

### **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.

### 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 www.harrisoncatholic.org

Pastor:

Deacon:

Parish Manager:

Rev. James M. Fanrak

Dc. Mark Scouten

Robin Markham

J

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, 4th 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):

Parish City:

Tom Hoberock
Craig Bailey
Darlene Coffman
Terra Atkinson
Marlene Rowe
Doherty Family
Carmen Andrade
Joe Koenig
Robin Markham
Craig Bailey
Val Stechly
Ruth Haley

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:

( ) 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

Saturday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM Sunday,	March 13 Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – Anna Claire Bailey Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Martin Vouri, Sr.  March 14 – Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM 8:30 AM	Rosary & Confessions  MASS: SI – All Parishioners
Monday,	March 15 - NO MASS
<b>Tuesday,</b> 5:00 PM 5:30 PM	March 16 Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – Tuazon Family, In Thanksgiving
Wednesday, 5:00 PM 5:30 PM	March 17 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Ron Schoborg
Thursday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	March 18 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Christopher Allen
Friday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 9:00 AM	March 19 Rosary & Confessions MASS: +Patrick Donagh Holy Hour w/Stations of the Cross
Saturday, 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 4:30 PM 5:00 PM	March 20 Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – Chua Family, In Thanksgiving Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI – All Parishioners
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:00 AM 8:30 AM	March 21 – Fifth Sunday of Lent Rosary & Confessions MASS: SI-Tim & Stephanie Huddleston Family



**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**.

**CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE** one-half hour <u>before</u> 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 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! Please Keep Your Mask ON While Singing!

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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 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. 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.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY** is for Catholic Relief Services to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection.

FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of abstinence in the United States. The obligation of abstinence begins at age 14. The law of fasting obliges all between the ages of 18-59. Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age. The Christian faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by law.

**LENTEN SERVICES - Throughout Lent, the Stations of the Cross** are said on Fridays at 9 AM; or pre-recorded for you on the church's Facebook account. Rosary is prayed before daily, Saturday and Sunday Masses. Please choose one or more of these Lenten practices for your sacrifice of prayer.

**INDULGENCES** – A *Plenary indulgence* is granted to the faithful who make the pious exercise of the *Way of the Cross (Stations)*. Those who are "impeded" can gain the same indulgence, if they spend at least one half an hour in pious reading and meditation on the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

-- Enchiridion Indulgentiarum - No. 63

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FOOD DRIVE 40 CANS OR 40 BUCKS

Council 8410 is asking each family of the parish to consider contributing to our local food pantries during this Lenten season. One can of food or one dollar for each day of Lent. Food donations may be brought to the designated area in the church vestibule before Holy Thursday. Cash or checks made out to "Knights of Columbus Lenten Food Drive" may be given to a Knight or placed in the collection at Mass. Your assistance to the less fortunate is deeply appreciated. May God Bless You!

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

Mary Mother of God College Scholarship Applications for high school seniors are due in the church office no later than <u>April 15</u>. If you need an application, contact the church office or Holly Coffman.



The Knights of Columbus will award a college scholarship this spring for the 2021-2022 academic year. Applications may be found at harrisoncatholic.org. Select Groups and click Knights of Columbus. Please submit your application to the church office no later than April 15. Questions? Contact Nick Simon at 688-7700.

**Awake, O Sleeper!** - This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give.

I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. "Just five more minutes." You hit the "snooze" button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the "snooze" button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS





**EASTER MEMORIALS OR HONORARIUMS** – Memorials (for a deceased loved one) or Honorariums (for a living loved one) are available for a \$10 donation. Easter flowers will remain throughout the Easter Season on the

Altar. No names will be placed on the individual flowers, but an acknowledgment will be placed in the church bulletin. An acknowledgment card will also be sent to the person you wish to honor or remember. If you wish to make a memorial or honorarium, please use the envelopes available in the vestibule. Fill in the appropriate addresses on the envelope. Return the envelope via the church office or in the collection basket by Palm Sunday, March 28. Thank you for beautifying our church!

