



### **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](mailto:mmgchurch@yahoo.com)  
[www.harrisoncatholic.org](http://www.harrisoncatholic.org)

**Pastor:**

**Rev. James M. Fanrak**

**Deacon:**

**Dc. Mark Scouten**

Parish Manager:

Robin Markham

Adult Scripture Study:

Tom Hoberock

Buildings, Maintenance:

Craig Bailey

Catholic Christian Women:

Darlene Coffman

Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM):

Terra Atkinson

Cemetery Committee:

Marlene Rowe

Custodian:

Doherty Family

Eucharistic Adoration:

Carmen Andrade

Finance Council:

Joe Koenig

Flocknote:

Robin Markham

Knights of Columbus:

Craig Bailey

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

Val Stechly

Legion of Mary:

Ruth Haley

Libraries:

Jennifer Johnson

Liturgy, Sacraments, Devotions:

Dc. Mark Scouten

Music Ministry:

Julie Jasper

Pro-Life:

Sandra Guidry

Religious Ed, Formation (PREP):

Holly Coffman

Sacristans:

Jones, Stephens, Sandri

Alternate Sacristans:

Scouten, Bailey

Safe Environment:

Holly Coffman

Social Justice/Charitable Outreach

Robin Markham

Trail Life USA:

Wes Bradford

Tribunal:

Dc. Mark Scouten

Wedding Coordinator:

Bonnie Tauer

Welcome New Catholics (RCIA):

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 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>March 27</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Ron Caster Family
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: +Julie Maguire, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniv. 
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>Mar. 28 – Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – All Parishioners
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>March 29 – NO MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>March 30</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Marin Jones
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>March 31</b>
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Ruth Fitton, 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv.
<b>Holy Thursday,</b>	<b>April 1 – Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>
8:30 AM	NO MASS
5:00 PM	Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: SI – Deacon Mark Scouten
<b>Good Friday,</b>	<b>April 2 – Passion of the Lord</b>
8:30 AM	NO MASS
3:00 PM	Confessions, Stations of the Cross,
5:30 PM	Communion Service: Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion
<b>Holy Saturday,</b>	<b>April 3</b>
8:30 AM	NO MASS
5:00 PM	NO MASS
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil Mass: SI – The Haley Family
<b>Easter Sunday,</b>	<b>April 4 – The Lord's Resurrection!</b>
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Tim Krone



**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!

**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](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.



**Fasting & Abstinence**

**ABSTINENCE:** All who have attained their 14<sup>th</sup> year are bound to abstain from meat on **all Fridays of**

**Lent.** **GOOD FRIDAY FASTING:** All Catholic between the ages of 18-59 are limited to one full meal on this day and two smaller meals which together do not equal one full meal.

**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



**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 today. **Palm Sunday, March 28.** Thank you for beautifying our church!

**Mary Mother of God College Scholarship Applications** for high school seniors are due in the church office no later than **April 15**. 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](http://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.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Eliana Adamos, Connor Atkinson, Blaise Bonds, Brody Burge, Gia Dowell, Camden Everts, Vittoria Gratton, Caroline Huddleston, Colin Klott, Mariah Lizarda, Nicholas Paradiso, Gabe Sandoval, Owen Styles, and Leslie Johnson & Wade

Strong from St. Andrew's, who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Anthony Taylor last weekend.

### ADORE THE EUCHARIST – IT'S CHRIST WITH US !!

"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, 3 PM & 5 PM**

**Monday @ Noon & 1 PM**

**Tuesday @ 8 AM, 11 AM & 1 PM**

**Wednesday @ 10 AM, 11 AM, Noon & 6 PM**

**Thursday @ Noon & 4 PM**

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

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



The Knights of Columbus Lenten Food Drive ends this Wednesday. If you still wish to make a food or monetary donation, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your generous contributions!



The Adoration Chapel will close at 9 PM on Holy Thursday and remain closed on Good Friday and Holy Saturday until it opens at 8:30 AM on Easter Sunday!

