith, for family and friends (even though we can't be physically together now). I also thank God right now for the gift of life and health. Especially as COVID-19 continues to increase in our country and in much of the world, we have a reminder of how important our physical health is.

This pandemic has been a challenging time for all of society. Whether someone has been infected, cared for someone who has been infected, or simply experienced changes of life because of the measures needed to combat it, no one has been exempt.

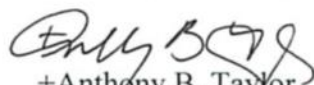
Above all, though, I know that COVID-19 has affected you as healthcare workers. You stand on the front lines, often putting yourselves at risk in order to serve your patients. Your generosity of heart and zeal for your ministry give life to many, especially right now.

As the Bishop of Little Rock, I thank God for the great work undertaken by Catholic healthcare ministries in Arkansas, ministries that can only exist because of people like you. Your daily work is an extension of the healing ministry of Jesus. Like the ministry of Jesus, your work is loving, sacrificial, and life-giving. Just as the ministry of Jesus did, your work gives hope and strength to all it touches—and to society as a whole!

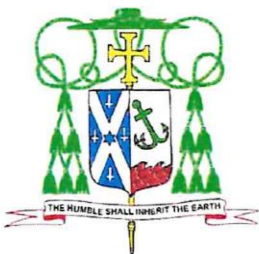
I know these are trying times for you. You want to help and heal, even as you know there is still much to be done in combating COVID-19. I encourage you to persevere, and I pray for your resilience and strength as you confront the challenges that lie ahead. We may celebrate Thanksgiving differently this year than in other years, but our need to be grateful is even stronger than ever.

So, thank you! And be assured of my prayers for you now and throughout these challenging times.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock





Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

### Statement on the “REPORT ON THE HOLY SEE’S INSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND DECISION-MAKING RELATED TO FORMER CARDINAL THEODORE EDGAR MCCARRICK (1930 TO 2017)” issued November 10, 2020

I am grateful to Pope Francis for his commitment to bringing healing to the victims of clergy sexual abuse and to preventing such cases from being mishandled in the future, regardless of the prominence of the accused perpetrator. Yesterday we received concrete proof of his commitment to transparency and to bringing the light of truth to bear on this darkest of evils that has, in the case of ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, reached even the highest echelons of the hierarchy in the Church. This 449 page report chronicles not only the horror of McCarrick’s abuse of minors and young adults, but also the mishandling of allegations by even by such saintly persons as Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI and those that advised them, albeit due in part to having received faulty information from several now deceased New Jersey bishops and the failure of Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò to investigate when told to do so while working in the Secretariat of State in the Vatican and later mishandling the case when he was papal nuncio to the United States.

When in 2017 Pope Francis first became aware of a concrete allegation against then Cardinal McCarrick, he ordered a canonical trial of McCarrick which in February 2019 resulted in the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state. Pope Francis also ordered the investigation, the results of which were released yesterday, of how such a person as Mr. McCarrick could have risen to the highest ranks within the Church, including who had a hand in covering up misdeeds of which they had knowledge and why allegations received previously were not taken seriously. In May of 2019 Pope Francis also promulgated “*Vos Estis Lux Mundi*”, a papal decree which introduced sweeping changes in order to hold bishops accountable for sexual abuse or covering up, making reporting obligatory for clerics and allowing anyone to complain directly to the Vatican if needed. To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Catholic bishop, contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or call 800/276-1562.

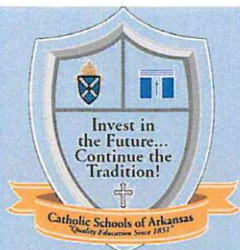
The Diocese of Little Rock continues its commitment to keeping children safe. Anyone who has been abused sexually by a priest or representative of the Church is encouraged to contact first the Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline at 800/482-5964; and to contact Deacon Matthew Glover at 501/664-0340 ext. 361, or Laura Gottspomer, our Victims Assistance coordinator at 501/664-0340 ext. 425.