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mar 14: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 / Eph 2:4-10 / Jn 3:14-21

Mar 15: Is 65:17-21 / Jn 4:43-54 Mar 16: Ez 47:1-9, 12 / Jn 5:1-16

Mar 17: Is 49:8-15 / Jn 5:17-30 Mar 18: Ex 32:7-14 / Jn 5:31-47

Mar 19: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 /

Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Mar 20: Jer 11:18-20 / Jn 7:40-53

Mar 21: Jer 31:31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33

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

"Let us encourage one another to walk joyfully, our hearts filled with wonder, towards our encounter with the Holy Eucharist ... Make time for personal prayer before the Sacrament of the Altar." Pope Benedict XVI

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

Sunday @ 7 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM & 2 PM

Monday @ Noon, 1 PM & 5 PM

Tuesday @ 11 AM & 1 PM

Wednesday @ 10 AM, 11 AM & 6 PM

Thursday @ 9 AM, 4 PM & 5 PM

Friday @ Noon, 1 PM, 4 PM & 6 PM

Saturday @ 10 AM, 11 AM, Noon, 1 PM, 2 PM & 3 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

Lenten Day of Recollection – "Constructing Our Lives for Christ" will be offered on Tuesday, March 23. Led by Br. Roch McClellan, OSB, the day begins with registration at 8:30 AM and includes two conferences, opportunity for reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration, Noon prayer with the monks, lunch, and ends with Mass in the Coury House Chapel. \$25 for the day. Call 479-934-1290 or email <a href="mailto:couryhouse@subi.org">couryhouse@subi.org</a> for reservations. Space is limited to 20 people.

**2021 Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal (CASA)** - To date, our parishioners have given \$7,716.80 or 36% of our designated goal of \$21,000. Thank you for your support in helping our diocese to continue to carry on the missionary work of Jesus.

### TEN WAYS TO DEEPEN EXPERIENCE OF LENT

In addition to the traditional disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent, many perform acts of penance by "giving up" something, such as chocolate, soda, or social media. As an alternative, we invite you to take up a practice that you wouldn't otherwise do. It may help you experience Lent in a whole new way this year.

- 1. Try a new prayer or devotion If you have gotten in a rut with your Lenten prayer, why not try something new? One of the most common Lenten prayers is the Stations of the Cross. This practice goes back centuries; but reflecting on the event that made our salvation possible never goes out of style. Most parishes offer the stations each Friday of Lent. To experience this devotion online, check out "Way of the Cross: Meditations and Stations from Arkansas". Other suggestions include eucharistic adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, Lectio Divina or centering prayer.
- **2. Fast to draw closer to God** Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the standard. To learn the basics, visit the Fasting and Abstinence Guidelines. Why not go beyond the basics? Find out what many already know: Fasting awakens your awareness of God and pulls you closer to him. You might find fasting for those in need more fulfilling by taking part in programs like CRS Food Fast. What about fasting from something other than food? Try the I Phone Fast challenge.
- 3. Do some spiritual reading If you like to read, why not put aside that best seller and read something that will deepen your relationship with God and his Church. Check out Pope Francis' 2017 Lenten Message, Bishop Anthony B. Taylor's Homily Library or Arkansas Catholic. Other suggestions include Bishop Taylor's pastoral letter, "I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me: A Pastoral Letter on the Human Rights of Immigrants," the writings of Pope Francis, Bishop Robert Barron's Daily Lenten Reflections or select from the readings lists from National Catholic Register and Our Sunday Visitor.
- 4. Give alms for those in need During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on almsgiving, which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. Challenge yourself to give more this year. It might mean passing on that new iPhone or putting off that car purchase, but your sacrifice for those in need is a "work of justice pleasing to God." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462) Suggestions include giving to CASA, the Catholic Schools of Arkansas Scholarship Appeal, the special collections during Lent and CRS Rice Bowl, which helps people in developing countries around the world.