The Holy Thursday Collection for Seminarian Education will be held April 1. The money from this Diocese of Little Rock collection will support the educational and housing expenses of the diocese's seminarians. Since the collection was established in 2010, the money has been able to support the seminarian's urgent needs. "Since that time, you have donated over \$3,611,423.76," vocations director Msgr. Scott Friend wrote in letter to parishioners. "As of 2009, Bishop Taylor has ordained 38 new priests." All donations to the collection go to pay for the immediate education and housing expenses for diocesan seminarians. It costs \$36,000 per year to form the men studying for the priesthood for our diocese. While donations to the Msgr. O'Connell Diocesan Seminarian Fund are invested and only the earnings are used, the Holy Thursday collection can be used for immediate expenses, such as tuition, room and board and health insurance. Your help is needed to cover these costs. To learn more about our seminarians, read or watch their vocation stories. For more information, contact the Vocations and Seminarians Office at 501-664-0340.

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION** - Christians living where Christ walked, taught, lived, and died, live in a land of war, death, and destruction. The Holy Land Collection is a pontifical collection that supports the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities. Funds for this collection not only support the holy places, but also pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works throughout the Holy Land.

**Annual Divine Mercy Novena** - This Novena was promulgated by Saint Faustina Kowalska and is prayed each day from Good Friday until the Second Sunday of Easter, known as Divine Mercy Sunday. There are pamphlets about the Devotion to The Divine Mercy and the Divine Mercy Novena available in the church vestibule.



**Walk Every Step with Christ** - Holy Week is a week for being mindful. We must set loose the baggage of Lent, and not be deterred by the dazzling sunrise of Easter morning beckoning in the distance.

It's okay for us to be excited for Easter. We've waited so long, after all. In my opinion it's one of the best feelings there is: the yearning we have in our hearts for the Resurrection as we embark on Palm Sunday. And in a purely logical sense, many of us have Easter celebrations for which we are preparing, and practical considerations to contend with. It's going to be a busy week, one likely full of happy distractions.

But my friends, we simply must keep our feet on the ground. Let's not "skip" Holy Week. Resist the urge to flip to the last page of the book, to fast-forward to the final scene of the movie. Don't rob yourself of the journey. This week is a blessed opportunity. It is this week that teaches us who we are. In the span of the Triduum, we have the birthday of the priesthood, the institution of the Eucharist, the sacrifice on Calvary and so many other vivid and meaningful scenes.

It may sound strange, to advise someone to savor the moments of Holy Week. There are so many violent and heartrending moments, after all. But this is the valley of tears, remember — we are not in Heaven yet. And here, in our fallen, sin-filled world, it is the heartrending moments that seem to matter the most.

These are the moments that define us as Catholics. Live them. Cherish them. Be present for each one. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mar 28: Mk 11:1-10 / Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 / Mk 15:1-39  
 Mar 29: Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11  
 Mar 30: Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Mar 31: Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25  
 Apr 1: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 / Jn 13:1-15  
 Apr 2: Is 52:13-53:12 / Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 / Jn 18:1-19:42  
 Apr 3: Gn 1:1-2:2 / Gn 22:1-18 / Ex 14:15-15:1 /  
 Is 55:1-11 / Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4 / Ez 36:16-17, 18-28  
 Rom 6:3-11 / Mk 16:1-7  
 Apr 4: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9

**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, Christian & John, Loretta Clements, Brian/Chad Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, David/Joelene Conner, Jim/Karen Conner, Barbara Crothers, Kathy Cuevas, Decker Family, Gia Dowell, Espinoza Family, Glen Feldman, Greg Foster, Kendall Fowler, Robert Friedl, Casey Gibbs, Edmund Griggs, Bill Haley, Chris 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, Janice Munzner, Isaiah Neil, Mollie Norman, Nikki Patten, Eliska/Harlan/Martha Pollock, Michael Reding, Deacon 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. Names will be deleted March 31. Please contact the office to add/delete names.



## NOVENA FOR IMPOSSIBLE REQUESTS

Pray the following prayer devoutly every day from **March 25<sup>th</sup> through December 25<sup>th</sup>** for reach of three intentions. This Novena honors the nine months in which Our Lady carried Our Lord in her womb.

"Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope!  
To thee do we cry,  
poor banished children of Eve;  
To thee do we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious advocate,  
thine eyes of mercy towards us;  
and after this our exile, show unto us  
the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
O Clement, O loving,  
O sweet Virgin Mary."

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

"Virgin of the incarnation,  
A thousand times we praise thee,  
A thousand times we praise thee for the joy  
You had when God was incarnated in you.  
Because you are so powerful a Virgin  
And Mother of God,  
Grant what we ask of thee for the love of God."