We remain united in our pain and our support for all victims of sexual abuse and pray for healing and reconciliation within our Church.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock  
November 11, 2020





## Office of the Bishop

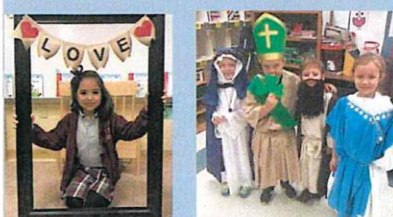
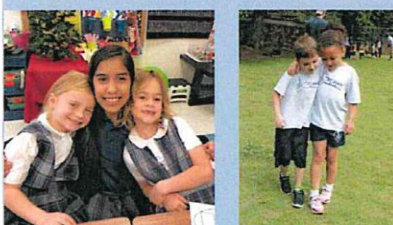
Diocese of Little Rock  
P.O. Box 7239  
Little Rock, AR 72217

*Bishop*

Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor

*Superintendent*

Mrs. Theresa Hall



Faith Academics Service



## ARKANSAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP APPEAL

November 14, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Sadly, there are Catholic schools throughout the country closing due to the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. You can help prevent this from happening in Arkansas through your gift to the Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship Appeal. Our Catholic schools are facing a combination of financial challenges: decreased subsidy from parishes, cancelled fundraising events, decreased enrollment, and a greater need for financial assistance for families negatively affected by the pandemic.

The Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship Appeal is held annually to give tuition assistance to families with a demonstrated need. Catholic schools throughout the state submit applications on behalf of these families. Last year funds from the appeal provided tuition support to 54 students attending Arkansas Catholic schools with awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 per family.

Families who qualify are granted assistance through Parish subsidies, school fundraising, foundations, and individual donors. However, even with this financial support, a need still exists for more tuition aid. This year our calculated need is \$465,000. Please help us by donating to the Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship Appeal. Every dollar received from donations will be used to aid those in need of financial assistance.

Catholic schools are an integral part of the teaching mission of the Church because they assist parents in the important obligation of educating and forming their children through faith development. This year our schools have responded beautifully finding creative and practical solutions to challenges related to safety and virtual learning. They continue to provide a rigorous education, rooted in the Gospel, and rich in the cherished traditions and liturgical practices of our faith. Even in the midst of a pandemic, our schools are ensuring that students will have the foundation to live a moral and upright life to face the challenges brought by changes in the world today.

Thank you for your support of the Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship fund. Please keep our schools in your prayers.

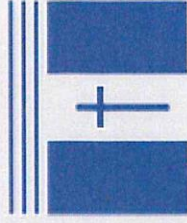
Sincerely In Christ,

Most Reverend Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock





# Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship Appeal



A Catholic education is a gift that serves the child, their family, and the community throughout their lifetime and beyond. The cost of tuition is a challenge to hundreds of our families who desire a Catholic education for their child. Parish subsidies, school fundraising, and foundations provide funds for financial assistance, but not enough.

All funds raised through this appeal go directly to an Arkansas Catholic school to provide tuition assistance to a family with a demonstrated financial need. Your gift will help keep these children in our Catholic schools. Please be generous, and remember our Catholic schools in your prayers.

“Educating is an act of love; it is like giving life.”

Pope Francis

## DONOR INFORMATION / Información del Donante

Name /Nombre \_\_\_\_\_

Address /Dirección \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code /Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal \_\_\_\_\_

Email /Correo Electrónico \_\_\_\_\_

Phone /Teléfono (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Parish /Parroquia \_\_\_\_\_

Please remember the Diocese/Catholic Schools of Arkansas in your will.

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Credit Card Number/Número de Tarjeta de Crédito \_\_\_\_\_

Three Digit Verification Code/Código de Verificación de Tres Dígitos \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date/Fecha de Vencimiento \_\_\_\_\_

Print Cardholder Name/ Escriba Nombre del Titular de la Tarjeta \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature/ Firma del Titular \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check made payable to: **AR Catholic Schools Scholarship Appeal, Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N Tyler St., Little Rock, AR 72207** or set up an online monthly pledge or one-time gift at [www.givecentral.org/arkansas/](http://www.givecentral.org/arkansas/).