- <u>5. Take a Bible Study</u> Join a study at your parish or start a new one to reflect on a <u>Lenten series</u> from Little Rock Scripture Study. This internationally recognized program also offers free, monthly articles that come with questions for group study. Its newest release, <u>"Blessed Are You: The Beatitudes,"</u> explores the blessings proclaimed by Jesus at the start of the revolutionary Sermon on the Mount. You may also want to consider this <u>helpful Q&A</u> about reading the Bible and guide for reading it in <u>chronological order</u>.
- <u>6. Learn about Catholic faith</u> Do you have questions about what the Church teaches and why? Have you been told or read something about a teaching that bothers you? Has this caused you to take a step back? Are you sure what you were told is correct? You owe it to yourself to learn the truth. Ask a <u>priest</u>. Take part in a faith formation program at a <u>parish</u> or the <u>diocese</u>. Or visit <u>trusted resources</u> online. We also recommend reading Bishop Taylor's <u>statements</u> on current events or read his homilies that are posted each week.
- 7. Attend Lenten activities MAYBE NOT THIS YEAR! Check out what your local <u>parish</u> has to offer during Lent. It's likely you'll find a parish mission, retreat, fish fry, holy hour, or soup supper to get involved with. If you haven't taken part in the past, we invite you to see how experiencing Lent in community can broaden your perspective, enrich your faith and form new and lasting relationships with fellow believers.
- **8. Make a good confession** If you haven't received the sacrament of reconciliation in a long time, Lent is the ideal time to go. "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart ..." (Joel 2:12). Many parishes provide additional opportunities to receive this sacrament during Lent through Communal Reconciliation Services. These typically include a short service with prayers, readings, and songs, followed by private, individual confessions with priests stationed throughout the church.
- **9. Try a new meatless recipe** I don't know about you, but fast food fish sandwiches get really old during Lent. Just because you are <u>abstaining from meat</u> on Fridays doesn't mean your meals have to be boring. Sample a recipe from *Arkansas Catholic* readers who shared their favorite meatless meals, which are divided into main dishes, casseroles, soups, and side dishes. Are you hungry yet?
- 10. Discover Christ in service Service is a great way to see Christ in the faces of those in need. There are many ways to help others. Based on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, we came up with 25 ideas to perform these works in Arkansas. These include volunteering at your parish, school, or local social service organization, visiting the sick or elderly or adopting a child who needs a forever family.

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

**801 SOUTH PINE** PINE PLAZA, SUITE 7 HARRISON, AR 72601

OFFICE (870) 365-3611 FAX (870) 365-3623 jfkcpa@windstream.net

### CATHOLICS VOTE PRO-LIFE

Courtesy of Newt Foster

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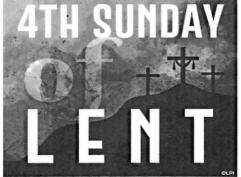
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870-449-4488

skorichlawncarecompany







THANK A VETERAN TODAY!

Courtesy of Newt Foster

### Selling 726

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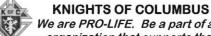
870-715-9873 robinmmunzner@vahoo.com Fourth Sunday of Lent-March 14, 2021—Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spiritual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift that flows out of God's unconditional

serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news. St. Oscar Romero said that, "a church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?" When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world.

Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines

The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God's good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, "we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the "what is to come." Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin.

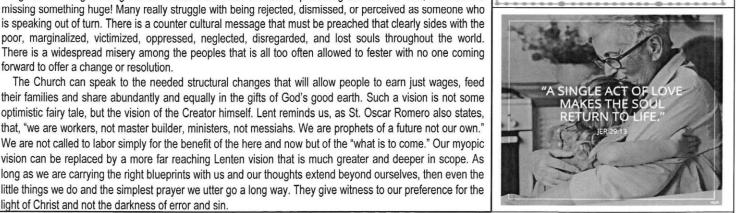




We are PRO-LIFE. Be a part of an organization that supports the protection of an unborn child.