**Here, state your first intention.**

**Repeat all the above and then state your 2<sup>nd</sup> intention.**

**Repeat all the above and then state your 3<sup>rd</sup> intention.**

## CONCLUSION:

After the above prayers and intentions, pray the **Memorare**:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known  
that anyone who fled to thy protection,  
implored thy help,  
or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee,  
O Virgin of virgins, my mother.  
To thee do I come, before thee I stand,  
sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,  
despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy  
hear and answer me.  
Amen.



Pray the **Hail Mary ...**

Blessed and praised be the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar,  
in Heaven, on earth and everywhere.

**HOLY OILS** -- These are blessed by the bishop during a special Mass, the Chrism Mass, at the cathedral during Holy Week.

There are three kinds: Oil of Catechumens, Holy Chrism, and Oil of the Sick. The first and third are pure olive oil; chrism has in the oil a mixture of balm or balsam. (In 1970, the Sacred Congregation of Divine Worship declared that, if necessary, the holy oils may be from any plant.) The holy oils are symbols of spiritual nourishment and grace. They are used in the public administration of the sacraments as follows:

- ❖ **The Oil of Catechumens** – Baptism, the consecration of churches, the blessing of altars, the ordination of priests.
- ❖ **The Holy Oil or Sacred Chrism** – Confirmation, Baptism, the consecration of a bishop, the consecration of churches, chalices, patens, bells.
- ❖ **The Oil of the Sick** – Anointing of the Sick

The Holy Oils are kept locally in **The Ambry**. At Mary Mother of God Church, the ambry is the windowed box on the shelf next to the Blessed Mother statue.

## Two Timely Precepts of the Church

### From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

The Church lists specific duties of Catholics as precepts. These are basic objectives we have as Catholics.

One precept is that we shall confess our sins at least once a year (CCC 2042). This is a reminder to receive the Sacrament of Penance on a regular basis. But **if no grave (mortal) sin has been committed in that time, confession is not necessary** (CCC 1493). However, frequent confession is of great value, it helps us to be better Christians and to hear and follow the voice of the Holy Spirit better (CCC 2042).

Another precept is that we shall receive Holy Communion at least during the Easter season, "the Easter Duty" (CCC 2042). The Easter Season goes from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday.

## → 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>

**VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY: Hope & Healing**, a 12-week online Bible study just for women who have been wounded by abortion, will begin in April. This new opportunity offered **through Project Rachel Ministry** will explore the impact of past abortion decisions on our lives and discover what we need to do to heal from these traumatic experiences.

On this journey of self-discovery and empowerment we will meet 12 amazing women who, just like us, are wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends. We will learn together how these women faced the same struggles and challenges that we face and through their example gain insight into what we can do to make changes in our own lives so that we can move forward from lingering grief, shame, guilt, fear, and pain to acceptance, forgiveness, trust, peace, love, and joy.

Any woman, anywhere, can participate from the comfort of her own space, either anonymously or with a virtual group of soon-to-be friends. Call or text our CONFIDENTIAL direct phone line 501-663-0996 for more info. **Registration is required by March 29.**



# Mary Mother of God 2021 Confirmation Class

Please keep our fourteen confirmandi in your prayers!



**Brody Michael  
Burge**

Son of Stacy & Laura  
Burge and Grandson of  
Parishioner  
Betty Burge & the late  
Bill Burge



**Harm Camden Everts**

Son of Julie Penquite  
& Scott Everts and  
Grandson of  
Parishioners  
Don & Judy Penquite



**Colin Michael Klott**

Son of Greg & Stacie  
Klott



**Eliana Magtoto  
Adamos**

Daughter of Henry &  
Amy Adamos



**Connor Isaac  
Atkinson**

Son of Toby & Terra  
Atkinson and  
Grandson of  
Parishioners Milan &  
Shirley Gonos



**Joseph Blaise  
Bonds**

Son of Bryan & Nell  
Bonds and Grandson  
of Parishioner Diana  
Hodges



# Mary Mother of God 2019 Confirmation Class

Please keep our fourteen confirmandi in your prayers!