Thank you so much for your gift. You are changing lives and impacting the future.

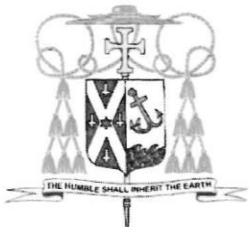
☐ Monthly/Mensualmente

☐ One-Time Payment/Un solo pago

Total Pledge/Donativo Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed/Cantidad Adjunta \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

October 22, 2020

### **Clarification regarding Pope Francis' statement about Civil Unions**

The major theme of Pope Francis' apostolic ministry has been to call the Church to reach out with mercy to those on the margins. This is the mercy of coming close to Jesus. Mercy is the lens through which Pope Francis calls us to view and respond to situations of poverty, migration, racial and income inequality, the environment and people affected by unjust discrimination—among whom are homosexuals, who have been marginalized throughout history. We can debate points of theology but debates seldom change hearts and usually lead to both parties clinging all the more tenaciously to the truth as they understand it. Mercy as a concept separate from Jesus can end up being simply license, but when we truly try listen to the other with a heart conformed to that of Jesus, we begin to look for ways to remedy situations that disadvantage those on the margin.

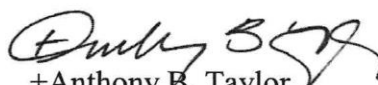
I believe that is why, without changing any of the teaching of the Church about the immorality of homosexual acts, Pope Francis has tried to find ways to reassure homosexuals that God loves them, that they have a place in the life of the Church and that we have an obligation to remove all the disadvantages that they suffer unjustly. One of these injustices is the fact that in most societies the legal union of civil marriage conveys tangential benefits to incentivize marriage that are not intrinsically connected to marriage itself, and are denied to those who are not in a legal union. That is the background for Pope Francis' statement about civil unions in the documentary "Francesco" which premiered in the Rome Film Festival on October 21, 2020. I note that comments in an interview like this can be insightful but are not meant to articulate doctrine. Here is what he said:

*"Homosexual people have the right to be in a family. They are children of God. You can't kick someone out of a family nor make their life miserable for this. What we have to have is a civil union law; that way people are legally covered."*

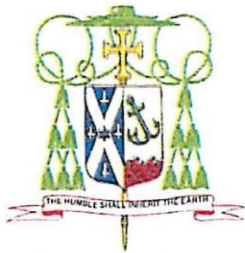
That's his concern. Civil unions of homosexuals would grant most of the tangential benefits of marriage without being a true marriage, which is of course impossible for a homosexual union, and thus a misnomer, even though U.S. law describes it as marriage. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that marriage by its very nature is "ordered to the good of the couple, as well as to the generation and education of children." (CCC 1660) One look at our bodies reveals that both the procreation of children and the complete unitive act of intercourse requires physical complementarity, which are not present in a same-sex union. However, a stable bond between persons of the same sex has the possibility of offering some good for those persons, especially when that bond is chaste in nature. Notice that this union is civil, solely for the purpose of ensuring civil benefits. It has no status in Church law. Some of the tangential civil benefits of marriage that could be made available to homosexuals in a civil union are: health insurance benefits, surviving partner inheritance benefits, joint tax return benefits, medical decision-making, hospital visitation rights, funeral decision-making and tax free transfer of property.