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** 



### eace, New kest in

Courtesy of Newt Foster

### UPDATE FROM BISHOP TAYLOR

As the pandemic statistics are improving and more and more people have been vaccinated, the question has arisen regarding possible modifications in our protocols, so I thought I would bring you up to date on present thinking.

- 1. Earlier advice was given to use as Communion Ministers only those who are under 65 years of age and have no other health risks. This was to protect our older ministers, but was only a guideline and older Communion Ministers continued to function in a few places that had very few younger parishioners. Now that many of our parishioners have been vaccinated, older Communion Ministers and those with health risks can now resume this ministry once they themselves have been vaccinated.
- 2. Water can be restored to our Holy Water fonts, possibly starting with the Easter Vigil.
- 3. Sanitizing of hands should continue, but sanitizing of surfaces, pews, hymn books is no longer necessary.
- 4. Processions from the entrance to the Church instead of from the sacristy is now permitted, and masked altar servers are now permitted. Offertory processions are still not permitted. Greeting people after Mass is not recommended unless sufficient physical distancing can be maintained.
- 5. On the other hand, choirs are still not permitted and the sign of peace, which is optional, should not involve physical contact. Communion for the congregation is still only in the form of the Body of Christ and in concelebrated Masses all the priests receive by intinction except the last to receive, who drinks the remaining Precious Blood. Communion on the tongue is still not permitted during Mass, but may be received from the Tabernacle after Mass.



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

March 3, 2021

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

The following statement of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops addresses concerns that many have regarding the available COVID-19 vaccines:

"The approval of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine for use in the United States again raises questions about the moral permissibility of using vaccines developed, tested, and/or produced with the help of abortion-derived cell lines.

"Pfizer and Moderna's vaccines raised concerns because an abortion-derived cell line was used for testing them, but not in their production. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, however, was developed, tested and is produced with abortion-derived cell lines raising additional moral concerns. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has judged that 'when ethically irreproachable Covid-19 vaccines are not available ... it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.' However, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortionderived cell lines should be chosen. Therefore, if one has the ability to choose a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna's vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson's.

"While we should continue to insist that pharmaceutical companies stop using abortionderived cell lines, given the world-wide suffering that this pandemic is causing, we affirm again that being vaccinated can be an act of charity that serves the common good."

In practical terms, here in Arkansas we are not currently given a choice regarding which vaccine to receive—each place has only one option to offer. Therefore, unless this changes, Catholics here can—and, in the interest of the common good, should—receive whichever vaccine is offered, including the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. If for reasons of personal conscience any Catholic refuses a vaccine when it becomes available, that person has a moral obligation to do their utmost to avoid becoming a vehicle of transmission to others, especially the most vulnerable.

Sincerely in Christ,



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

February 27, 2021

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

One of our most valuable vehicles for evangelization is our award-winning *Arkansas Catholic* newspaper. We are one of the smallest dioceses in the country to be blessed with a weekly local Catholic newspaper, which enables us to provide much information about our faith and the life of the Church in a timely way.

Pope Francis has called for a missionary transformation of the Church so last year we made a decision to make the digital version of *Arkansas Catholic* free for everyone in our diocese thanks in part to your support of the Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal. Hundreds of you have already signed up since we launched the free digital edition.

For those who enjoy a traditional newspaper mailed to your home, the print version is also available for only \$30 a year. In your pew today you will find subscription envelopes where you can subscribe to the print edition and find out how to sign up for your free digital account.

It is my hope that you and all members of your family will read and subscribe to *Arkansas Catholic* in whatever format you prefer. You will be connecting all of us as one family in Christ throughout our diocese.