**Levi Rey  
Haley**

Son of Levi &  
Helen Haley and  
Grandson of  
Parishioners Bill  
& Ruth Haley



**Christian Lee  
Huddleston**

Son of Tim &  
Stephanie  
Huddleston and  
Grandson of  
Parishioners  
Richard & Laurie  
Criger



**Daniel Cole  
Keylon**

Son of Chris &  
Marisa Keylon



**Nina Carolyn  
Krone**

Daughter of Ben  
& Lucia Krone and  
Granddaughter of  
Parishioner  
Jane Krone



**Gabriella  
Paradiso**

Daughter of  
Tina Pietrabella  
and the late  
Tommy Paradiso



**Tina Alexis  
Perez**

Daughter of  
Ventura & Maria  
Perez



**Meadow Adelle  
Whiteside**

Daughter of Travis  
& Renae  
Whiteside and  
Granddaughter of  
Parishioners Bob  
& Donna Terrell

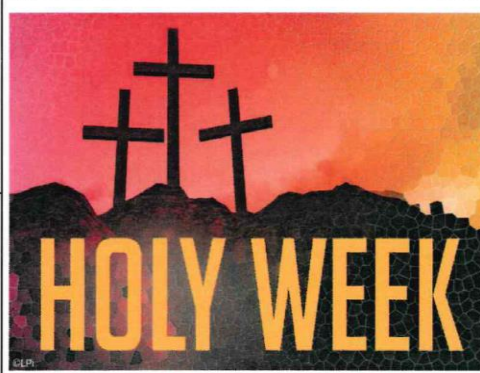


## Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

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

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

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• Sunday Lunch •  
11:30 AM—2 PM



• DINNER •  
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5—9 PM  
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Debris/Leaf Removal, Power Wash  
skorichlawncarecompany@gmail.com  
† 870-421-6752  
870-449-4488



THANK  
A VETERAN  
TODAY!

Courtesy of Newt Foster

**Selling 726**  
REALTY

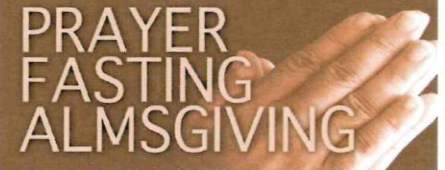
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## PATRICIA H. VIRNIG

Attorney At Law

132 N. Willow  
Harrison, AR 72601 † 870-741-0002  
Hours: 9 AM to 5 PM Fax: 870-741-0003

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*Pray*  
FOR THE  
PROTECTION  
OF THE UNBORN

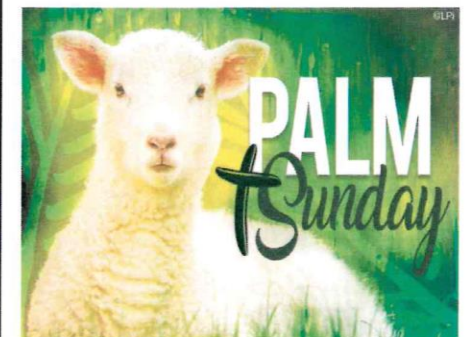
**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord—March 28, 2021**—Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better? ©LPi

 **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






# Rest in Peace, Newt

Courtesy of Newt Foster



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 28</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass  	<b>March 29</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Day of Recollection 5:30 PM Chrism Mass in Little Rock	<b>March 30</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>March 31</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes 6:30-7:30 PM HS Class ++ <i>All Food Donations May Be Brought to the Church No Later than Today Thank You!</i>	<b>April 1, 2021</b> <i>Holy Thursday</i>  <b>NO 8:30 AM MASS</b> ++ 5 PM Confessions 5:30 PM Mass ++ Collection to Support Our Seminarians ++ Adoration Until 9 PM	<b>April 2</b> <i>Good Friday</i>  <b>NO 8:30 AM Mass</b> 3 PM Confessions & Stations of the Cross ++ 5:30 PM Service Holy Land Collection ++ <b>NO Adoration Today</b> ++ <b>FAST &amp; ABSTINENCE</b>  <b>DIVINE MERCY NOVENA</b> <b>APRIL 2-10</b>	<b>April 3</b> <i>Holy Saturday</i>  <b>NO 8:30 AM Mass</b> <b>NO 4:30 Confessions</b> <b>NO 5 PM Mass</b> ++ 8 PM Easter Vigil Mass ++ <b>NO Adoration Today</b>  
 <b>April 4</b> <i>Easter Sunday</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 11 AM Mass - Yellville	<b>April 5</b>  <b>NO MASS</b> ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Meeting	<b>April 6</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>April 7</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes <b>NO High School Class</b>	<b>April 8</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Donuts Follow	<b>April 9</b>  8 AM Healing Rosary w/Exposition 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 10</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>DIVINE MERCY NOVENA CONTINUES THROUGH APRIL 10</b>						
<b>April 11</b> <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Building Maintenance ++ <b>3 PM Divine Mercy Hour with Exposition &amp; Benediction</b>	<b>April 12</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>April 13</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>April 14</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes <b>Confirmation Class Will Meet w/HS Class 6:30-7:30 PM</b>	<b>April 15</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 16</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 17</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>April 18</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 19</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>April 20</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>April 21</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ K-8 Online Classes <b>NO High School Class</b>	<b>April 22</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 23</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 24</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>April 25</b> <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 26</b>  <b>NO MASS</b>	<b>April 27</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>April 28</b>  5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>April 29</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>April 30</b>  8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	<b>May 1, 2021</b>  8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>PLEASE CHECK YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THIS CALENDAR.</b>						