This statement regarding civil unions is one small expression of a much broader vision of inclusion that Pope Francis has proclaimed throughout his papacy.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock





Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

September 25, 2020

### **On Lifting the Suspension of the Sunday Mass Obligation, effective October 1, 2020**

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

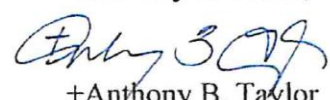
The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, and our Sunday communal celebration of the Eucharist is a central and non-negotiable part of who we are as Catholics. However, in view of the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 12, 2020 I dispensed everyone in the Diocese of Little Rock temporarily from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass in person, with the stipulation that everyone keep holy the Lord's Day in other ways, for instance through participation in Mass transmitted over the internet, through Eucharistic Adoration or other time spent in prayer, for instance a family rosary. And then effective the weekend of March 21-22, in view of the increasing danger and following the advice of our governor, the public celebration of Mass was suspended for the entire state of Arkansas, with the exception of small, self-contained groups at the discretion of the priest. This was consistent with the steps taken in dioceses throughout the world and lasted for 6 weeks.

On May 4, 2020—once we had a clearer idea of the steps to be taken to prevent the spread of the coronavirus at Mass—I authorized the resumption of the public celebration of Mass on a limited basis with the stipulation that all participants be required to wear masks the entire time they are in the Church, that the space occupied not exceed 25% occupancy, that 6' of physical separation be maintained between family groups and individuals, plus other steps be taken to ensure the safety of the participants, including the sanitizing of hands and surfaces, the temporary removal of hymn books and the temporary suspension of the ministry of choirs and altar servers. The progressive re-opening of our Churches continued throughout the summer and as of June 15, 2020 we were able to authorize up to 66% occupancy in Churches where that was possible while still maintaining the required use of masks and 6' physical distancing. During this time the dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass attendance continued.

Today I am happy to announce that our anti-COVID protocols have been effective in preventing the spread of the disease at Mass. We are not aware of even a single case of transmission linked to participation in worship in any Catholic Church in Arkansas—or for that matter, not any other Catholic Church in the United States where these protocols were in place. **Therefore, we are now in a position to lift the dispensation from the obligation of in-person Sunday Mass attendance for everyone who is in good health and not especially vulnerable or caring for someone who is especially vulnerable—effective October 1, 2020. The celebration of the Eucharist is at the center of our relationship with Jesus, whose true body and blood, soul and divinity we receive in this sacrament—the greatest treasure in our lives. Of course if a person feels ill, or has been exposed to COVID-19 and is in quarantine, or is otherwise especially vulnerable, for instance due to chronic illness or the frailty of old age, they remain dispensed—but still have the obligation to otherwise keep the Lord's Day holy.**

In the event that due to the ongoing requirement of physical distancing, the number of people seeking to attend Mass exceeds the capacity of the Church building and any overflow areas provided, any who are turned away have fulfilled their obligation before the Lord by the mere fact of having attempted to come to Mass, so long as they then participate in Mass via the internet, or observe some other way of keeping holy the Lord's Day, for instance through a family rosary or time spent in Eucharistic Adoration.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock





## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

Clarification and Reminder 9/29/20  
Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

As we prepare to lift the suspension of the obligation of Sunday Mass attendance for those who are in good health, not especially vulnerable and not caring for someone who is especially vulnerable, the following clarification and reminder is in order.

Clarification: if you are in a risk group identified by the CDC or—after serious prayer and deliberation—remain very fearful otherwise, you can consider yourself still dispensed. Older adults and persons with certain medical conditions, including asthma and diabetes, have been identified by the CDC as being at greater risk. When dealing with fear or otherwise in doubt, feel free to consult with your pastor regarding your specific situation.


Protocols: all of the measures we have taken for protecting our people at Mass not only remain in place, they should be more strictly observed due to the larger number of people who will be attending Mass. In addition to mask wearing the entire time you are inside the Church, 6' physical distancing and hand sanitizing upon entry into the Church, the following (about which questions have been asked) should also continue to be observed:

Communion on the hand. You receive on the hand with the mask still on, step aside, lower the mask, place the host in your mouth, raise the mask and return to your place. There is no Communion on the tongue except during the Latin Mass. Those desiring to receive on the tongue should wait until the congregation has left, and then receive communion from the tabernacle, the priest or deacon sanitizing his hands before and after.

