



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:

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, 4th 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 WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday,	April 24
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Taylor, Lochner & Caster Families
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: +Poor Souls in Purgatory
Sunday,	April 25 – Fourth Sunday of Easter
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Jim Rowe, 7 th Anniv.
Monday,	April 26 – NO MASS
Tuesday,	April 27
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: +Ron Schoborg
Wednesday,	April 28
5:00 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:30 PM	MASS: SI – David Whitehead
Thursday,	April 29
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – The Caster Family
Friday,	April 30
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – Amy Krone, BD (4-11)
First Saturday,	May 1
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: +Joe & Mel Dezort
4:30 PM	Rosary & Confessions
5:00 PM	MASS: SI – Toni Bass
Sunday,	May 2 – Fifth Sunday of Easter
8:00 AM	Rosary & Confessions
8:30 AM	MASS: SI – All Parishioners



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

ONLINE BULLETINS for Mary Mother of God Church and St. Andrew's Church may be found at harrisoncatholic.org.

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., arrive 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.

Personal Listening Devices are Available for Mass. Please see an usher in the vestibule to sign one out.

EVERYONE MUST WEAR A MASK TO CHURCH!

Please Keep Your Mask ON While Singing!

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FAITH AT HOME – Effective October 1, 2020 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.

The "New Pentecost" Prayer Group continues to meet after the Sunday 8:30 AM Mass. Everyone is welcome. Come Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of your faithful! Any questions, please call Carmen at 305-815-1795.

Legion of Mary will meet on Thursdays at 5:30 PM in the Altar Server Sacristy (room behind the altar). It is an open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend and pray with us.

MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR – LET US ALL SHARE THE JOY OF SERVING THE LORD!! The ministry assignments for May are enclosed. Please contact the office if you no longer wish to continue your ministry or need to delay returning to your ministry. The Bishop's last letter stated that our older parishioners who wish to continue their ministry must have received their vaccinations to participate. Please complete the form included in the April 11th bulletin and drop it in the collection basket or email the info to Robin in the church office. **If you are new to serving (Halleluia!) please fill in your chosen ministry and someone will contact you for a brief training meeting. Thanks!**

It's time for Co-Ed Church Softball! Anyone 15 or older who loves to play needs to sign up in the vestibule **this weekend** or contact Lori Curry for more info at 870-715-2928 or Lori@ozarkmoving.com.



Catholic Cemetery Gravesites are available to purchase from a Cemetery Committee representative. Gravesites are \$500 each. **A monthly payment plan is available.** If four or more gravesites are purchased at the same time, a 10% discount is applied, and the cost is \$450 per gravesite. Any questions, call Marlene Rowe at 365-0236.

SECOND COLLECTION next Sunday is for Building Maintenance.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Apr 25:	Acts 4:8-12 / 1 Jn 3:1-2 / Jn 10:11-18
Apr 26:	Acts 11:1-18 / Jn 10:1-10
Apr 27:	Acts 11:19-26 / Jn 10:22-30
Apr 28:	Acts 12:24-13:5a / Jn 12:44-50
Apr 29:	Acts 13:13-25 / Jn 13:16-20
Apr 30:	Acts 13:26-33 / Jn 14:1-6
May 1:	Acts 13:44-52 / Jn 14:7-14
May 2:	Acts 9:26-31 / 1 Jn 3:18-24 / Jn 15:1-8

I Heard God Laugh – If you haven't picked up your FREE copy by Matthew Kelly, do so today before they're gone!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Our Lady of the Holy Souls will offer a Grief Support Group via Zoom led by Dr. Mary Ann Stafford and Laura Humphries, C.T. The group will meet for 10 sessions, beginning on **Wednesday, May 5, at 6:30 PM**. Support groups help grieving people by introducing them to others who have had similar experiences, thoughts, and feelings. They provide emotional, physical, and spiritual support in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Allowing the mourner to explore their feelings and be compassionate with themselves. If you or someone you know is in need of support, please email lhumphries@holysouls.org or 2dings@sbcglobal.net (Mary Ann Stafford) or call the church office 501-663-8632 and register for the group. If you have any questions, please contact Laura in the church office 501-663-8632.

Confidence in Princes - Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, "have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?"

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it's a good sign that we're losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are you expecting happiness, peace, contentment, or justice to come from any place other than God?

"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes," the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — "I've got this."