**HOLY WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S IN YELLEVILLE:**

Holy Thursday, April 1: 5:30 PM Mass w/Fr. Stan Swiderski  
 Good Friday, April 2: 5:30 PM Service w/Fr. Stan Swiderski  
 Easter Sunday, April 4: 11 AM Mass w/ Fr. John Lewandowski



## 2021 APRIL MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

5 PM Saturday Mass

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

**MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR WILL BE BACK ON ROTATION IN MAY.  
IF YOU NO LONGER WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR MINISTRY OR  
ARE NOT READY TO RESUME, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Apr 1	Debbie Berry	Apr 10	Cambree Hodges	Apr 23	Laurel Eddings
Apr 1	Tristen Smith	Apr 11	Betty Meuleman	Apr 23	Meredith Huddleston
Apr 2	Scarlett Everts	Apr 11	Kathy Pinson	Apr 23	Bobby Lowery Jr.
Apr 2	Teri Tabor	Apr 11	Mark Williams	Apr 25	Chris Rose
Apr 3	Shela Aldape	Apr 12	Patricia Castellano	Apr 26	Carl Bell
Apr 4	Mary Billups	Apr 13	Craig Bailey	Apr 27	Terry Bodson
Apr 4	Avery Pratt	Apr 14	Blaise Bonds	Apr 27	Bonnie Tauer
Apr 5	Briar Bellinghausen	Apr 16	Zachary Caputo	Apr 28	Steve Gutting
Apr 6	Darlene Coffman	Apr 16	David Durand	Apr 28	Rai Lamb
Apr 6	Glen Feldman	Apr 17	Wyatt Mahoney	Apr 28	Julia McFadden
Apr 5	Regina Hanson	Apr 18	Jane Krone	Apr 29	Traci DiCarlo
Apr 8	Nick Paradiso	Apr 19	Martha Sandoval	Apr 30	Mary Bray
Apr 8	Bill Van Leeuwen	Apr 22	Payton Goulet	Apr 30	Tim Huddleston
Apr 9	Jimmie Wells	Apr 23	Crystal Applegate	Apr 30	Venice Rubio

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Apr 4	Harry & Pat Knickerbocker	Apr 16	John & Debbie Berry
Apr 8	Kathy & Ubaldo Cuevas	Apr 21	Tina & Billy Duncan
Apr 10	Richard & Laurie Criger	Apr 24	Richard & Rita Paul
Apr 11	Ken & Pam Clouse	Apr 28	Travis & Renae Whiteside
Apr 13	Rickey & Brenda Amerson	Apr 30	David & Cynthia Durand



## DIocese OF LITTLE ROCK

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

March 25, 2021

Office of the Bishop

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock,

Thanks to your cooperation with the protocols we have had in place to mitigate the danger of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increasing number of people who have been vaccinated, we are now in a position to make a few modifications in the protocols to be observed effective April 1, 2021. We expect to be able to return to pre-pandemic conditions once everyone who wants to get a vaccination is able to get one.

**Physical distancing**—It is no longer necessary skip every other pew throughout the Church, but people should maintain 6' lateral distancing between family groups.

**Mask wearing**—Even though mask wearing requirements have been loosened by public authorities in other settings, gatherings for Catholic worship have their own dynamics and so mask wearing will continue to be obligatory for everyone at least until May 12, when we will reassess this requirement in the light of the situation then current. Masks can be removed by lectors when reading and priests at the altar but it is preferred that masks stay on even then.