Sincerely in Christ,



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

February 9, 2021

To Catholics participating in 40 Days for Life and other prayer events outside abortion facilities,

40 Days for Life has a long tradition of conducting peaceful campaigns of education, public witness, fasting and prayer outside abortion facilities. I will be joining the spring campaign in Little Rock to pray the Stations of the Cross outside Planned Parenthood on at 11:00 a.m. on Friday March 12, 2021 and I invite you to join me. Prayer is at the heart of our efforts to end abortion.

When you pray, perhaps you'll see a young woman entering Planned Parenthood. Try to image the fear or hopelessness she might feel. Try to see her as a beloved daughter of God and reach out to her as Jesus himself might- with love, not condemnation. All life issues are connected. She might be struggling with poverty, racism, domestic violence, or other issues we can't even guess, but make it difficult for us to truly understand how she came to seek abortion. Let us have as much concern for her life and for her dignity as we have for the life of the child in her womb.

Recently in Little Rock, several abortion protesters were arrested at the surgical abortion facility. I ask all Catholics not to engage in any activity that is unlawful, including trespassing. Our peaceful, prayerful presence may influence other protesters. However, if during your prayer time there are others present who are disruptive or disrespectful, I ask you to separate yourselves from them. Words or actions that do not uphold the God-given human dignity of *any* person are contrary to our mission to respect and protect every human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

Sincerely in Christ,

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 28 2nd Sunday of Lent	March 1, 2021	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5 First Friday	March 6 First Saturday
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Arkansas Catholic Subscription Drive	NO MASS ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Meeting	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6 PM Confirmation with Holy Hour & Confessions 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8 AM Healing Rosary w/Exposition 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations  ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
March 7 3rd Sunday of Lent	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11	March 12	March 13
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Building Maintenance	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++  K-8 Online Classes NO Confirmation Class NO HS Class	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations  ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
March 14 4th Sunday of Lent	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18	March 19	March 20
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Catholic Relief Services	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6 PM Confirmation Practice NO HS Class	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations  ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
March 21 5th Sunday of Lent	March 22	March 23	March 24	March 25	March 26	March 27
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	NO MASS	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Holy Hour w/Stations  ABSTINENCE = NO MEAT	8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
March 28 Palm Sunday	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1, 2021 Holy Thursday	April 2 Good Friday	April 3 Holy Saturday
8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	NO MASS ++ Day of Recollection 5:30 PM Chrism Mass in Little Rock	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class ++ All Food Populations May	NO 8:30 AM MASS ++ 5 PM Confessions 5:30 PM Mass ++ Collection to Support Our Seminarians	•	NO 8:30 AM Mass NO 4:30 Confessions NO 5 PM Mass ++ 8 PM Easter Vigil Mas ++
		PK	All Food Donations May Be Brought to the Church No Later than Today Thank You!	++ Adoration Until 9 PM	NO Adoration Today ++ FAST & ABSTINENCE DIVINE MERCY	NO Adoration Toda



Aprii 4 Easter Sunday

8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 11 AM Mass - Yellville

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FOOD DRIVE 40 CANS OR 40 BUCKS

Food donations may be brought to the church before Holy Thursday. Cash or checks payable to the Knights of Columbus Food Drive may be placed in the collection basket or sent to the church office.

### As the season of Lent approaches, it is helpful to recall the discipline of the Church with regard to fast, abstinence, and other forms of penance.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting allows one full meal and two smaller ones. The law of abstinence prohibits the eating of meat. The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence in the United States. The obligation of abstinence begins at age 14. The law of fasting obliges all between the ages of 18-59. Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age. All members of the Christian faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by Law.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THIS CALENDAR.