Dismissal: People should be dismissed row by row from the back of the Church to the front and instructed to go directly to their cars. People should not be allowed to congregate in the vestibule or immediately outside the Church following Mass.

The Eucharist is the greatest treasure the Lord has left us and it is my hope that increased participation will draw us closer to the Lord at this difficult time and provide us the spiritual nourishment we need amid the challenges we face. May the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael protect us as we move forward in our journey of faith.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Informed Choices ministry exists to evangelize, encourage and empower men/women in making life affirming choices.

### **Informed Choices provides:**

- Pregnancy Testing
- Pregnancy options education
- Healthy pregnancy education
- Limited ultrasounds
- Post abortion recovery
- Referrals for
  - Pre-natal care
  - Social services
  - Adoption
- Parenting Skills
  - Support mothers & fathers beyond pregnancy
  - "Earn While You Learn" program where clients earn items and resources to provide a healthy environment for their child

## WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

- PRAYER PARTNER
- FINANCIAL SUPPORTER
  - One Time Gifts
  - Monthly Gift
- DONATE ITEMS
- VOLUNTEER
  - Men/Women Volunteers
  - Youth Group Service Projects: yard work, sort baby items
- PROMOTE & PARTICIPATE
  - Baby Bottle Campaign
  - Annual Banquet(s)
  - 100-Hole Golf Marathon
  - Community Events

## CURRENT NEEDS

- Diapers sizes 1&2
- New baby items
- New (unused) car seats



312 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Mountain Home 870-424-4673  
 Monday – Thursday 10:00a – 6:00p  
 Closed Fridays

715 W Sherman, Harrison 870-280-3169  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
 Closed Wednesdays

[Informedchoiceswomenscenter.org](http://Informedchoiceswomenscenter.org)





**Do you love to sing?**  
**Do you love to make music for the Lord?**  
**IS GOD CALLING YOU TO MUSIC MINISTRY?**

**Adult Choir**—The Adult Choir meets every Thursday at 6:30pm and sings at the Sunday 8:30am Mass and other Holy Days of Obligation.

**Youth Choir**—The Youth Choir consists of students in grades K-12. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm immediately following PREP class. They sing at the scheduled Youth Masses throughout the academic year. Hand chimes and other instruments are used, as well.

**Hand Bell Choir**—The Hand Bell Choir meets on Tuesday evenings at 6PM and plays at approximately 7 Masses throughout the year.

**Silver Bells**—Silver Bells is a group, specifically for the senior members of our parish. Opportunities for food, fellowship, and fun are guaranteed!

*What does Music Ministry mean to me?*

"Singing in church has been an important part of my life for as long as I can remember. It was such a natural routine for me that I would feel as if I had not participated in Mass if no singing was involved. Music ministry continues to be a meaningful part of my life even as a senior member of the parish. It is only through God's blessings that I continue in this ministry and gain a greater connection to my fellow choir members and our church congregation. I would strongly encourage others who appreciate music during church services to seriously consider giving music ministry a try."—Kevin Cheri (Adult Choir member)

"I like singing in the church choir because it lets me glorify God in a way that I enjoy. I also like the choir because it makes me feel peaceful especially when I am singing about God."—Eliana & Charlize Adamos (Youth Choir members)

"I have been a part of this amazing handbell group since it started three years ago. Even though I do have a music background, I find playing handbells challenging. Instead of playing all the notes in a song, each bell is a part of the whole that makes the music. I am thankful that I have been able to use my talents to bring more to our Mass celebration. Being a part of our music ministry has been a blessing to me."—Bonnie Tauer (Hand Bell Choir member)

"These bells make our old souls sing!"—Silver Bells members

**If you are interested in sharing your musical talents, contact**  
**Julie Jasper, Director of Music Ministry at (870)688-9369 or [julesjasper93@gmail.com](mailto:julesjasper93@gmail.com)**