**Music**—Continues to be restricted to a cantor and musician at least 12' from the congregation. Choirs can be permitted only when all members have been vaccinated and preferably wearing masks. Congregational singing should be masked and kept to a minimum. The parts of the Mass which are normally sung should be recited when possible.

**Holy Water**—Can be restored to the Holy Water fonts, possibly beginning with the Easter Vigil if this has not been done so earlier.

**Communion on the hand** continues to be mandatory during Mass and only in the form of the consecrated host, even when celebrating First Communion. In this extraordinary time of pandemic, communion on the tongue will remain available only after Mass, administered from the tabernacle with hand sanitizing whenever the minister's finger touches the tongue of a recipient. We will reassess the need for this restriction on or before May 12.

**Entrance and Exit processions**—Parishes can resume processions from the entrance of the Church, including altar servers, instead of entering from the sacristy in places where this has been done but should maintain physical distancing before and after Mass if greeting people.

**Offertory procession**—Can resume and collection baskets can once again be used.

**Altar Servers**—Can resume, but they must be masked and maintain physical distancing.

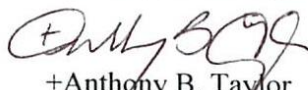
**Cry Rooms**—Can be used only if 6' distancing between family groups can be maintained.

**Adoration Chapels**—Can be used if 6' physical distancing can be maintained between adorers.

**Communion to the Sick in their homes**—unless the minister is a family member or caretaker, the Communion Minister must be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 corona virus.

I would like to thank you, the Catholics of Arkansas, for how cooperative you have been with the protocols we have had to adopt in order to respond appropriately to the threat posed by the corona virus. We will continue to monitor the prevailing conditions in the community and in our Churches and will continue to make common sense adjustments to our protocols—loosening them or reinforcing them—as changing circumstances seem to require.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock



## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK Office of Vocations

2500 North Tyler Street • Post Office Box 7239 • Little Rock, AR 72217-7239 • (501) 664-0340

Dear friends in Christ,

On July 1, 2010 we established the Holy Thursday collection to give everyone the opportunity to help support the education of our seminarians. Since that time you have donated over \$3,611,423.76. As of 2009, Bishop Taylor has ordained 38 new priests. Your generosity has been overwhelming, and I want to thank you for your prayers and support.

I am pleased to share with you the good news of your Holy Investment in Faith! This past year the Diocese of Little Rock ordained two men to the priesthood. They faithfully and enthusiastically serve your needs all across our diocese. I am proud to say, and they would confirm, that the fruit of their vocations are a result of your prayers and sacrifices.

The good news of your Holy Investment in Faith continues! In 2021, God willing, 5 additional men will be ordained to the priesthood to serve the people of our diocese. This is in addition to the 69 active diocesan priests already serving our diocese. Today the median age of our active priests has dropped to 48 years.

As you already know, the success of your Investment in Faith is dependent upon God's grace and your donations. Your donation directly supports the education of the future priests of our diocese. We currently have 28 seminarians and anticipate growing even more this fall. I invite you once again this year to open your hearts and help support these young men who will someday be your priests. The education cost for each of the 28 diocesan seminarians is \$36,000 per year, which is equivalent to a total cost of \$1,008,000.00. We need your help to be able to prepare our seminarians for the priesthood. Every dollar is important. Every gift is an expression of faith.

Many of you have envelopes for this collection in your monthly packets. I have also asked every pastor to place envelopes in the pews this weekend. Preferably, anytime between now and Easter, you can put the envelope in the parish collection basket, or you can mail your contribution directly to the diocese.

I want to thank you on behalf of Bishop Taylor, our seminarians and myself for your generous support and prayers. I am very proud of our seminarians who are men of prayer and who work and study diligently so that they can be good and holy priests for you in the years to come. Please be assured that you are included in their daily prayers as well as in my own. I am confident that you will respond generously again this year to the Holy Thursday Collection so we can continue to build and to invest for the future and to make a difference well past our time.

Sincerely in Christ,

Msgr. Scott Friend  
Director of Vocations



March 2, 2021

## 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.



## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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 abortion-derived 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 abortion-derived 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,

+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

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.

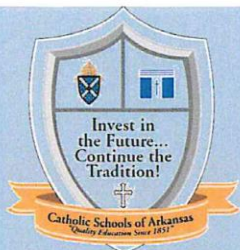
For those who enjoy a traditional newspaper mailed to your home, the print version is also available for only \$30 a year. In your pew today you will find subscription envelopes where you can subscribe to the print edition and find out how to sign up for your free digital account.