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – Military & Emergency Personnel, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19 & Terrorism, Vocations, Dan/Mary Allen, Donnie Billups, Joyceline Boudreaux, Shari Broscovak, Ray Brysch, Betty Burge, Loretta Clements, Brian/Chad Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, Jim/Karen Conner, Kathy Cuevas, Mary Decker Family, Bruce Durand, Espinoza Family, Glen Feldman, Greg/Karen Foster, Kendall Fowler, Casey Gibbs, Bill/Levi Haley, Chris Haley, Lorita Henry, Dianne Hoberock, Tommy Hudson, Chris Jasper, Anthony Joel Jones, Kenna, Mary Koenig, Dennis Kyler, Sylvia LaFrancis, Jim Luyet, Bill/Ann May, Janice Munzner, Chris Neeley, Mollie Norman, Nikki Patten, Eliska/Harlan/Martha Pollock, Dc. Mark Scouten, Ed/Yvonne Servis, Phil Sides, Bob Stephens, Pennie Sutton-Veach Family, Steve/Loretta Tarochione, Mary Ann Van Ore. **Our Nursing Home Residents:** David Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Alan Lasecki, Bonnie Lundblud, Dee Gladden Mulvihill, Mary Ralston, Billie Signer, Liz Smalley, Patricia Smith. **Please contact the office to add/delete names.**

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

"The Eucharist is our Lord, and I think that the Church can be restored once again only with the restoration of an awe-inspiring and reverent Eucharistic worship..."

Bishop Athanasius Schneider, "Christus Vincit"

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

Sunday @ 7 AM, 9 AM, Noon, 3 PM & 5 PM

Monday @ 10 AM, Noon & 1 PM

Tuesday @ 8 AM, 11 AM & 1 PM

Wednesday @ 10 AM, Noon & 6 PM

Thursday @ Noon, 3 PM & 4 PM

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

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



Subscribe to Arkansas Catholic - God is telling the story. *Arkansas Catholic* is here to share it with you. Pope Francis has called for a missionary transformation of the Church so the Diocese of Little Rock made a decision last year 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.

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Every Tuesday afternoon you will get an email with a link to access the latest edition.

— Malea Hargett, Editor

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PROJECT RACHEL – Has abortion left you with a broken heart? You are not alone. Peace starts here. Non-judgmental. There is hope. Healing is possible. Experience the love and mercy of God. Please call/text 501-663-0996 or email rpuello@dolr.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

2021 Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal (CASA) - To date, our parishioners have given **\$9,211.80 or 43%** 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.

Joseph F. Koenig, C.P.A.

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

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

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HARRISON, ARKANSAS 72602
PHONE: 870-741-4408 FAX: 870-741-4409

DR. TOM BUTLER

CHIROPRACTIC ORTHOPEDIST CERTIFIED IN ACUPUNCTURE
SPORTS PHYSICIAN

PATRICIA H. VIRNIG

Attorney At Law

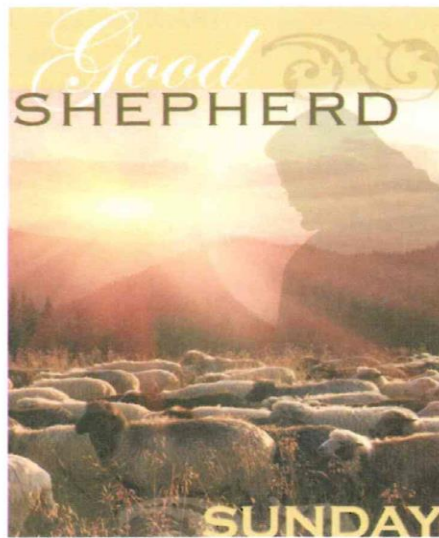
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—GOD

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



WORLD DAY of
PRAYER for
VOCATIONS

©LPi

God Save America!

In Memory of Newt & Ruth Foster

**MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR
SIGN-UP SHEET**

<u>MINISTRIES</u>	<u>Sat Mass</u>	<u>Sun Mass</u>	<u>Name & Phone #:</u>
<u>Rosary Leader:</u>	Yes / No	Yes / No	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Lectors:</u>	Yes / No	Yes / No	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Extraordinary (Communion) Minister:</u>	Yes / No	Yes / No	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Altar Servers:</u>	Yes / No	Yes / No	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<u>Ushers:</u>	Yes / No	Yes / No	<hr/> <hr/>

Please complete and return to the church office or in next weekend's collection basket.
If you are new to serving in any of these ministries, someone will contact you for a brief training meeting. Thank you!

MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 25 4th Sunday of Easter 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	April 26 NO MASS	April 27 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	April 28 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	April 29 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	April 30 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 1, 2021 First Saturday 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
May 2 5th Sunday of Easter 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Building Maintenance	May 3 NO MASS ++ Knights of Columbus 6:30 PM Meeting	May 4 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 5 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 6 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 7 First Friday 8 AM Rosary to Honor Our Mothers 8:30 AM Mass	May 8 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
May 9 6th Sunday of Easter 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 	May 10 NO MASS	May 11 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM CCW Mtg in Hall Conference Room	May 12 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 13 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Donuts Follow	May 14 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 15 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 11 AM Public Rosary Rally - Check Bulletin For Location ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
May 16 Ascension of the Lord 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Cath. Communications Campaign 	May 17 NO MASS	May 18 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 19 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 20 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 21 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 22 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass ++ Life In The Spirit Seminar
May 23 Pentecost Sunday 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 	May 24 NO MASS	May 25 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 26 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	May 27 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 28 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	May 29 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
May 30 The Most Holy Trinity 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 	May 31 NO MASS 	June 1, 2021 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	June 2 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	June 3 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	June 4 First Friday 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass	June 5 First Saturday 8:10 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass

PLEASE CHECK YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THIS CALENDAR

MAY 2021 MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR

5 PM Saturday Mass

Rosary: ***Volunteers Needed***
 Lector: Jane Krone

E/M: Roy Arnold
 Elisabeth Scouten
 Renae Whiteside

Servers: Jacob Bradford
 Matthew Bradford

Ushers: Tim Reeves
 Jerry Hogue
 Frank Handley

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

Rosary: Bob Lowery
 Lector: Dan Roberts

E/M: Craig Bailey
 Mike Galligan
 Judy Keith
 Bob Lowery

Servers: Caroline Huddleston
 Meredith Huddleston

Ushers: David Krueger
 Steve O'Laughlin
 Mike Stephen

If you are unable to serve, please find your replacement. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

May 1	Henry Adamos	May 12	Lily Bray	May 23	Kristen Styles
May 1	Loretta Tarochione	May 12	Tyler Burge	May 24	Connor Atkinson
May 2	Vittoria Gratton	May 12	Father Jim Fanrak	May 24	Anne Milburn
May 2	Lylia Laffoon	May 12	Caroline Huddleston	May 25	Jazzlyn Espinoza
May 3	Abigail Billups	May 15	Emy Adamos	May 26	Sagrario Calonder
May 3	Charity Hand	May 16	Ubaldo Cuevas-Jimenez	May 26	Rose Ann Dirst
May 4	Greg Jasper	May 16	Darren Goulet	May 26	Billie Signer
May 4	Diane Patterson	May 16	Levi Schneider	May 27	William Chapman
May 4	Valerie Wallace	May 17	Richard Crosley	May 27	Josephine Faria
May 4	Kerry Yeckel	May 17	Audrey McFadden	May 27	Serenity Hardaway
May 5	Tom Butler	May 17	Amanda Porras	May 27	Ronnie Lackey
May 5	Bill Renshaw	May 18	Robert Gratton	May 27	Arely Ramirez
May 6	Elma Taylor	May 18	Edmund Griggs	May 27	Hannah Smith
May 6	Patricia Villines	May 19	Nina Adamos	May 28	Chris DeVito
May 7	Cade Harding	May 19	Karen Long-Conner	May 28	Summer Rykert
May 7	Matthew Thompson	May 19	Janice Rose	May 29	Chris Pratt
May 8	Shirlene Lackey	May 22	Norma Calhoun	May 31	Mary Hatch
May 11	Lovette Espinoza	May 22	Rey Haley	May 31	Wynn Mahoney
		May 22	Helen Haley		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

May 2	Skeet & Cris Teague	May 11	Terry & Vanessa Caputo
May 4	Justin & Crystal Applegate	May 15	Heath & Kristen Styles
May 5	Frank & Ruby Handley	May 16	Adrian & Keyla Aldrete
May 7	Patrick & Sarah Bray		



DIocese OF LITTLE ROCK

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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.

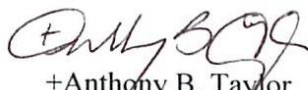
Cry Rooms—Can be used only if 6' distancing between family groups can be maintained.