Catholic Arkansas  
Sharing Appeal

## What your Donation Can Do:

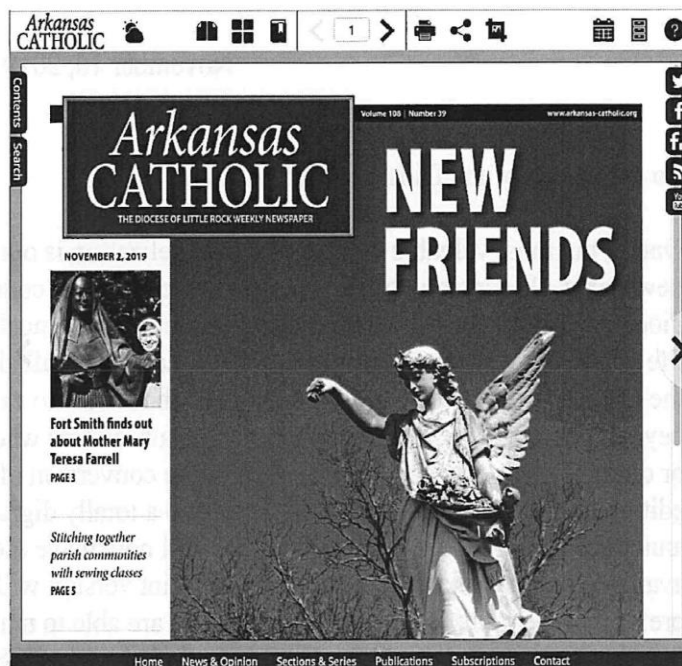
\$25	Provides religious education book for two people.
\$50	Provides a partial scholarship for a student to attend a Campus Ministry retreat.
\$135	Provides a scholarship for one youth to attend a Search weekend.
\$150	Provides utility bill assistance for a family through our Family Assistance Program.
\$250	Provides dental care for a patient of the Westside Free Medical Clinic.
\$500	Covers the cost of an application for a work permit for an eligible immigrant.
\$700	Provides assistance in updating equipment for religious education.
\$1,000	Provides a Project Rachel experience for a woman experiencing the pain of a past abortion.
\$1,500	Provides Bibles and rosaries for people incarcerated in the criminal justice system for six months.
\$2,000	Covers the legal fees for the adoption of a baby through Catholic Adoption Services.
\$4,000	Provides a scholarship for one student to receive a Catholic education for a year in a parish school.
\$36,000	Covers the expenses of educating one seminarian for one year.

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Bishop Anthony B. Taylor**



### AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

#### A tip for iPhone & iPad

- Open Safari and log in to your account at [digital.arkansas-catholic.org](http://digital.arkansas-catholic.org).
- Click the Share  icon on your screen.
- Click "Save to Home Screen."
- Click "Add."

The link is now added to your home screen for fast access.



**[arkansas-catholic.org](http://arkansas-catholic.org)  
(501) 664-0125**

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**Arkansas  
CATHOLIC**  
THE VOICES OF LITTLE ROCK WEEKLY PAPER FOR YOU

NEWC19



# MAJOR CHANGES TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM!!!



**In the Diocese of Little Rock,  
Beginning July 1, 2017:**

**WHO** must do safe environment training and background checks:

**1) Employees**

**2) Volunteers with Routine Contact w/ Minors**

- a. This includes only volunteers who have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their volunteer duties.
- b. Volunteers who do not have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their duties do not have to do safe environment training or background checks.

**WHAT** training programs:

**“CMG Connect”** → online training for **adults**  
(<http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment>)  
(or directly at: <https://littlerock.CMGconnect.org>)

**“Circle of Grace”** → in-classroom training for **children/youth**

We will no longer use VIRTUS’s “Protecting God’s Children” or “Touching Safety.”  
Instead, we will use products supported by **Catholic Mutual Group (CMG)**.

All data from VIRTUS will be moved over to CMG Connect. No one who has already done safe environment training and a background check will have to re-do anything at this time. Users who are due for a 5-year recertification will be notified how to do that by their parish/school safe environment coordinator, who will also have info on both new programs.