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,

+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock





## Office of the Bishop

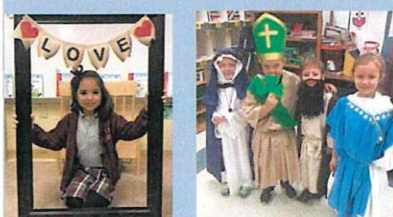
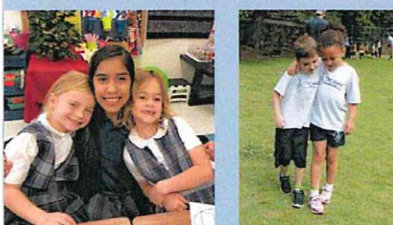
Diocese of Little Rock  
P.O. Box 7239  
Little Rock, AR 72217

*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.

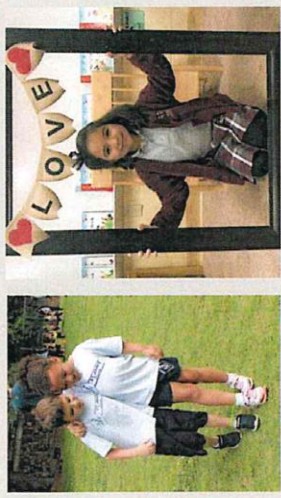
Catholic schools are an integral part of the teaching mission of the Church because they assist parents in the important obligation of educating and forming their children through faith development. This year our schools have responded beautifully finding creative and practical solutions to challenges 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.

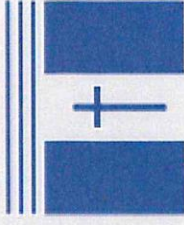
Sincerely In Christ,

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 \_\_\_\_\_

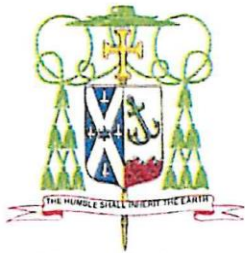
☐ One-Time Payment/Un solo pago \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Balance Due/Saldo adeudado \$ \_\_\_\_\_





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,

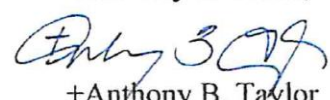
The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, and our Sunday communal celebration of the Eucharist is a central and non-negotiable part of who we are as Catholics. However, in view of the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 12, 2020 I dispensed everyone in the Diocese 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.

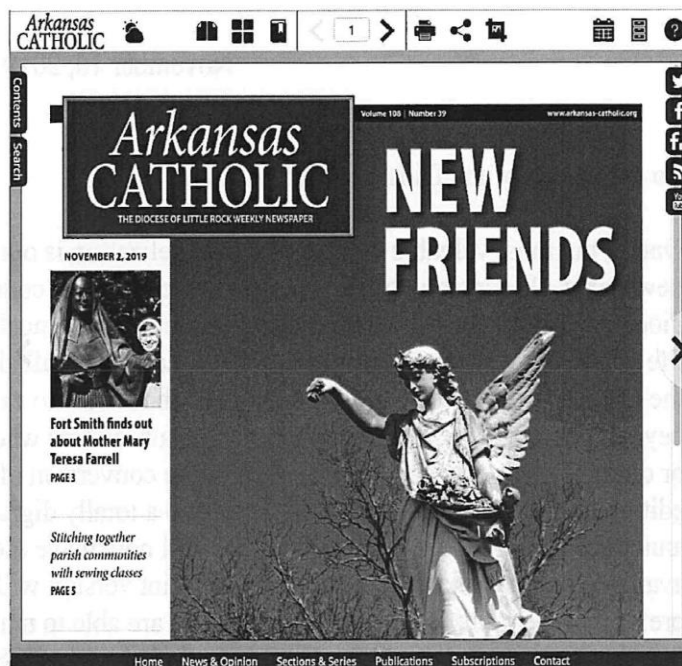


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The link is now added to your home screen for fast access.



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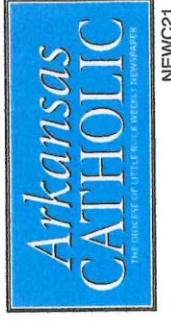
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NEWC21



# 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.