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

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.

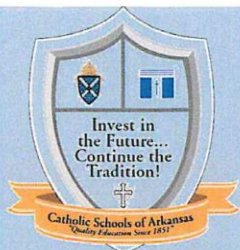
Pope Francis has called for a missionary transformation of the Church so last year we made a decision to make the digital version of *Arkansas Catholic* free for everyone in our diocese thanks in part to your support of the Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal. Hundreds of you have already signed up since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

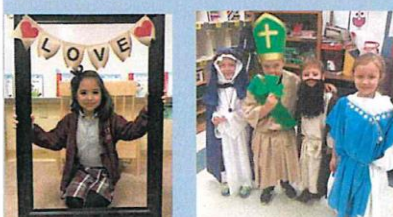
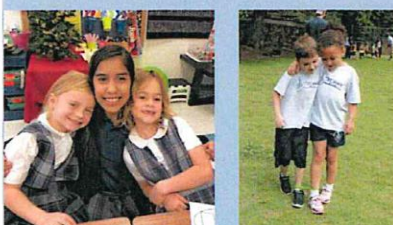
Diocese of Little Rock
P.O. Box 7239
Little Rock, AR 72217

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.

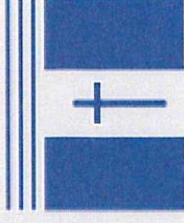
Thank you for your support of the Arkansas Catholic Schools Scholarship fund. Please keep our schools in your prayers.

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/.

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

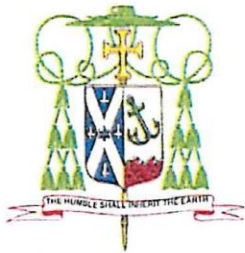
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Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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

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,

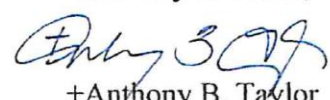
The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, and our Sunday communal celebration of the Eucharist is a central and non-negotiable part of who we are as Catholics. However, in view of the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 12, 2020 I dispensed everyone in the Diocese 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 3rd 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



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



Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal

What your Donation Can Do!

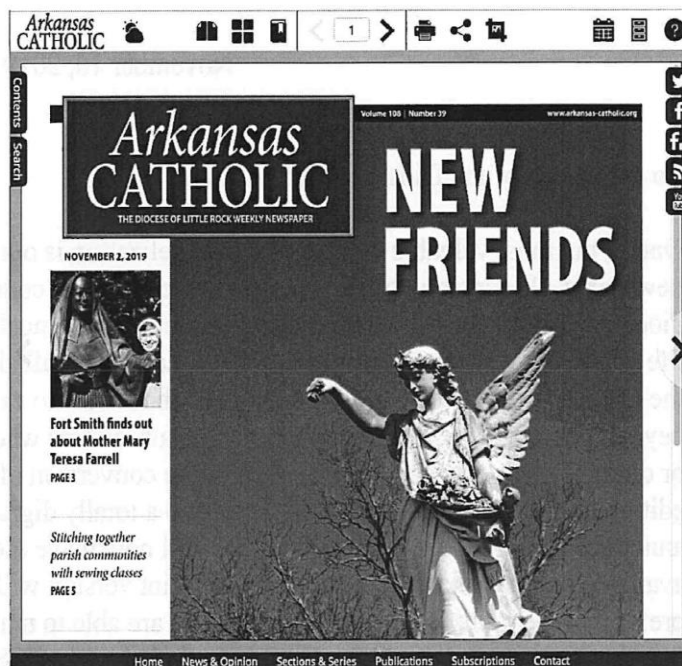
\$25	Provides religious education book for two people.
\$50	Provides a partial scholarship for a student to attend a Campus Ministry retreat.
\$135	Provides a scholarship for one youth to attend a Search weekend.
\$150	Provides utility bill assistance for a family through our Family Assistance Program.
\$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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AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

A tip for iPhone & iPad

- Open Safari and log in to your account at digital.arkansas-catholic.org.
- Click the Share  icon on your screen.
- Click "Save to Home Screen."
- Click "Add."

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



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We love to tell the stories in Arkansas Catholic

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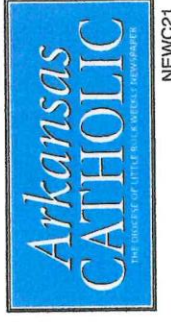
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NEWC21

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.