### MARCH 2021 MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

**5 PM Saturday Mass** 

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

		HAPPY I	BIRTHDAY TO YOU!		
Mar 1	Jon Dezort	Mar 12	Erin Culhane	Mar 23	David Fesenmyer
Mar 1	Meadow Whiteside	Mar 13	Brody Burge	Mar 25	Eamonn Clark
			, ,		
Mar 2	Pepe Ramirez	Mar 13	Jaidon Lamb	Mar 26	Mary Bausch
Mar 3	Val Stechly	Mar 14	Lauren Dearing	Mar 26	June Simon
Mar 4	Bill Markham	Mar 14	Belin Juantos	Mar 26	Christine Teague
Mar 6	Lori Goulet	Mar 14	Josephine Kershaw	Mar 27	Laura Burge
Mar 7	Tiffany Coffman	Mar 15	Richard Atkinson	Mar 27	Kayleigh Culpepper
Mar 8	Bob Patterson	Mar 15	Lily Hodges	Mar 27	Emily Hargett
Mar 9	Justin Applegate	Mar 15	Elisabeth Scouten	Mar 27	Juliet Juantos
Mar 9	Paul Styles	Mar 16	Ricky Crosley	Mar 27	Elyssa Weisman
Mar 10	Matthew Bradford	Mar 16	Brooxie Rogers	Mar 28	Aaliyhia Simpson
Mar 10	Elijah Leimberg	Mar 18	Michael Adamos	Mar 29	Parker Atkinson
Mar 11	Nancy Bax	Mar 18	Chuck Draper	Mar 30	Michael Ford
Mar 11	Jada Bray	Mar 21	Tina Duncan	Mar 31	Charity Luyet
				Mar 31	Jerome Tauer

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

Mar 13	Daniel & Mary Christner	Mar 20	David & Lynn Hancock
Mar 13	Nick & Becca Simon	Mar 20	Ed & Virray Karlovic
Mar 18	Frances & Ronald Thomas	Mar 22	Tim & Stephanie Huddleston
Mar 19	Antonio & Michelle Aldrete	Mar 23	George & Kathleen Stimson
Mar 19	David & Mary Decker	Mar 29	Rudy & Martha Sandoval



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

(Duly 554







# **Arkansas Catholic Schools**

### Scholarship Appeal



desire a Catholic education for their child. Parish subsidies, school fundraising, and foundations 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 provide funds for financial assistance, but not enough.

assistance to a family with a demonstrated financial need. Your gift will help keep these children All funds raised through this appeal go directly to an Arkansas Catholic school to provide tuition 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."

DONOR INFORMATION / Información del Donante	Monthly/Mensualmente
Name /Nombre	One Time Boundary of the
Address / Dirección	One-Time Layment on solo pago
City, State, Zip Code /Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal	Total Pledge/Donativo Total \$
Email /Correo Electrónico	Amount Enclosed/Cantidad Adjunta \$
Phone / Teléfono ( ) Parish / Parroquia	
Diocese/Catholic	Balance Due/Saldo adeudado
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Credit Card Number/Número de Tarjeta de Crédito	
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Print Cardholder Name/ Escriba Nombre del Titular de la Tarjeta Cardholder's Signature/ Firma del Titular	e/ Firma del Titular
Mail about made neverble to: AR Catholic Schools Scholarship Anneal Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N Tyler St., Little	Little Bock, 2500 N Tyler St., Little

Rock, AR 72207 or set up an online monthly pledge or one-time gift at www.givecentral.org/arkansas/.

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



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 inperson 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,



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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,



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

Informedchaiceswamenscenter.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.

<u>Silver Bells</u>—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



### 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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### 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 <u>not</u> have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their duties do <u>not</u> have to do safe environment training or background checks.

### **WHAT** training programs:

"CMG Connect" → online training for adults

(<a href="http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment">http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment</a>)

(or directly at: <a href="https://littlerock.CMGconnect.org">https://littlerock.CMGconnect.org</a>)

"Circle of Grace" → in-classroom training for children/youth

We will <u>no longer use VIRTUS's</u> "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.